



### **God's Grand Story, Pt. 10: The Church Begins**

After his resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days with his closest disciples pouring into them and teaching them from the Scriptures. At the end of that period of time, he gave them a mission: take the message of the Gospel to every nation on earth and make disciples for and of Jesus. But what is a disciple? What exactly was the message of the Gospel? How were they to accomplish this mission?

**Bottom Line:** Disciples are captivated by and focused on the mission Jesus gave to the Church.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Describe a task that you have been given that you felt was beyond your ability. Were you able to complete it? How or why not?
2. **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** Had you been one of Jesus' disciples who had never traveled more than about 40-60 miles from Jerusalem, what would have been going through your mind after Jesus' commissioning?
3. How would you describe to someone what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?
4. **Read Acts 1:4-9, 12, 14.** What was the assignment Jesus gave the apostles? What were they going to need in order to accomplish this assignment?
5. **Read Acts 2:22-24, 32-33, 36-41.** How would you summarize the thrust of Peter's sermon? Of all the things which he could have talked about, why did he focus his message on these things? How is this relevant or helpful to you?
6. **Read Acts 2:42-47.** Beyond the central message of the Gospel (see question #4), why do you think the early Christians focused on the practices we read about in this passage? How were these practices helpful to them as disciples of Jesus? How have you found these things helpful in your own experience?
7. Is the mission Jesus gave to the church a corporate or individual mandate? Or both? How are you personally involved in the mission (and mandate) Jesus gave to the Church? Both indirectly and directly?
8. What is one thing you could do to prioritize Matthew 28:19-20 in your own life?
9. ~What was the most challenging idea/thought to you from the message?  
~What was the most helpful/encouraging thought or idea from the message this week? How did it help you?  
~How can the group encourage you this week?

**For resources that will help you better understand God's Grand Story, please visit this link:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PaziqT1TQlpNQTL14EH2UUvzcao0vM0OAdPs2DketA/edit?usp=sharing>

\*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.

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