

# Jesus' call to the nations, Part II

by Jeff Lewis

## Week sixteen

As Jesus approached the end of His earthly ministry and with more intensity after the resurrection, He made it clear that His purpose was global, and His mandate was to catapult His followers to the nations. The following Scriptures are restatements of the Great Commission that God gave to Abram found in the purpose clause of Genesis 12:3, "And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed" (NASB).

Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of God blessing the families of the earth through Abram. His mandate to His followers will never be understood if our only grasp of the "Great Commission" is obtained from Matthew 28:19-20. Full understanding is discovered when you study the five commission statements Jesus gave after the resurrection. As you study each statement notice the similarities and different emphasis.

- Matthew 28:18-20 (Two hints: The imperative verb is, "make disciples." Nations does not mean a political entity or geographical bound country. Nations comes from the Greek word "ethne," the basis for the English word "ethnic.")
- Mark 16:15-16
- Luke 24:44-49
- John 20:21-23 (This commission will take on new meaning if you take the time some day to read the Gospel of John and focus on Jesus' use of the words "sent" and "send.")
- Acts 1:3-8

Taking into consideration the Scriptures just read, write a summary statement that describes Jesus' global mandate. Selah

How does that message affect the way you witness about Jesus?