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**Date: November 17, 2024**

**Speaker: Sam Rainer**

**Series: King Jesus**

**Message: What Every Church Must Do to Succeed in the Future**

**Reflect:**

- What's a place you've traveled to that had a big impact on you, and why?
- When was a time you felt unsure about something but decided to move forward anyway? What helped you overcome your hesitation?

**Encounter:**

- What stands out to you in Matthew 28:16–20? How does Jesus' authority (v18) shape the command He gives?
- Why do you think the disciples doubted, even after seeing the resurrected Jesus? How does this relate to your own faith journey?
- What do you notice about the verbs in the Great Commission (go, make, baptize, teach, remember)? How do these shape the mission of the church?

**Transform:**

- Who is someone in your life that you can intentionally "go" to this week, whether to encourage, share your faith, or invite to church?
- What steps can our group or church take to better live out the Great Commission

together?

### Related Passages:

- **Acts 1:8** - Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit and command to witness, tying into the mission of the church to go beyond its local context.
- **Ephesians 1:22–23** - Describes the church as Christ's body, emphasizing its role in completing His mission on earth.
- **Luke 24:45–49** - Jesus explains the Scriptures to His disciples and commissions them to preach repentance and forgiveness.
- **Genesis 12:1–3** - God's call to Abraham to be a blessing to the nations, a precursor to the church's global mission.
- **Revelation 7:9–10** - A vision of people from every nation worshiping before God, illustrating the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

### Interesting Facts and Tidbits:

- **The Greek word “ekklesia,”** translated as “church,” means “called out ones,” highlighting the mission to be distinct yet engaged in the world.
- **The Great Commission contains five verbs:** go, make, baptize, teach, and remember—each pointing to a continuous and active mission.
- **The phrase “in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”** emphasizes the unity of God and the believer's transformation in identity.
- **The Great Commission** is one of Jesus' final commands on earth, underscoring its critical importance for the church.

### Additional Discussion Questions:

- What does it mean to you that God is “always with us” (v20)? How has this truth

encouraged you recently?

- How can we balance reaching “the nations” while focusing on the “one” in our local lives?
- What might hesitation or doubt prevent us from accomplishing in our faith journey or as a church? How can we address this?

### **Key Terms:**

- **Great Commission:** The command given by Jesus in Matthew 28:16–20 to His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey His teachings.
- **Ekklesia:** A Greek term meaning “called out ones,” referring to the church as a community of believers called out by God to fulfill His mission in the world.
- **Trinity:** The Christian doctrine of one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Great Commission references this unity in the command to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.