

**August 8, 2018**  **Pastor Ben Hicks**

**Life’s Vision Statement**

Companies often have mission and vision statements. For example, here are just a few:

* To spread the power of optimism – Life is Good
* To create a better everyday life for the many people – Ikea
* To organize the world’s information and make it universally accessible and useful. – Google
* To make the world a better place one taco at a time – Pastor Ben while working at Taco Bell

A mission or a vision statement answers the question, “Why does this thing exist?” It gives meaning and purpose to what that company does. It motivates and invigorates.

Over the next few weeks we are going to look at the mission statement for every Christian on the planet. It’s simple. Most of you could probably quote most of these verses. Yet too often the basics of Christianity get overlooked because they’re so basic. Yet God has left us on this planet for one reason: **to bring him glory by making and building disciples!**

**A Bird’s Eye View of the Great Commission**

**The foundation for the Great Commission: Obedience (v 16)**

The disciples were given the great commission while obeying God. You can’t disobey God and then represent him.

**The fuel for the Great Commission: Worship (v 17-18)**

You won’t win people to a God you aren’t too sure about yourself. Nothing motivates evangelism and discipleship like seeing the glory of God.

**The focus of the Great Commission Part 1: Evangelism (v 19)**

Making disciples means going to a lost world and intentionally trying to reach them with the good news that their sins have been forgiven and they can be right with God.

**The focus of the Great Commission Part 2: Discipleship (v 20a)**

Making disciples means teaching believers what Jesus expects of them, a task that all of us should be involved in.

**The force behind the Great Commission: God’s Presence (v 20b)**

Evangelism and discipleship are big jobs, too big for us to do alone. This is why Christ ends with his empowering promise: “I am always with you!”

**The Foundation for the Great Commission: Obedience**

* Christ told his followers to go where they would have not expected him to go, Galilee (cf Acts 1:8). Yet we find them obediently following the Lord’s command.
* Since salvation is the work of God (1 Corinthians 3:6), and God uses clean vessels (2 Timothy 2:20-23), we must address the sin in our lives before we seek to win the lost to Christ or build up other believers.
* Is there sin in your life that is sapping your spiritual energy and keeping you from impacting others? Will you take care of that sin?

**The Fuel for the Great Commission: Worship**

* The disciples worshipped, but some doubted. It’s possible that some of those who worshipped doubted. This creates a problem that Christ immediately goes to remedy.
* Living out the Great Commission must come from a heart of worship, because seeing God as he is will be the key to living for him as we ought (cf Isaiah 6:1-8).
* Too often we do what God has asked us out of duty, rather than out of desire. We don’t obey and serve God because we don’t see him as high and lifted up.
* The great commission is about pointing people to the glory of God so that there are more and better worshippers of Jesus. That’s why we’re here.