

The following letter was written by Charlie Williams, Ministry to Men Director. After many requests for him to write a book about *Ministry to Men* and after several attempts to do just that, someone suggested he simply write letters sharing some of the truths God has been teaching him during the years.

We will be posting his letters on the Ministry to Men Web site. This letter was posted on November 23, 2010

Letter 18 The Great Commission

Matt. 28: 19, 20; Proverbs 27: 17

What does the great commission communicate to you?

Many Christians see it as going out and winning the world for Christ. That may be what it says but for the most part as I see this played out in the lives of many Christians, they would say it is leading people to Christ; although many if not most avoid the action Christ speaks of in Matt. 28: 19,20.

The key things He mentions are

1. to make disciples (where – the whole world)
2. baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
3. teach them. (what? – to obey all that He has commanded us to obey) In other words let's pay it forward.

Let's quickly look again at these commands and do so through the perspective of discipleship not evangelism.

He tells us to make disciples, this seems pretty clear. Once a person becomes a follower of Christ this should start at once. This may sound strange to you but it is God that brings a man into His kingdom and He has given to us the joy of discipling them.

He tells us to baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost. We baptize believers not prospects.

This tells us to teach them, not just information, but to teach them how to obey His commandments. That's for Christians not the lost

When I look at the great commission anymore what I see is that God wants to prepare His people to prepare His people. And that's why what Christ did with His disciples to teach them to disciple is what He wants to put into our lives and for us to share with others.