

Sermon Discussion Questions  
**Our Destination**  
Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:6-8  
January 5, 2014

1. All those canoes and kayaks on the stage – do you like outdoor silent sports like canoeing, fishing, kayaking, camping? If so, why? If not, why not? What do you like to do for recreation?
2. The “motivational speaker” Matt Foley, blathered on with empty words. How can we make sure that this 6 week series doesn’t become just empty words, but that we all get on the Faith Church Ministry River together? What are some practical ways we can make sure we are all “in a canoe” and heading for the destination?
3. The Great Commission passage in Matthew 28:19-20 starts with Matthew 28:16-18. With the words Jesus said in v.18, does that give you any courage to really be about the commission He has set for us? Why or why not?
4. Here is a breakdown of the verbs in Matthew 28:19-20: “**Go**” (aorist (past) participle – a continuous action in the past; more accurately it could be translated, “Having gone”); “**make disciples**” (imperative – a command); “**baptizing**” (present participle – a continuous action in the present); and “**teaching**” (present participle – a continuous action in the present). Given the details of the verbs, how are we to understand this commission of Jesus? What is the primary verb, and which verbs elaborate on it?
  - a. Remember the illustration of early childhood development? What has Jesus given to you that you need to give to others (love, righteousness, abundance, wisdom, etc.)?
5. In Acts 1:8 there is a pattern for witnessing. It goes from geographically close to the end of the earth. What are our Jerusalem, our Judea and Samaria, and then the remotest part of the earth for us as a church? How are we doing in each of these areas? Do you have any suggestions on how we can be better missionaries to our world?
  - a. Jesus said, we would be His witnesses. To witness means to attest to facts and affirm what is true. In this context it means we affirm what is true about Jesus. How do you do at witnessing? What hinders you from witnessing?
6. Remember the story of the Olympic marathon runner John Steven Akhwari? The destination – the mission – that we are called to constantly head toward is, “To invite people into a relationship with Jesus and together to become devoted followers of Him.” What do you see that we need to do in 2014 to run this race Jesus has set out for us?