

## **What Is the Mission of Your Church Family?**

In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus told His followers, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." These were Jesus' construction plans for the church. How could any group of people who call themselves a church ever fail to be people who "go", "baptize" and "make disciples?" Anything else is not according to the plans. If at any time, we, the church, fail to emphasize and practice this scripture we call the Great Commission, then we have negated the very reason for our existence as a church. I don't care what you put on your outside sign, or what you put on the top of your bulletin. Any group of people who fails to see their purpose as winning souls for Jesus Christ is not a church.

In one book I have read it says, "The church is designed by God to grow, so growth happens automatically if we remove the obstacles that prevent growth." We need to locate and remove any obstacle that hinders our church from reaching lost souls for Jesus Christ. A question we could ask ourselves today is this. "Do we want to be the church God wants us to be, or do we just want to 'do church' each Sunday morning?" If we want to be the church God wants us to be, then we must have a positive attitude about the future, be focused on winning souls, and believe God will reward our faithfulness. A famous atheist once said, "If I believed in hell as Christians do I would crawl on my hands and knees around the world to tell one person about how to escape its horror." Can we work on creating in our minds a vision of a world that so desperately needs Jesus?

Two shoe salesmen were sent to Africa. One sent a telegram home that said: "Get me home, nobody here wears shoes." The other salesman's telegram said: "Send me all of the shoes you can, nobody here wears shoes." What do you see went you encounter another soul?

*Roy Goodlet is a retired minister and a member of Murphy Church of Christ. Email him @ [royfcc@yahoo.com](mailto:royfcc@yahoo.com).*