

Carl Thomas

Numbers 6:24–26; Psalm 8:3–4; Ezekiel 36:26–27; Matthew 28; Luke 10:27; Romans 1; Romans 8:15; 2 Corinthians 4:3–4; Ephesians 2:8–9

Matthew 28:16–20 (NASB95)

16But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated.

17When they saw Him, they worshiped *Him*; but some were doubtful.

18And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Luke 10:27 (NASB95)

27And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

The Great Commission is an extension of the Great Commandment.

2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NASB95)

3And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- Matt 28:

19"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Romans 1:16For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,

Psalm 8:3–4 (NASB95)

3When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;

4What is man that You take thought of him,

And the son of man that You care for him?

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NASB95)

8For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Our greatest threat is not from the sinful world but from our sinful heart.

19“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- Defensive discipleship plays to not lose the hearts of people to the world because defensive discipleship believes the hearts of people are pure. Consequently defensive discipleship focuses primarily on protecting people from influences in the world, from anything that could corrupt the perceived purity of the heart. Defensive discipleship strategy is prevalent and ranges from teaching people to isolate themselves from the culture to constantly warning people of what they should avoid.
- Offensive discipleship is different. It seeks primarily not to protect people from the world but to empower believers to overcome the world. Offensive discipleship understands the power of the gospel, trusts the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit, and knows that if Jesus brings His transformation, obedience will be the joyful result.

The world is mostly filled with people trying to do the best with what they have.

1. We don't need to go from a life as a slave to sin to a life a slave to fear.

Romans 8:15 (NASB95)

15For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

Live your life framed by your identity in Christ instead of a pattern of behavior.

We need the Gospel at work in our lives.