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# GREAT COMMISSION MANUAL FOR TEENS!

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(or anyone for that matter)

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Though not an “exhaustive” work, from Introduction to Reproduction, this booklet will stress the importance of and teach you how to fulfill ...

## THE GREAT COMMISSION!



## SECTION I

### Introduction

Much has been taught in many manuals, books, and booklets about the subject of winning souls to Christ, but simply presenting the Gospel (and even seeing a soul saved) still falls 66% short of what Jesus has commanded us to do. It is in this booklet that one is intended to learn not only a simple and illustrative method of presenting the opportunity to be born again, but also to instruct the obedient Christian on how to fulfill the other two parts of the Great Commission given by Jesus Christ. We must work to see the new convert baptized as well as trained to glorify God by winning others also. Failure to be fully obedient in this matter is the spiritual equivalent of leaving new born babies helpless and alone on the doorsteps of the world.

1. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,
2. baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
3. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

***Matthew 28:19 - 20***

## SECTION II

### **What is a ‘Great Commission’?**

We always remember the last words that anyone speaks because great importance and weightiness is usually implied. Whether it be on their “death bed” or simply before leaving on a long trip, a person’s final words will usually hold great significance.

What were the last words that Jesus Christ spoke on Earth just before returning home to prepare a place for all of those who will trust in Him? The answer is what many refer to as .... The Great Commission!

### **Definitions:**

Great - (adj.) Unusually or comparatively large in size or dimensions.

Commission - (noun) an authoritative order, charge, or direction.

The Great Commission - An unusually large, authoritative order!

### **Note:**

Jesus clearly did not teach the thought that who gets saved is God’s business, and we need only go to church and leave it up to God to draw men unto Himself whenever He chooses. Yes, God already knows who will receive Jesus Christ, but He has clearly commanded that we, as Christians, should be the ones to go and tell all of mankind so that everyone may have the opportunity to gain eternal life!

## SECTION III

### What's My Motivation?

#### **Genesis 3:15**

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

- *This is the “Proto-evangelium” A.K.A. The first promise of the Gospel!*

#### **Proverbs 11:30**

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise. - *Do you want to be considered wise in God's eyes?*

#### **Jude 22,23**

And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. - *How strong is your compassion for others?*

#### **Romans 10:14 - 15**

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? - *Many WILL believe, but we must go and tell them!*

#### **Matthew 28:19 - 20**

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 1. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, 2. baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 3. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. - *Again, this is The Great Commission!*

## SECTION IV

### Grace vs. Works

There are only two basic schools of thought on how to attain entrance into Heaven after life on this Earth is done. This goes for “Christendom” as a whole, as well as other World religions. These two ideologies are known as Works and Grace.

**Works** = Good vs. Evil or the thought that God has a cosmic scale in the sky that will weigh out my bad deeds against all of the good that I have done in my life. Call it what you will, but it is heresy! There are no essential “sacraments” to keep in order to get to Heaven, just as there is no specific sin such as murder that will guarantee you a place in Hell. God said that even our very best efforts would still fall short of His perfection so He Himself had to make a way to save the souls of the sinners He loves.

**Grace** = Eternal life in Heaven is already paid for by Jesus Christ. We receive this Gift by simply repenting of our sin and putting our faith in Him.

#### *Titus 3:5*

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

#### *Ephesians 2:8,9*

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.

*\* Remember these two verses when seeking to win souls. They are clear and simple refutation of the idea that we can be good enough to get to Heaven on our own merits.*



## SECTION V

### Part 1: Presenting The Gospel

The Gospel = The Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ.

Whenever engaged in conversation, be it at a stranger's door or while walking beside a friend or relative, find a way to ask them this question:

**If you were to die today, are you 100% sure that you would go to Heaven?**

The answer given at this point will tell you all that you need to know about their eternal condition.

If they answer "Yes," ask them to share their salvation testimony with you. If they cannot tell you of a specific time when they were born again then share your personal testimony with them and try to move on to your next question. If they have been truly born again, rejoice with them and have a nice talk!

