



# Life Principles Notes™

## Investing in Eternity

### Summary:

**Every person who trusts Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior becomes His follower—and that means there will be a new purpose for their life.** That is because being His disciple means obeying what He said and becoming an extension of His life on earth. Believers are to carry out His work through His presence and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Christian life is a life of action that is

eternal in its investment, influence, and reward. Therefore, when you say, “I’ve trusted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior,” that means there is a mission that will guide your behavior and life.

Let us look at our assignment and how we’re to carry it out.

**Key Passage:** [Matthew 28:16–20](#)

**Supporting Scripture:** [Luke 24:31–32](#); [John 3:16](#); [Acts 1:4–8](#); [Colossians 4:16](#); [1 John 1:9](#)

### Scriptural Principles:

#### 1 The command.

In Matthew 28:19–20, Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.” This is the commission that all believers are to follow. Some may think that Jesus gave this task only for His disciples or for pastors and missionaries to do. However, *everyone* who accepts Christ as their personal Savior is commanded to make disciples—it is an essential aspect of walking in obedience to Him.

#### 2 Yes, that means *you*.

There are many people who may feel as if they aren’t sufficiently equipped to carry out the Great Commission—especially because Jesus’ charge was not only to share their faith with people, but to baptize and teach them as well. However, most people underestimate how much they know and how effectively God could use them in another person’s life.

God doesn’t teach you through Bible studies, church, and so forth, for the sole purpose of helping you to feel secure in your salvation or comforting you during difficulties and hardships—although that is definitely part of it. He also instructs you so that you can minister to others. Therefore, you probably don’t realize how much God has taught you over the years and the truth He has built into your mind and heart that will be extremely useful in the lives of other people.

#### 3 Go *where*?

Jesus was emphatic in His command, “You shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). This may also cause you to pause because the will of God is that the gospel be preached to all the earth. Yet, what area are you responsible for? God will show you. Be obedient—preaching the gospel no matter where you are—and God will direct you where to go.

#### 4 A simple message.

You may be wondering, “What is it that I am supposed to tell them, exactly?” The most important message the world has ever heard is also the best, most life-changing assertion that will ever be spoken. This eternal message is summarized by the beautiful words of John 3:16, “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” That is the one message that changes a person’s eternal destiny—the good news that through faith in Jesus Christ one can be forgiven of their sins and reconciled to God.

#### 5 An extraordinary method.

It is amazing to think of how the gospel has been passed from one person to another throughout the years—that is, by word of mouth. And yet, it has all been fueled by God’s wonderful presence. Jesus said “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). Whatever God commands us to do, He will do it through us—we cannot truly serve Him apart from the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

#### 6 Paul’s example.

When Paul was sentenced to prison, some may have thought his usefulness to God had ended. Yet, just the opposite was true. Paul began to write letters, clarifying the message of the gospel to the Romans, the Colossians, the Philippians, the Thessalonians, and so forth. These letters have endured throughout the centuries and have instructed countless Christians. It was not because of Paul that these letters have been so powerful, but because of God’s Holy Spirit.

#### 7 No time for second-guessing or discouragement.

The challenge to evangelize the whole world may have been overwhelming to Paul and the disciples, but they did not give up because of the immensity of the task. Neither did they expect to finish the job on their own. They simply did whatever Christ told them to do—knowing He had everything under control.

You are not to grow discouraged either. Rather, your job is to tell others what Jesus Christ has done for you. How was it you came to understand your need for a Savior? How were you convinced that God could do all He promised to do in and through you? How has God’s love changed your life? No doubt, God may be working in the life of the person you are talking to in much the same way.

#### 8 Progress.

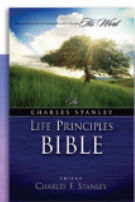
We are making excellent strides in proclaiming the gospel throughout the world, and we should be excited about the new technologies and ways God is providing for us to spread the Good News of salvation. Missionaries are translating languages that have never been written. People are praying. Churches are being planted in areas that have been hostile to the gospel. An average of 90,000 people are saved every day. Progress is definitely being made.

Yet, that is why He left us here—to tell others about Him.

### Conclusion:

Although there may be many things you cannot do when thinking about missions—what is it you *can* do? Although you may not be able to tell every person on earth about Jesus Christ—who *can* you tell?

God is looking for people who



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will surrender themselves to His wisdom, power, and plan. And He will show you what to do if you are willing to listen to Him and respond to Him in obedience.

Therefore, ask Him, “Lord, how do You want me to proclaim the gospel? How do You want me to tell others about You and serve You? How can I invest in eternity and spend my life in a manner that will please You?” 🙏

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