



## Group Guide

# Following Jesus on Mission

*September 7, 2025*

**Main Passage:** Matthew 4:23; 28:16-20; Mark 8:34

## Theological Theme

We are *all* called to share the gospel.

## Introduction

- ? How did Jesus live His life on earth? What are some words you would use to describe Him?
- ? Why is it important for us to seek to become more like Jesus daily and not only have right beliefs about Him?

## 1. The Command of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)

This passage is commonly known as the Great Commission. Jesus, as our authority, issued a command for all His followers. It is important for us to recognize this is a real command that we as believers are supposed to take real action on. This call is not only meant for those who have answered the call to vocational ministry or those whose spiritual gift is evangelism.

- ? What is familiar to you about this passage? What stands out as you reread it?
- ? What was Jesus's instruction in this passage? How does this apply to us today?
- ? Application: How are you currently seeking to live out the Great Commission?

## 2. Living Like Jesus (Matthew 4:23)

Jesus was on a mission to teach correct interpretation of Scripture, and make sure the people understood God's heart, so He was "**teaching in their synagogues.**" Everywhere He went, Jesus taught the truth. His teachings show people understand how to live. His teachings help us know God better and offer us the gift of life.

- ? We are studying what Jesus said but also how He lived. How does this verse show Jesus living out what He called His followers to do?
- ? Jesus is God and we are not, so we don't have divine power in ourselves to do everything He did here. How might these actions translate to our daily lives and regular obedience to Christ?

- ❓ Application: How are we as a group currently seeking to live like Jesus?  
How can we grow in this?

### 3. Follow Jesus (Mark 8:34)

We live in a “you do you” culture. Everyone is encouraged to do and believe what seems right to them. Our society says: If you want to, you should do it. Follow your heart. Jesus says something drastically different: “If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me” (Mark 8:34b). The call of discipleship goes against what is expected and accepted in our culture.

- ❓ What does it look like to deny ourselves in daily living?
- ❓ How did Jesus live as the primary example and leader of denying Himself for godliness throughout His life and ministry?
- ❓ Application: Where do you currently need to deny yourself to follow Jesus?  
How will you respond?

### Conclusion

- ❓ After each snippet of the Great Commission below, discuss what you think this means for you in 2025.
- “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth”
  - “Go”
  - “make disciples”
  - “of all nations”
  - “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”
  - “teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you”
  - “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
- ❓ How can we as a group support and encourage one another in faithfully following Jesus in daily life?
- ❓ Take a moment to reflect on your current priorities. What do you make time for? What do you value? Is there anything in your priorities that needs to be rearranged to better prioritize Jesus? What small steps could you begin to take to move out of your comfort zone to share the gospel?