If their answer leads you to believe that they do not even believe in Heaven, Hell, or God then there is not much you can do for that individual at that moment. Unless you are prepared to enter into a lengthy and fact filled, scientifically based discussion on Creationist apologetics in order to refute the evolutionary philosophy that has managed to falsely dismiss the existence of God from their equation of life, then you will be best off to sincerely pray for and love that person in the hopes that one day they may realize their need for a Savior.

However, if their answer is "Oh, I think so," "I'm a pretty good person.," "I go to church.," "I was baptized.," or just plain "No, I'm not." then you have a great opportunity to show them how they can know for sure that Heaven will be their home! As you are taking out your New Testament your next question should be ....

## Could I take about five minutes and show you from the Bible how I know for sure that I am going to Heaven?

This question is intentionally NON-offensive. You just want to show them how you know that you are going to Heaven. On purpose, you are not “pointing the bony finger of condemnation” in their face and arrogantly declaring the obvious place that has been reserved for them in Hell. Many people have been led to believe by churches, relatives, friends, ministers, and the media that if their good deeds one day outweigh their bad that they will escape eternal judgment. You will also find that many people have never even given serious thought to their eternal destiny. If the individual answers “No.” or “I don’t have time right now.” try to quickly give your “testimony” of how somebody once showed you in the Bible how to know for sure that you were going to Heaven and how it changed your life. Then, ask them the question above once again. If their answer is still no, try to leave them with a Gospel tract, and remember to pray for that person. If their answer is “Yes.”, then turn to I John 5:13 ...

### ***I John 5:13***

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may **know** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

While you show them this verse and read it aloud to them be sure to emphasize the word “know”.

**See, the Bible says that we can know for sure that we have eternal life in Heaven! Now, lets back up one verse.**

### ***I John 5:12***

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

**Who is that Son that is mentioned here?**

They will answer “Jesus”. At this point you will hand them a tract (if you

haven't already) or some other small item that they can keep. You will use this item as an illustration throughout the rest of your presentation of the Gospel.

**That's right, Jesus. Here (hand them the tract and explain that it is a brochure from your church). Do you have that tract in your hand right now? (Yes.) Did you have it in your hand a minute ago? (No.) According to the Bible, it is just that simple. You either have Jesus Christ as your Savior or you don't.**

**Look around. Do you see all of the trees, grass, people, ... (Yes.) Who made all of that? (God.) Right, and God also wrote us a love letter. I have a copy of it right here in my hand, and one of the most famous verses in that love letter is John 3:16. Let me show you.**

### ***John 3:16***

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Now, read the verse to them again, but this time replace the words "the world" and "whosoever" with their own name (we'll call him Adam in our example).

**Adam, we can put your name in there. For God so loved Adam that He gave His only begotten Son that if Adam will believe in Him he will not perish, but have everlasting life.**

**Now, Adam. If everlasting life is up in Heaven, where would everlasting death be?**

He will answer "Hell." If you are dealing with a child, more often than not they will just point down to the ground. Either way, take the opportunity to explain that Hell is not a curse word, it is a place of torment that anyone would wish to avoid (see Luke chapter 16). Explain that it is a place of eternal fire and torment that was not originally created for mankind, but Adam and Eve sinned and messed things up for all of us (causing God to

have to make a new way for us to be with Him in Heaven someday).

**That's right Adam. First we have to see the bad news.**

### ***Romans 3:23***

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

**Adam, have you ever sinned?**

If he answers “Yes.” agree with him that we all have, and move on to your next question. If he answers “No.” you can take him to one of the following verses below. The first deals with all of us inheriting a Sin Nature. The second deals with several sins that would qualify someone for Hell including lying.

**Note:** If you are dealing with a small child who perhaps came forward in Junior Church, one who truly does not yet understand the concept of sin, and assures you that he has never done anything wrong before, do not pressure the child any further for a “decision”. If he is too young to comprehend his sin debt, then he is too young to repent of it and get saved. Pray with the child that he will continue to grow up strong, and learn more and more about Jesus in the coming years.

