

Job Descriptions and Compass Readings

Today's Reading
Matthew 28:18-20

If you have ever been gainfully employed, you likely had a "job description." This written document or informal understanding served as a compass that gave you direction for what you were to do at any given point on any given day. In some ways, it may have served as a way of distinguishing between tasks that were your responsibility and those that were not.



Similarly, the last verses of Matthew's gospel serve as a job description outlining the responsibilities of the church and of individual members like you. This job description originated with Jesus, the one who has **all authority**. In other words, he has the right to give direction to our lives and activities. As such, these instructions are not optional. They tell us to make disciples of **all nations**. That's right, God desires that every person hears and responds

to the gospel message. Those that respond to the gospel message should be baptized and be taught to obey **all the teaching** of Jesus. That teaching includes the instruction from some of His earliest teaching in contexts like the Sermon on the Mount to this final instruction from a mount in Galilee. By God's grace, this is not a responsibility that you are to carry out independently. Jesus assures us that He is **always with us!**

Now, I have to admit that I don't have my job description from my employer memorized. But the job description that Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20? That one I can recite without looking. That one has eternal ramifications. That one should serve as a guiding light in my entire life. It describes God's purpose for my life right now.

If you haven't already, you would do well to commit those verses to memory. I have intentionally highlighted above the repetitious "all" theme found in this passage. These can serve as milestone prompts in your memorization. More importantly, the job description found here can serve as a compass that gives you direction in establishing the priorities of your life.