International Fellowship of Christians
For Christ and His Kingdom · Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Home Fellowship Outline
WEEK 4 · 2026

2026 THEME
Transformed to Bear Much Fruit

THIS WEEK'S STUDY

The Power of His Presence

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16–20

I Introduction

The Gospel of Matthew aptly presents Jesus as the promised Messiah and the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 5:17). It reaches its climax in Matthew 28, where the resurrected Christ entrusts His disciples with a mission that defines Christian life until the end of the age.

The disciples obediently met Jesus on a mountain in Galilee, a place of revelation and divine encounter. Though they worshiped Him, some still doubted. Jesus did not rebuke them; instead, He drew near and commissioned them.

> DOUBT AND OBEDIENCE
> *Discipleship is not the absence of doubt, but faithful obedience in the midst of it.*

Then Jesus declares that all authority in heaven and on earth belongs to Him. The Great Commission is grounded not in human ability, but in Christ's sovereign authority. We go because Jesus reigns. He is in charge.

II Three Truths of the Commission

1 Who Is a Disciple?

A disciple is more than a believer or church attendee. Biblically, a disciple is a learner and apprentice of Jesus, one being shaped and transformed into Christlikeness. Making disciples involves baptism as a public declaration of a new identity, teaching obedience to Jesus' commands, and walking with others through a relational, life-shaping process. *(Matthew 28:19–20)*

2 The Central Place of Love

Love is the heart of the Great Commission. God's mission begins with love (John 3:16), and without love, spiritual activity is meaningless (1 Corinthians 13:1–3). Love is the defining mark of true discipleship (John 13:34–35) and the source of lasting fruit (Galatians 5:22). Disciples live and serve from the love they have first received from God. You cannot give what you do not have.

3 The Power of His Presence

Jesus ends the commission with a promise: "Surely I am with you always." God's presence provides courage, endurance, guidance, and faithfulness for the mission. The mission is sustained not by our efforts, but by Christ's abiding presence. *(Matthew 28:20)*

III Discussion Questions

1. How would you define or describe a disciple based on Jesus' words in Matthew 28?
2. In what way is love shaping, or failing to shape, your discipleship? How could love transform or enhance this?
3. How does knowing from your heart that Jesus has all authority affect your confidence in following Him?
4. Where is God calling you to make disciples "as you go" in your daily life? Share experiences of occasions when you made disciples "as you went".

MEMORY VERSE

By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.

JOHN 13:35 (NIV)

✷ ACTION POINT

This week, intentionally practise discipleship by expressing Christlike love through obedience, forgiveness, service, or sharing your faith with people around you.

Conclusion

The Great Commission is not merely a call to activity, but to identity and love-driven obedience. Rooted in God's love, empowered by Christ's authority, and assured of His presence, disciples are continually transformed by Jesus and sent to reflect His love to the world.