### ***Romans 5:12***

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

### ***Revelation 21:8***

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

**Now let me ask you this question, if the “glory of God” is up in Heaven, and because of our sin we all fall short of that, then where would we have to go to pay for our sins forever? (Hell.) Right, let me show you**

**Romans 6:23.**

***Romans 6:23***

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Adam, have you ever been paid for doing a job? (Yes) You earned that money didn't you? (Yes) And so you expected to be paid didn't you? (Yes) It is like that with our sin. Our sin has earned us the wage of death, but the news gets better now. Do you still have that tract I gave you? (Yes) Adam, a gift has two parts. First it is given, but before it can become yours it must be ... (Received?) Yes. Just like I held out that tract a while ago. Our church paid for it so that it could be a free gift meant for you, but you didn't have it until you reached out and received it. Look here ...

***Romans 5:8***

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

See, even though we are sinners and deserve death in Hell, Jesus Christ purchased our place in Heaven when He died for us on the Cross.

Adam, can you physically see that tract that I handed you? (Yes.) Then how can you receive a gift that you cannot see? ... Have you ever physically seen God? (No.) No, but we see the evidence of God all around us don't we? (Yes.) I can't see the air between you and I, but I'm breathing it! It is by our faith through prayer that we can receive this gift of Eternal Life! Look here ...

***Romans 10:13***

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Adam, we can put your name in there. For if Adam shall call upon the name of the Lord, Adam shall be saved. Not may be, not might be, but

**SHALL be!**

**Now, Adam, let me ask you a few questions.**

**Do you believe that there is a God? ....**

**Do you believe that you are a Sinner? ....**

**Do you believe that God's Son Jesus Christ died on the Cross, and shed His blood to pay for your sins? ....**

**Would you like to repent of your sin right now, and ask Jesus to become your Savior? ....**

If their answer is "No." then kindly remind them that they can know 100% for sure today that they would go to Heaven. Perhaps you can testify of what your salvation has meant to you since you received Christ, and ask them that fourth question again. If they refuse again, tell them that you will be praying for them, and remember later to pray for another opportunity for that person to one day accept Christ as their Savior. Leave them the tract, thank them for their time, and change the conversation. Do not be pushy. It is our job to clearly present the Gospel. It is God's job to convict the heart, and save the soul.

If their answer is "Yes." to those four questions, then ask them if you can help them form a prayer to God. Tell them that it isn't in any magic words that they say. This is the time that they will admit to God that they are a sinner, and receive that free gift of eternal life. It must be their prayer, but you can help guide their words because many may have never even tried to truly talk to God before. Have them repeat after you in a manner something like this.

**Dear Jesus, .... I know that I am a sinner, .... But right now .... I want to ask you to forgive me of my sin and become my Savior, .... And take me to Heaven when I die. .... Thank you for saving me Lord. .... In Jesus name, .... Amen. ....**

Adam, did you mean that prayer? (Yes.) Adam, if you died right now, where would you go? (Heaven.) Why?

The answer will usually be something like “Because I asked Jesus to be my Savior.” Agree with them, and take them back to I John 5:12,13.

### ***I John 5:12, 13***

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Adam, do you have God’s Son Jesus in your life now? (Yes.) Did you have Him as your Savior ten minutes ago? (No.) So, now you can tell people that you know 100% for sure that you will go to Heaven someday!

Immediately deal with the individual for assurance of their salvation.

Now Adam, if something is eternal, can it ever stop? (No.)

Then, can you lose your salvation? (?)

In John chapter 3 Jesus said that when we get saved we are “born again” into the family of God. Can you ever become unborn? (No.)

How many times did Jesus pay for your sin? (Once.)

Then how many times do you have to get saved? (Once.)

You can also use this “Blood Relation” illustration.

