

# Each One Reach One

As we conclude our series on what we believe, let's examine the 21<sup>st</sup> of the 22 tenets in the Foursquare Declaration of Faith: **Evangelism. We believe that bringing others into relationship with Jesus Christ as their Saviour is the most important responsibility of the Church.** Ultimately our highest purpose is to glorify God. But that does not mean spending all our days in holy huddles singing songs of praise while the world around us plummets toward hell. As long as we live on planet Earth our task is to bring as many of the souls Jesus died for into eternity with us. That assignment is called the Great Commission. Think of it as a Co-Mission because every member of the church is intended to work together toward this purpose:

*Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and 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 all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" Matthew 28:18-20.*

## 1. Go In His Authority

Whenever you see the word "therefore" check out what it's there for! We are encouraged to go because the one who has ultimate authority is sending us. "Going" means taking every opportunity to be a witness of what God has done for us (Acts 1:8). Don't let fear be a factor - we are representing the Lord of heaven and earth, who rules on both the human and spiritual dimensions. There is nothing to fear and no good reason to hold back.

## 2. Make Disciples Of All Nations

God's love embraces the whole world, every people group (Revelations 7:9). While we start with our circle of influence, we should always be expanding our capacity to reach beyond our limitations. Jesus was God who became like us to reach us – the model missionary. When we follow Him we are often challenged to "incarnate" the gospel to a world beyond our own. Note that we are not called to simply make converts. Our task involves discipleship and that's why church planting has to be the key strategy in fulfilling the Great Commission.

## 3. Teach Them What You Are Learning

Notice that we only teach others what God expects of us. Implied in that statement is that we practice what we preach. That doesn't mean we have to be perfect before we can share our faith. It actually means that we can be ourselves, sharing out of what we have personally learned from following Jesus.

## 4. Know That God Is With You

Following the Commission recorded in Mark 16:15-20 the text says that the Lord worked with them and confirmed His Word with signs following. When Jesus handed His work over to His disciples He didn't say, "Well, I'm going to love ya and leave ya – you are now in charge. Good luck, eh!" Instead, He told them to wait until He could send them His Spirit. He sent the Comforter so we can break out of our comfort zones in radically reaching our world with the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ.

If everyone at NorthRidge reached one soul each year we would see more than 250,000 souls saved in ten years. If every believer around the world did that, the entire world would be reached in about three years. Where can you start this week?