

A Powerful Invitation

Think back on a time where you heard someone's farewell words. Maybe it was during a speech at a graduation. Maybe these words came from a parent as you left for college. Perhaps you heard them at a co-worker's retirement party. Or maybe you experienced a family member's final words. Parting words are powerful because of when they're spoken (often during a time of transition) and because of the relationship we have with the person speaking them.

Jesus spoke some parting words to his disciples shortly before he ascended into heaven after he died on the cross and rose again. Here's what he said:

Matthew 28:18–20: Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus had spent three years with these friends. He knew them, and they knew him. His words reflect how he wanted them to continue his work. Jesus began by telling them that all authority in heaven and on earth was given to him, and he ended by telling them he would be with them always. For these disciples as well as future followers, the Holy Spirit provided both the power and the presence to accomplish this mission—this Great Commission.

As followers of Jesus, we've been invited to experience his power through the work of the Holy Spirit in us. The same power that brought Jesus back from the grave is alive in us. As you consider what Go For It looks like in your life, consider this: God has chosen to use you to accomplish his work. Isn't that an incredible thought? The God who created the universe could accomplish his plans without our help, but he has invited us to be part of it. Furthermore, he has given us his Spirit to enable us to accomplish this work that we could not complete on our own. That's a powerful invitation!

Moving Forward

As you consistently look for ways to help ONE person find the God who loves them, are you trusting in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to guide you?