Adam, do you have a Dad? (Yes.) What if you got really mad at him one day and said that you were never going to speak to him again. What if you legally divorced him, changed your last name, and moved to the other side of the planet? Would he still be your Father? (Yes.) Because there is a blood relation right? (Right.) You also have a blood relation to your Heavenly Father now. The blood that Jesus Christ shed at the Cross was for an eternally binding relationship with God!

Adam, you and I are both members of the same family now. I can call you my Brother!



## SECTION VI

### **Part 2: The First Step of Obedience**

Dear obedient child of God, when you take the trash out to the curb, do you ever bundle it up, walk one third of the way to the curb, and deposit it on the lawn? Of course not! So, let's not be so hasty to leave the new born child of God alone to fend for himself. Your new convert is most ready right now to learn what he is to do next. Ask him this question ...

**Adam, now that you are a true Christian, do you want to be a good Christian or a bad Christian? (Good.) Then I want to show you your very first step of obedience to God. Look here ...**

#### ***Acts 2:41***

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

**Adam, did you receive God's word just now? (Yes.) Then what does the Bible say you must do next? (Be baptized.) That's right, but let me ask you this again Adam, if you were to die right now where would you go? (Heaven.) Right, because of what Jesus did for you on the Cross. Then does Baptism save us? (?)**

You have lead him to the obvious answer "No". If he is confused, the following instances and illustration may help.

#### **Instance:**

**In Matthew 3:16,17 Jesus Christ Himself was Baptized out of obedience to God. Did Jesus have to get Baptized to go to Heaven? (No.)**

**The thief on the cross next to Jesus during His crucifixion was promised eternal life because of his faith. Was that man able to get baptized**

before he died? (No.) Did he go to Heaven? (Yes.)

In John Chapter 3 Jesus emphasizes that we must be born again in order to get to Heaven. He says nothing about baptism during His entire message.

### **Illustration:**

Pull out a picture (your driver's license, etc ...)

Adam, who is this? (He'll say your name.) No that is not me. I'm right here. That is a picture of me. Baptism is not Salvation, it is a "picture" of your salvation that you are showing to everyone else to say, "I am now a child of God, and I want to live for Him." When you stand in the water it crosses your body like the cross that Jesus died on. Then, the pastor lowers you for just a moment completely below the water symbolizing Jesus' burial. You are then immediately raised back up completing the picture in that Jesus was raised up from the dead. Baptism is an outward showing of an inward change!

**Note 1:** If the convert tells you that he got "baptized" before when he was a baby or for church membership somewhere, simply take him back to Acts 2:41 and remind him that true Scriptural baptism always follows the moment of salvation.

**Note 2:** Nowhere in the Bible can you find sprinkling as a mode of baptism. Baptism is to be performed by full immersion, by a pastor with the authority of a Scriptural New Testament church.

**Note 3:** You may need to explain how the baptism process works at your church ... ie. Coming forward at the invitation time, what to bring, baptismal robes, privacy, etc ...

**Note 4:** VERY IMPORTANT! In many states, no one under the age of 18 may be baptized without written parental consent (unless the parent is physically present at the time of the baptism). Encourage the parents

of new child/teen converts to be present for their child's baptism. They may get saved too!

Your next question ....

### **So Adam, would you like to follow the Lord in Believer's Baptism?**

At this point you should have removed any realistic uncertainties about the actual baptism itself. The convert should agree that he needs to be baptized. Now, you can discuss any obstacles that would prevent him from getting Baptized at the VERY NEXT SERVICE. If he works, schedule for the next available service. If he needs a ride, plan to pick him up and take him to church (call ahead one hour to make sure he is ready to go). If he wants to wait until his wife can come, work with it ... And so on ... Make sure to lovingly stress the importance of baptism, and help the new believer to overcome any obstacles (mental or otherwise) that they may have. Here is another verse that you can use if they are concerned about standing up in front of a group of people to say that they have been saved.

