

# POD Teaching Session Number 1

## The Call to Holy Living

### Learning Modules:

- A. The Call/The CRUX/The Challenge
- B. P.O.D. unpacked
- C. Is Growth a Decision?

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### Session 1 Module A

#### The Call/ The CRUX/ The Challenge

#### Learning Objectives:

- The commandments of God are not suggestions
- Gain a greater understanding and respect for the Great Commandment and Commission
- Obedience is the key to everything good.

## The Call



**1 Peter 1:15-16** but like the Holy One who called you, \_\_\_\_\_\* holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY." NASB95

What does it mean to "be Holy"? ( *Hagios* Strong's G40 = Holy (161 in NT), saint 61 (in NT)

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\*This is not at all an \_\_\_\_\_ but an absolute \_\_\_\_\_ requiring full obedience on the part of all hearers.

Get acquainted with the on-line Blue Letter Bible. It is a tremendous resource for diving deeper into God's word. It is essential for the serious Bible student. See Resource Guide for the link. It will be demonstrated that it is important to know the Tense, Mood, and Voice of Greek Verbs. Also, see the piece entitled "Greek Verbs (Shorter Definitions)".

Are the commands of God negotiable?

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What are the consequences of disobedience?

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List some benefits of obedience:

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**The Great Commandment: *Matthew 22:37-39*** And He said to him, “**YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.**” “This is the great and foremost commandment. “The second is like it, ‘**YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**’ NASB95

How many loves are included in this verse? \_\_\_\_\_

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Love God	<u>Completely</u>
Love Others	<u>Compassionately</u>
Love Yourself	<u>Correctly</u>



**The Great Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. “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; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”** NASB95

What are the major elements of this commission?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

What is the promise if the Great Commission is observed? (If/ then)

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God gave us  
the Great Commission  
as the means to fulfill the  
Great Commandment.

The Great Commandment vs. The Great Suggestion:

[See Resource Guide for an article by the same name](#)

The Great Commission is one commandment in two parts (two imperatives = commands):

- 1.
- 2.

There are two means or how to's by which disciple making will take place (two participles = verbal adjectives (usually end in "ing")):

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## ***The CRUX***

Teaching them to observe (obey NIV) all that I commanded you:

- The key to "teaching them to obey" is; "how and why to obey", that is the question.
- Answering the "how and why to obey" was the prime motivator which drove the creation of each of the POD Seven Teaching Sessions. The seven teaching topics are the foundation to the POD teaching ministry.
- The seven teaching topics when taken together, over the course of a year, forms the foundation for Holy (Obedient) Christ like living.
- Each of the seven teaching topics are carefully woven together, each defining the other, each dependent on the other, and each building toward complete obedience which produces a reflection of the love of God.
- The Seven Teaching Sessions are:
  1. The Call to Holy Living (Is Love a Decision?)
  2. Fear of the Lord (The Joy of Fearing God Correctly)
  3. The Gospel of God's Grace (Know Your True Identity)
  4. Mind Renewal (Solomon's Temple)
  5. Hearing God's Voice (Know His Will)
  6. Hope/Blessings (His Rewards Standards)
  7. God's Love and Finding Your Purpose (Mapping Your Future)

## **The Challenge**

Ponder these words:

**Conclusion: “Go” and “Make Disciples” are Commands!**

Each and every one of us that claims to be a Christian has received the same Commission. We will never finish the work God gave us to do if we do not *intentionally* go (physically) to where there are lost people (geographically), seek them out and speak to them about the Gospel and disciple those who respond. Evangelism and Discipleship cannot be relegated to the casual modern concept of a “great suggestion”. We must obey the command to go and make disciples and see it as the means to fulfilling the Great Commandment; to love. If we do not, then we will not finish the work God has given us to do (Mat 28.19-20) and we will fail in our life's purpose of glorifying God on this earth.

**John 17:4** “I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.

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Please refer to the book mentioned in the Resource Guide, [Multiply](#) by Francis Chan.  
**A must read!**

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** There is an eighth foundational element woven throughout all the teaching sessions. It is Spiritual Warfare.

*“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” 1Peter 5:8*

Be aware the enemy will attempt to make you feel condemnation, shame, or discouragement especially after this teaching. Obviously, there is no one that can live the holy life and obey all of God’s commands perfectly. Only Jesus Christ has done that. Few of us have obeyed the most basic commandment of “Go and make disciples”. Therefore, the enemy will tempt you to just give up and stop you from going through this training using many tactics (which we will be covering along the way) some of which are shame, condemnation, lies, accusations, and all kinds of temptations. Please read the article “Guilt – Same – Condemnation” in the Resource Guide. This will help expose some of their tactics and put you into position to start dealing with it.

Remember for all true Christians the penalty of death for any act of disobedience has already been paid for by Jesus Christ through His death on the cross. Praise God! There are, however, consequences for disobedience and great blessings attached to obedience. We have briefly discussed that today and will cover it in much more detail in Session 6 “Hope/Blessings: (God’s reward standards)”. Disciple making is a process, so don’t give up hope. If you stay with the process then all of the remaining teaching sessions will put you in a place with God

where obedience becomes the natural expression of a transformed victorious life in Christ!

**REMEMBER:** 1 Cor. 8:1 “Knowledge puffs up but love builds up”. Studying the Bible is important, but the goal is never knowledge for the sake of knowledge. Being a disciple of Jesus Christ means that we learn from Him, fellowship with Him, and obey everything He commands us. Love is the goal thru obedient holy living.

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**APPLICATION NEXT STEPS:** As you review this session in your own personal quiet time, with your POD mates and others, ask yourself; What is God saying to me? and How am I going to respond? Begin now to look for opportunities to start sharing what you have learned with others. That is disciple making. Take advantage of the transformative power of prayer, journaling, writing out personal application/next steps, and memorizing key scriptures. Also, be sure to read the articles and one or more of the books mentioned in the resource guide at the end of each of the seven sessions.

**KEY TAKE-AWAYS AND MY PERSONAL APPLICATION/NEXT STEPS:**

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Scripture I will commit to memorize from this session:

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- 2.
- 3.