**Devotion**

Pleasant View Baptist Church ● Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

**The Great Commission**

 This scripture is often referred to as The Great Commission. Its important to recognize who Jesus is talking to in this scripture. Yes, he is speaking to the disciples, but more importantly he is speaking to a group of Christians. This scripture is one that we need to apply to our life today. We need to do our role in fulfilling this commission.

The first word in verse 19 stands out heavily to me. “GO.” Brushing up on my grammar skills I verified that the word “GO” is a verb. We know that verbs mean action. As Christians it
is important to have action in our life. Some people prefer international missions and some prefer missions domestically. Both of these are fantastic. However, whatever we choose, it is important for us to GO. We must have action in our life. There are lost people all around us. We must GO and spread The Word to these individuals.

The next order that is given is, “baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” Jesus wants us to make disciples. He doesn’t want merely fans. We will all agree that baptism is not Salvation. However, baptism is an important part in the Christian life. When one is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, that individual is publically identified with God himself. Also, when one is baptized, it is a good indicator that the individual is a true disciple for the Lord.

Lastly, Jesus states, “Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.” This teaching must take a lifetime. As Christians, we must be committed to this teaching. At our church we teach in many ways. We teach through Sunday School, worship service, weekly Bible study, and even Vacation Bible School. Yet, one of the most effective ways to teach is by example. Jesus was the ultimate teacher. His method of teaching is one that is often replicated in classrooms today. As a teacher, he told individuals what he wanted, he then modeled what he wanted, and then allowed these individuals an opportunity to respond.

For 2016, I encourage you to go out and fulfill this Great Commission.

God Bless,

Adam NeSmith