

Matthew 28:18-20

I am an engineer. I attended many meetings at work, and there were often confusions in those meetings. Confusion on who should give out directions, confusion on the actual assignment, and confusion on what are the available resources or aids for the assignment. Eventually, I learned for each meeting or assignment: I need to know who is the real boss that all should follow, what exactly is the assignment for me, and what resources are available for me. This is true for all types of assignment. What about the most important one- who is the boss in your life, what are the assignments and what resources are there? This passage in Matthew 28 gives the answer.

Book of Matthew is the first book in the New Testament. Matthew is one of Jesus' disciples. The main audience is Jewish Christians. This book starts with the royal genealogy from King David. Matthew 5:1-12 further show the manifesto of the King, containing the laws of His kingdom. Jesus is the eternal king, and the King of kings. Jesus has the authority (Matt. 28:19) and almighty power. However, He is willing to submit to His Father and die for our sins so that we can have eternal life (Rev. 1:5, 19:16). Now, let's study the three questions I mentioned earlier and the answers. Jesus in Matthew 28 commissioned His 11 disciples at that time but this general commission is applicable for us today.

1) Authority - Your Lord

Who is the "boss" of your life? Your Lord shall be the true God. He is the King of the universe. Matt. 28:19 clearly states that the true God is the trinity God; God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Book of John chapter 1 or other bible passages disclose the trinity God, but the one verse here clearly states the trinity God. When we lead people to Jesus as their savior and Lord, we first need to be firm in our belief of the trinity God so that we can deliver the right salvation message and be able to explain the functions of the trinity God.

2) Assignments

Once we accepted who is our Lord, we need to know what He wants us to do with our lives. Verses 19 and 20 list the actions for us to go or 'as we go':

- a) Make disciples - The emphasis should be to make “His” disciples. We want people to follow Jesus through you. They shall be Jesus’ disciples (Matt. 5:48). “All nations” refers to people of all races. We need to share the Good News to them, telling them who Jesus is and what He did for you and me.
- b) Baptizing – We need to lead people to God’s family that is when they accept Jesus as their savior and Lord, and knowing the trinity God and their roles. Baptism is the outward confirmation of faith of their spiritual baptism.
- c) Teaching – One can say baptizing and teaching is part of making disciples. Regardless how the words or sentences are written, the teaching is for you to help or guide the disciples on continuous learning of who God is and what is His will.

3) Aids - Your Resources and God’s promise

One can’t do much without resource. Here, God has already given us the resource that is Jesus is with us always! This is a very important, meaningful and wonderful promise.

- a) His Protection and guidance
 II Thes. 3:3 is about God guard us against the evil one. Also see Matt. 10:28-29.
- b) His support, provision and love – see Matt. 10:5-15 where He sent out His disciples for evangelism. Also see Matt. 6:33 for His provision, and Rom. 8:35-39 for His love.
- c) Seek Him
 There is no use for us if we know we have the resources but not utilize it. In the same way, we need to seek God so that we know what He has for us. “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you” (James 1:5). “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matt. 6:33). Also see Matt. 7:7-8.

In summary, we are glad that we know who is the ‘boss’ of our lives which is the Trinity God. We can tell others the full salvation plan, and the roles of our Trinity God. We need to share the Good News to all kinds of people. Once they accepted God as their Lord, we need to help them to understand more about God and to follow Him. God’s assurance when we are sent out by Him: He is the almighty King

of Kings (omnipotence) that He protects us; He is always with us (omnipresence) that He guides and comforts us; and He is all-knowing (omniscience) that we get wisdom from. It is a great promise and blessing!