



## Striving to be a Great Commission Church

Berean is fully committed to being a Great Commission Church (see Mark 16:15, Mat 28:18-20), which means we must:

1) Exalt Christ in all His glory as the Messiah (the anointed King) who came to be the Savior of the world and ultimately will be the Lord of all. Is He your Lord? Is He your King?

2) Proclaim the gospel. Notice I did not use the word preach—I could have, but then some see that as only applying to preachers who declare the truth to the masses. Preaching to large groups is vitally important for the Great Commission, but only a few have this opportunity; all believers have the opportunity to proclaim the Gospel through their relationships. You can proclaim the gospel. You can share the good news. The Holy Spirit dwells within you just as much as every believing pastor. Not only can you, but you are expected to be ready to give an answer to the unbeliever concerning the hope in you. Proclaim is on the spectrum. Proclaim can be an encouraging reminder that God loves you and Christ died for your sins, or it can be Billy Graham preaching the gospel to the masses and everything in between.

3) Be a disciple that makes disciples who make disciples. A disciple is someone who is totally focused on their Master. Everything about them points to their Master, their thinking, being, doing, and proclaiming. This is the four-fold methodology of examining what it means to be a disciple of Christ. It is an attempt to holistically measure the totality of following Jesus. It takes into account the ways we function as humans and the pathways in which we operate. Do I think from the perspective that Jesus is my Lord? Am I submitting everything that I am to being like Christ? Do I allow the Holy Spirit to push me in doing life like Jesus? Am I taking the Word of God hidden in my heart and proclaiming Jesus as Savior and Lord? Through your thinking, being, doing, and proclaiming Christ, those around you will know that you love and worship the one true and living Triune God of the Bible. People will see God glorified through your life?

Micro groups are another way Berean is striving to be a Great Commission Church. Large groups, small groups, and micro groups are three ways of thinking about how we, the Berean family, assemble throughout the week. The large group is our 8:30a, 10:45a, and evening worship service. Small groups are our Sunday school, Tuesday and Wednesday Study Groups, and youth group assembly. Micro groups are the smallest assembly of family members around the Word of God. This group of six or fewer believers meets to study Scripture to grow in the distinctives\* of Christlikeness and become more focused on being and making disciples. Members of micro groups understand that the Great Commission calls them to multiply, so there is an expectation for them to become micro group leaders in the future. Micro groups by nature improve the likelihood that there will be transparency and accountability. This doesn't mean you can't have the same in your small groups. Arguably small groups have the same goals and objectives (The question is: Does the small group leader have those goals in mind and is he or she working toward those objectives?). Micro groups just have the benefit of being smaller and all members of the same gender. In the micro group, believers learn to feed themselves from the Word of God. They learn a method of studying the Word of God for individual edification toward Christlike transformation and reproduction. Followers of Christ are fishermen who love to teach others how to fish.

\*surrender, listen, abide, obey, sacrifice, light, love, serve, share, reproduce and this is just one method of attempting to give a metric to being transformed to the image of Christ.