

# Episode 2: Gospel Community

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"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority 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, to the end of the age." — Matthew 8:18-20

#### Summary

Jesus has given his church this great commission: to make disciples of all nations. 2000 years later, we are still at work to bring this commission to completion. We long for the day when Christ will be named, known, and trusted in every tribe, tongue, and nation. May he do so in this generation! This is no small task. We play a role in the mission of the church at large. So we shouldn't feel like this is a solo project. It is a church-wide endeavor of faithful obedience. We are a community formed by the gospel, and we fulfill our disciple-making mandate as a community. So when we work together, pray together, share our victories and struggles in evangelism together, we are living as a gospel community. Don't try to do evangelism alone. It's a whole church project.

Podcast Listening Notes

## **Reflection Questions**

After two weeks of listening to the podcast, how have the stories they shared encouraged you?

Both Holly and Keith mentioned having a sense of God's power and leading while sharing the gospel. Have you experienced this as well? Read and reflect on 2 Corinthians 2:14. Consider also Matthew 28:20 & 10:19-20.

Take a moment to reflect on Matthew 28:18. What are the implications of Jesus having ALL authority in heaven and on earth? How does this affect the way you approach evangelism? How does this create confidence for you in the task of evangelism?

Do you tend to think of evangelism as a personal (solo) responsibility? Why does this mindset tend to produce more or less evangelistic faithfulness among believers? How can the shift to thinking of evangelism as a whole-church effort encourage you? Who specifically in your life could support you as you share your faith?



## **Action Point**

Think through how you would share your own testimony of coming to faith with another person. Write out a short version for a brief 2-5 minute encounter, and a longer 10-15 minute version for more in depth encounters. Include the role of the church in bringing you to Jesus and helping you to grow. Consider organizing it into three parts: your life (1) before Jesus, (2) when and how you came to faith in Jesus, (3) how your life has changed since.



#### Prayer Prompt

Pray God shows you the truth and power of the 4 "alls" of the great commission: Jeus has ALL authority. Go into ALL the world. Make disciples of ALL people. Jesus will ALL-ways be with us. Pray that we never lose our focus outward on the mission. Pray for the advance of the church.