

Every Knee, Every Nation – Week 2

Authority Over Our Present: Sent

Matthew 28:18–20

Series Connection

- Week 1 focus: **Jesus' authority over our past**—He forgives sins *on earth* (Matthew 9).
- Week 2 focus: **Jesus' authority over our present**—He sends us in mission because He reigns now.
- The Great Commission begins not with a command but with a coronation: “All authority...has been given to me.”

Introduction

- Mission feels overwhelming when we think it depends on us.
- We often walk into situations expecting to “bring Jesus,” only to discover He is already at work.
- The Great Commission is not: “Go so I can be Lord,” but: “**Go, because I already am.**”

Main Point 1 — Christ’s Claim: The King Has Been Coronated (v.18)

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.”

- Greek insight:
 - **ἐδόθη μοι πᾶσα ἐξουσία** — “all authority has been given to me.”
 - **ἐδόθη** = aorist divine passive → the Father has given authority to the Son.
- Intertextual connection:
 - Echoes **Daniel 7:13–14** — the Son of Man receiving dominion from the Ancient of Days.
 - Links to **Genesis 1** — Jesus as the true Adam fulfilling humanity’s original vocation.
- “Heaven and earth” = merism → Jesus’ rule covers the entire created order.
- Key idea:
 - Before there is a mission to obey, there is a **King to recognize**.
 - Our mission is rooted in **His reign**, not our zeal.

Main Point 2 — Christ’s Commission: Make Disciples, Not Just Decisions (v.19)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”

- The main verb is **μαθητεύσατε** — “make disciples.”
- The three participles — “going,” “baptizing,” “teaching” — serve the main command.
 - “Go” assumes movement: “as you go... make disciples.”
 - “Baptizing” = allegiance to the **one Name** of the Father, Son, and Spirit.
 - “Teaching” = spiritual formation, not information download.
- Theological grounding:
 - Matthew Bates: discipleship = **embodied allegiance** to the King.
 - The mission continues God’s promise to Abraham: blessing to **all nations**.
- Key idea:
 - This is not about starting something new; it’s about **joining what Jesus is already doing**.

Main Point 3 — Christ’s Curriculum: Teach Obedience to Everything Jesus Commanded (v.20a)

“Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

- Focus is on obedience, not mere knowledge.
- Discipleship is:
 - **Imitation** before information.
 - **Transformation** through obedience.
 - Lifelong apprenticeship to King Jesus.
- Cruciformity:
 - Discipleship mirrors Jesus’ way: humility, sacrifice, forgiveness, love.
- True disciple-making:
 - Requires presence, relationship, and example—not distance.

Main Point 4 — Christ’s Companionship: The Always-With-Us King (v.20b)

“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Full-circle connection to Matthew 1: Immanuel — God with us.
- Connection to Ephesians 1:20–23:
 - Christ is seated above all powers yet **fills all in all**.
- Mission is not pressure but **presence**.

- We don't take Jesus to people; we meet Him where He already is.
- The risen King sends and accompanies His people.

Illustration – The Ping Pong Ball

- **Closeness creates opportunity. Distance kills precision.**
- We reach people better when we draw near to them.

Application

Personal

- Identify three “mission fields” in your life:
 - Home
 - Workplace/school
 - Neighborhood

Practical Rhythm: BLESS

- **Begin with Prayer**
- **Listen**
- **Eat (share life)**
- **Serve**
- **Share your Jesus story when the door opens**

Community Practice

- Join Jesus where He is already at work around you.
- Focus on intentional relationships, not long-distance “spiritual throwing.”

Conclusion

- We do not go to achieve victory; we go to **announce** victory.
- The risen King says, “I am with you always.”
- Mission is simply recognizing His authority and responding in allegiance.

Call to Action

- Two minutes of silent prayer.
- Ask the Spirit for one name and one next step.
- Write it down.
- Act within the next 48 hours.