

A field of white chess pawns on a light blue surface, with one red pawn standing out in the center. The pawns are arranged in a grid-like pattern, and the red pawn is the only one of its color.

“Commissioned:
The Church’s Marching Orders”
Matthew 28:18-20

I. The Authority of Christ's Commission (18)

- All authority in heaven and earth belongs to Jesus
- His authority is absolute and sovereign
- His authority brings comfort and strength to the mission

A. Transcendent Authority - "*all authority*"

- Jesus possesses full power and freedom
- No limits to His rule
- Supreme authority over all creation

B. Expressed Authority - "*has been given to Me*"

- Authority revealed fully after resurrection (though fully possessed during His incarnation)
- Victory over sin, death, and the grave
- Now exercised without limitation

C. Scope of Authority - *"in heaven and on earth"*

- Authority in heaven and on earth
- Universal rule of Christ
- Impossible from a human perspective
- Foundation for the Great Commission

II. The Marching Orders of the Commission (19a)

- Primary command: make disciples
- Not optional—central mission of the Church
- More than conversion—lifelong sanctification and conformity to Jesus Christ

What is a Disciple?

- Learner and follower of Christ (not just in knowledge, but in life)
- Grows in knowledge, obedience, and character
- Becomes like Christ in all areas of life

The Extent: All Nations

- Mission is global, not local only
- Reach every language group
- Go intentionally and actively

III. The Scope of the Commission (19b-20a)

- A. Proclaim the Gospel
- B. Baptize believers
- C. Teach obedience to Christ

A. Proclaiming the Gospel

- Salvation comes through hearing the Gospel
- God uses proclamation to make disciples
- Not human effort, but God's grace

B. Baptism

- Public declaration of faith
- Symbolizes death and resurrection with Christ
- Represents union with the Trinity

C. Teaching Obedience

- Teach all that Christ commanded
- Scripture is the foundation
- Leads to spiritual growth and maturity

IV. The Promise of the Commission (20)

- “I am with you always”
- Christ’s presence empowers the mission
- Assurance in difficulty and success

Conclusion

- The Great Commission is our mission
- Christ has all authority
- We are called to faithful obedience
- God produces the results