

YAG 21st RETREAT
26-27 JUNE 2015
Theme: "The Great Commission"

GOALS FOR THE RETREAT

1. To clear up misunderstanding concerning the scope of the Great Commission
2. Misunderstood scopes
 - a) Not a command at all
 - b) Only a command to preach the Gospel
 - c) No need for discipleship
 - d) No need to teach all that Jesus had taught
3. Understanding the danger of truncating the Great Commission
 - a) A weak Christian life
 - b) A weak church
 - c) Falling prey to erroneous teachings
 - d) Little power in faith and life
 - e) Presenting a false gospel
 - f) Having false hopes of salvation in Christ
4. The challenge of understanding and keeping the Great Commission
 - a) Walking in full obedience
 - b) Continuing the work of the Lord Jesus Christ
 - c) Keeping the tradition of the apostles
 - d) Being faithful to what has been committed to us
 - e) Greater maturity of faith

THE ORIGINAL AUDIENCE

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. The eleven disciples | Matthew 28:16 |
| a) They were specifically mentioned | |
| b) Were there others? | |
| Yes, very possibly! | |
| 2. Two responses noted | Matthew 28:17 |
| a) Some worshipped | |
| b) Some doubted | |

RECALLING EARLIER COMMISSIONS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The Commissioning of the Twelve | Matthew 10; Mark 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6 |
| a) Limitations of this Commission | |
| i) Only Twelve mentioned | |
| ii) Names of all the disciples recorded | Matthew 10:2-4 |
| iii) They were called "apostles" meaning "sent out ones" | Matthew 10:2 |
| iv) No ministry to Gentiles | Matthew 10:5 |
| v) No ministry to Samaritans | Matthew 10:5 |
| vi) Only to Israel | Matthew 10:6 |
| b) Special empowering | |
| i) Power over unclean spirits to cast them out | Matthew 10:1 |
| ii) Power to heal all kinds of diseases/ illnesses | Matthew 10:1 |
| c) Specific instructions | |
| i) Concerning accommodation | |
| ii) Concerning the message of the kingdom of God being at hand | Matthew 10:7 |
| iii) Concerning possible opposition | |
| iv) Concerning the special ministry of the Holy Spirit | Matthew 10:20 |
| v) Concerning practical discipleship | Matthew 10:24, 37-39 |

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 2. The Commissioning of the Seventy | Luke 10:1-24 |
| a) Seventy others were sent out | Luke 10:1 |
| b) They were to alert people that Jesus was coming to visit them soon | Luke 10:1 |
| c) Special instructions | |
| i) Similar to the first commission | |
| ii) Power to heal was promised | Luke 10:9 |
| iii) Power to cast out demons was reported | Luke 10:17 |
| iv) Authority given (power over the enemy) | Luke 10:19 |

SOME IMPORTANT LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

1. Faith in real ministry

- a) God's provisions
- b) God's power
- c) God's authority

2. Wisdom

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| a) Sheep among wolves | Matthew 10:16 |
| b) Wise as serpents | Matthew 10:16 |
| c) Harmless as doves | Matthew 10:16 |

3. Courage

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| a) Do not worry | Matthew 10:19-20 |
| b) Endurance amidst hatred | Matthew 10:21-22 |
| c) No fear, not even of death | Matthew 10:26-31 |

4. True disciples

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| a) Be like the Teacher | Matthew 10:24-25 |
| b) Servant like the Master | Matthew 10:24-25 |

5. Walking worthy

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| a) Taking up cross | |
| b) Following the Lord | |
| c) Losing one's life | Matthew 10:37-39 |

UNDERSTANDING THE FULL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

1. The Scope of the Great Commission

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a) All the nations | Matthew 28:19 |
| b) Make disciples | Matthew 28:19 |
| c) Baptising them | Matthew 28:19 |
| d) Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you | Matthew 28:20 |

2. Grammar (Theological significance)

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| a) The use of the Participle in Classical Greek | |
| b) The use of the Participle | Matthew 28:19 |
| c) Can the Participle be used as an Imperative? | Matthew 2:13 |

3. Things to consider

- a) Explicit meaning
- b) Implicit meaning
- c) Surface structure
- d) Deep structure (intended meaning)
- e) Semantics
- f) Contextual significance
- g) Principles and Applications
- h) Practical examples

4. How did the early church practise the keeping of the Great Commission?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| a) The Jerusalem Church | Acts 2 |
| b) The Antiochan Church | Acts 13 |
| c) The apostle Peter | 2 Peter |
| d) The apostle Paul | The Pastoral Epistles |

OUR CHALLENGE

- 1. To understand
- 2. To find the faith and courage to obey the Great Commission fully
- 3. To equip ourselves
- 4. To actually fulfil the Great Commission