
The Church's Mission and Methods
Matthew 28:18–20
October 25, 2015

Introduction

- I. The starting point of the church's mission: Christ's authority. Matthew 28:18
 - A. It begins with an announcement, not a command.
 - B. By His authority He takes the initiative. John 15:16
 - C. He triumphs over the world. John 16:33
 - D. He has authority over life and death. John 17:2–3; Revelation 1:17–18; Acts 16:14
 - E. He will successfully build His church. Matthew 16:18
- II. The methods Christ authorizes.
 - A. Baptizing them. Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38–39
 - B. Preaching and teaching. Matthew 28:20; Romans 10:14–17
 - C. Church discipline. Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:17

Questions for reflection:

- *Why is it important that the church's mission begin with a declaration and not a command?*
- *What kinds of things are included in the authority given to Jesus?*
- *What happens when we lose sight of Christ's authority over all things?*
- *What methods have been authorized by Jesus? What might be examples of the church substituting new methods in place of these?*