

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20

- 1) **What** are Christians to do? *Make disciples, or followers*, of Christ
 - a) Speak the gospel & make new converts
 - b) Turn nominal believers into ardent followers
- 2) **How** do Christians make disciples?
 - a) Go: get up; get out there
 - b) Baptizing
 - i) With water?
 - (1) Why do only pastors do this primarily?
 - (2) Why the ongoing, present tense?
 - (3) Why did Paul not think it vital in 1 Corinthians 1:17?
 - (4) Why in Acts is it done only in Jesus' name? (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5; 22:16)
 - ii) Dry baptism? (Matt. 3:11; Mark 10:38-39; Luke 12:50; Acts 1:5; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 10:1-2; 12:13; Eph. 4:5; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:21)
 - (1) Immersing listeners in the truth of the Triune God
 - (2) Apostle Paul: *Christ did not send me to baptize, but to proclaim the gospel* (1 Cor. 1:17)
 - c) Teaching: ongoing explanation of the Triune God
- 3) Misapplication of the Commission
 - a) Motivated by guilt, not love
 - b) A short spiel; no follow-up
 - c) Neglects baptism or teaching—2/3 of Christ's commission
 - d) It's occasional or programmatic, not a lifestyle
- 4) The Great Commission should be a cooperative effort
 - a) Evangelists who present the gospel
 - b) Pastors & teachers who baptize in truth & w/ water
 - c) Church members equipped w/ the truth

