



PROCLAIM THE FAITH YEAR 1 STUDY GUIDES

Monthly study guides can be used in personal prayer and for small group reflection.

AUGUST 2025

SCRIPTURE

Read Matthew 28:16-20

REFLECT:

1. What is Jesus' message here? Why do you think this is the message that concludes Matthew's Gospel?
2. This passage is called "the Great Commission." What does it mean to be given a mission?
3. How can we take Jesus' words here and apply them to our lives? How can we make sure that the mission Jesus gives here is the mission that we are carrying out?

READ: A selection from *Via Fidelis* — Chapter 3

Love calls for a generous sharing of the Good News. It is at the feet of the eucharistic Lord where we must hear and heed the words of his Great Commission. As St. Matthew recounts: "The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, 'All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, until the end of the age'" (28:16-20).

The Second Vatican Council echoed this commission and reminded us all that the Church is missionary by her very nature: "The pilgrim Church is missionary by her very nature, since it is from the mission of the Son and the mission of the Holy Spirit that she draws her origin, in accordance with the decree of God the Father" (*Ad Gentes*, #2).

As followers of the Lord Jesus and members of his Church, we must proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the nations. This is not just the responsibility of priests and religious, but of all the baptized. Each one of us has a unique role to play in sharing the Gospel with others and we must commit ourselves to playing our part to the best of our ability.

REFLECT:

1. In this passage, the bishop comments on the Great Commission. Why do you think he prefaces this by describing sharing the Good News as an act of love? Does seeing it that way change the way we share the Gospel?
2. The passage cited from the Second Vatican Council talks about the Church as "missionary by her very nature." What do you think that means? What should we expect the life of the Church to look like? How do we, individually, participate in that life?
3. The bishop tells us that we each have a "unique role" in evangelization. What do you think your unique role is? How is God calling you to put that into action?

