## **The Great Commission**

St. Matthew 28:19-20

**Main idea**: To emphasize the mission of the Church to be witnesses of Jesus Christ, spreading the Gospel to all nations.

**Topic**: Remember the Mission of the Church

Scripture Verses to Support the Sermon:

- 1. Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." This verse emphasizes the mission of the Church to be witnesses of Jesus Christ, spreading the Gospel to all nations.
- 2. Mark 16:15 "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'" This verse echoes the Great Commission and reinforces the importance of sharing the message of Jesus with everyone.
- 3. 1 Peter 2:9 "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." This verse highlights the identity and purpose of believers as a chosen people who are called to declare God's praises and share His light with others.

Language Suggestions:

- 1. In Matthew 28:19, the word "baptizing" ( $\beta\alpha\pi\tau$ ίζοντες) can be explained to your audience as an act of initiation into the community of believers, symbolizing their commitment to follow Jesus.
- 2. The word "teaching" (διδάσκοντες) in Matthew 28:20 can be emphasized as an ongoing process of discipleship, where believers are continually growing in their understanding and application of Jesus' teachings.

## Other Relevant Scriptures:

- 1. Ephesians 4:11-13 This passage speaks about the equipping of believers for works of service and the building up of the body of Christ. It can be used to emphasize the importance of each individual's role in fulfilling the mission of the Church.
- 2. Romans 10:14-15 This passage highlights the necessity of preaching the Gospel and how it is through the proclamation of the message that people can come to faith in Christ. It can be used to encourage the congregation to actively engage in sharing their faith.

Remember to incorporate these additional Scriptures and language suggestions into your sermon to reinforce the main ideas and encourage your listeners to remember Jesus' mandate for the Church.