

MISSION

MATTHEW 4:18-22

Our *Mission* at Central is the *Great Commission* given by Jesus. It has to be. We — as His followers — have to be about what Jesus is about. The commission He gives to every one of His disciples is to *be the kind of disciples of Jesus who make more disciples of Jesus.*

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20

A disciple, simply put, is a *student. A learner.* Therefore, we are a local church that strive to spend our lives growing as students of Jesus. This means growing in our relationship with Jesus, becoming more like Him, and growing in our effectiveness and fruitfulness as disciple-makers.

We phrase our *Mission* this way:

We exist to be authentic followers of Jesus who lead others to follow Him.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 4:19

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

SUPPLEMENTAL READING

MONDAY	MATTHEW 28:16-20
TUESDAY	JOHN 15:1-17
WEDNESDAY	ROMANS 10:5-15
THURSDAY	1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-27
FRIDAY	TITUS 2:1-15
SATURDAY	MATTHEW 4:18-22

POST SUNDAY STUDY CONTENT

1. Facebook's mission statement is "*bring the world closer together*". TED (Talks) states their mission as "*spreading ideas*". The Canadian Red Cross' mission is "*to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity in Canada and around the world*". Why is a clearly stated mission statement important?
2. A mission statement describes the reason why an organization exists. Is our church's mission statement consistent with what you live for on a day to day basis? If so, how? If not, why not?
3. Why does mere casual association with Jesus and church attendance not make sense in light of Christ's command (and the disciples' reaction) to "Follow Me"?
4. Look at the word *Immediately* in verses 20 & 22. *Immediately* they followed Jesus and *immediately* they left other things. What are the *nets, boats, and father* in your life that you have left or are in the process of leaving as you turn to follow Jesus?
5. The things left behind often aren't bad things (nets, boats, dad) but they are inferior things to

Jesus. What are the inferior things in your life that you tend to treat as superior things? What does it look like to leave them?

6. Jesus says, *I will make you fishers of men*? Why is that comforting? How has Jesus been equipping you to that end?
7. Explain the idea that every disciple is to be a disciple-maker. What might that look like for a university student? A mom with young kids? Working a trade or in an office? A retiree?
8. Perhaps you've heard of *The Cost of Discipleship* (a book title by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and common term for the very real costs that following Jesus takes). But what are the costs of non-discipleship? In other words, if we are not a church and individuals committed to knowing and growing in Jesus and making Him known, what are the costs of such misapplied "Christianity"?