#### ***Romans 10:11***

For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

SHOW ME A BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN WHO HAS NEVER REALLY GROWN IN THEIR CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND I WILL SHOW YOU SOMEONE WHO MOST-LIKELY HAS NEVER FOLLOWED THE LORD IN THE FIRST STEP OF OBEDIENCE ... BAPTISM!

**One final note on Baptism:** You may, one day, run into someone that uses Acts 2:38 as proof that you must also be baptized in order to go to Heaven. Let's look at that verse ...

#### ***Acts 2:38***

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Clearly we know that one verse cannot contradict every other verse that so plainly states that baptism is not a part of our actual salvation (see John Chapter 3). We must look at this verse and ascertain what the word “for” means in the phrase “for the remission of sins”. In this case, the word ‘for’ means ‘because of’. In other words, we are baptized after we have had our sins washed away through repentance and faith in Christ.

## SECTION VII

### **Part 3: Toddlers Are Not Grown-Ups**

Think back to when you were very young. Aren't you thankful that somebody was patient with you and trained you to walk on your own? Think how it would affect your life even now if you had never been taught. Someone, somewhere in your past was long suffering through your stumblings on your way to adolescence and adulthood.

This illustration may seem crude, but remember that the Apostle Paul also likened a new born babe in Christ to a toddler in need of the "sincere milk of the Word". When your convert is saved and baptized, it is then that we enter the final phase of fulfilling our duty to The Great Commission.

Buy the new Christian a Bible. Exchange phone numbers and email addresses. Learn of their needs and share prayer requests. Love them. Befriend them. Guide them. Teach them. Have them over for dinner (where appropriate). Help them overcome any obstacle that would prevent them from regularly attending church, for it is there that they will receive strength through the preaching and fellowship with other believers.

#### ***Hebrews 10:25***

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

If a close relationship with the new convert might prove inappropriate (ie. A single guy who has won a married lady to Christ, etc ...), introduce them, as soon as possible, to someone in the church who might more effectively take over that role of Spiritual Mentor.

Remember, this is a new Child of God, and since you were the “midwife” (so to speak) that helped to deliver this Spiritual Child into the world it is now your responsibility to do everything within your power (or more accurately ... God’s power) to see that this Child survives until he can reproduce himself. That’s right, you are to baby-sit God’s newborn baby (what an awesome responsibility!). When they make mistakes, remember your position before God, and recall this verse ...

***Galatians 6:1***

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

**Let’s help them to grow into Spiritual adulthood!**

## SECTION VIII

### Reproduction

In Genesis, God commanded that everything was to reproduce after it's own kind. Well, what kind of a Christian are you? What kind of Christian do you want your converts to be? I hope that the answer to both of these is, "The kind that reproduces!"

It is your job to see that the new child of God is trained to fulfill their duty to The Great Commission as well!

If you succeed in doing this, then you have truly been obedient to Christ in fulfilling His final request before leaving Earth.

Have you ever considered your Spiritual family tree? Do you know who led you to Christ? Of course you do, but do you know who led them to Christ? How about your Spiritual Great Grandfather? Your Great Great Grandfather? Now, let's go the other way. Will you ever get to see your Spiritual Grandchildren? How about your Great Grandchildren?

Here is one final thought. The greatest way to bring glory to God is by fulfilling His Great Commission. What if we completely did what Jesus commanded us to do? What if we then stopped after only doing it twice, and then taught those two converts to do the same thing? How many souls could be won in the next ten years? How many people could you see in your Spiritual family tree? (*Please reference the table on the next page.*)

Adding to the Kingdom of God like this is possible! Imagine if we didn't stop at just training those first two converts! What if we spent the rest of our lives realizing the importance of fulfilling all three parts of ...

### **THE GREAT COMMISSION!**

# THE GREAT COMMISSION!

What if we each did our part completely?

YEAR	SOULS WON
1	2
2	4
3	8
4	16
5	32
6	64
7	128
8	256
9	512
10	1,024
Total Family Tree =	2,046



