

DAY 30

Mandated to Go

*All authority ... Matthew 28:18 | Go, therefore ... Matthew 28:19 | You will be my witnesses
... Acts 1:8*

Leadership Affirmation

I lead with authority because my leadership priorities fully accord with the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus.

We don't often think of the Great Commission as a leadership mandate, but it is. If Christian leadership is influencing people for the glory of God, then the Great Commission sits at the heart of leadership.

And it is a mandate, not a command. A command implies we are simply told to do something. A mandate carries with it the idea that we are sent under the authority of our Sovereign, endowed with His authority to bring it about. That's the Great Commission.

I don't think it's hyperbole to say that, in its broadest sense, the Great Commission is the focal point of all of Scripture.^{xxiii} Jesus came on a mission to seek and save the lost. He gives us a mandate to join Him on His mission. The Great Commission, then, is legacy-building at its peak.

The tragic reality is that the vast majority of believers in the church are NPC's when it comes to the mission of the church. Video games have playable characters and non-playable characters. The playable character is on a mission. An NPC is a non-playable character. They stand around in the background. They contribute to the environment. You can talk to some of them, but they are not directly involved in the mission.

An unengaged Christian is an oxymoron. They are contradictory terms. Unengaged Christians, Christians who are not engaged in the mission that Christ gives us, cannot exist. Jesus said, *If anyone loves me, he will keep my word* (John 14:23). This is the chief business that we are to be about.

In Matthew 28:18, Jesus stated, *All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth*. In verse 19, Jesus mandated, *Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations*.

The point is simple. Jesus has all authority, and He delegates that authority to us and sends us out on the same mission that He came to accomplish. He is inviting us to be leaders in His mission to seek and save the lost. That's the mandate of the leader.

Prayer for Protection

Dear Spirit, please deliver me from manipulation or subterfuge to accomplish my leadership objectives.