

As in the Days of Noah

(Living Faithfully While Awaiting the King's Return)

"The Gospel Must Be Preached"

October 25, 2026

Pastor David Bardowell

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

(Matthew 24:14, NIV)

Big Idea:

Before Christ returns, the good news of His Kingdom will be proclaimed to all nations, and faithful disciples are called to participate in that mission.

Kingdom Response:

Make disciples while there is still time. Listen to the Holy Spirit, engage people in spiritual conversations, and help those who are open become followers of Jesus.

Series Heartbeat:

The return of Christ is not an escape from the mission—it is the motivation for the mission.

I. Faithful Disciple-Makers

_____ (Matthew 24:14; Mark 1:14-15)

"Jesus went to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God: 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'"
(Mark 1:14-15, CSB)

Key Truth:

The gospel is not merely an invitation to improve our lives—it is an invitation to enter the Kingdom of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

II. Faithful Disciple-Makers

_____ (Matthew 24:14; Isaiah 49:6; Revelation 7:9-10)

"In all the world as a testimony to all nations." (Matthew 24:14, CSB)

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19, CSB)

"After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9, CSB)

Key Truth:

God's heart has always been for the nations, and His mission will not fail.

III. Faithful Disciple-Makers

_____ (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15)

"Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?" (Acts 1:6, CSB)

"It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority."
(Acts 1:7, NIV)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8, CSB)

"And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14, CSB)

Key Truth:

We cannot control the results of the mission, but we are responsible to participate faithfully in it.

Pastor David Bardowell, Senior Pastor
PastorDavid@TheGateOC.com
Info@TheGateOC.com

Small Group Questions — Week 7

The Gospel Must Be Preached

Text: Matthew 24:14

Start Here — Reflective Question

When you think about sharing the gospel with someone, what comes to mind? Do you feel excited, hesitant, intimidated, or something else? Why?

Discussion Questions

1. PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM — Matthew 24:14; Mark 1:14–15

Jesus announced that the Kingdom of God had come near and called people to repent and believe the good news. His message was centered on the arrival of God's Kingdom and the invitation to enter it through faith in Him.

- How would you explain the “good news of the Kingdom” to someone who knows little about Jesus?
- How is the gospel of the Kingdom different from simply telling people that God loves them or wants to improve their lives?
- Why is it important to present Jesus not only as Savior but also as King?
- How can we introduce the good news of the Kingdom naturally in everyday conversations?

2. RECOGNIZE GOD'S HEART FOR ALL NATIONS — Matthew 24:14; Isaiah 49:6; Revelation 7:9–10

Jesus declared that the gospel would be proclaimed to all nations. From Abraham to the Great Commission, God's plan has always included people from every nation, tribe, and language.

- What does Revelation 7:9–10 reveal about God's ultimate purpose for the nations?
- Why is it important to understand that “all nations” refers to people groups, not merely political countries?
- How does knowing that God's mission will ultimately succeed encourage us to participate in it?
- What opportunities do we have to reach people from different cultures or backgrounds in our own communities?

3. PARTICIPATE IN THE MISSION UNTIL THE KING RETURNS — Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 1:8

When the disciples asked Jesus about the timing of the Kingdom, He redirected their attention to their mission and promised them the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Why do you think Jesus redirected His disciples from questions about timing to the responsibility of being His witnesses?
- What does it mean to depend on the Holy Spirit rather than our own ability when sharing the gospel?
- How does the statement “Our job is not to convert. Our job is to converse” change the way we approach disciple-making?
- What might keep us from participating more actively in the mission Jesus has given us?

Disciple-Making Connection

Make disciples while there is still time. Listen to the Holy Spirit, engage people in spiritual conversations, and help those who are open become followers of Jesus.

We've been learning to use **LAF** — **Listen, Ask, Follow** as a simple approach to Spirit-led disciple-making.

- **LISTEN:** How can we become more attentive to the Holy Spirit and to the people around us?
- **ASK:** What question could you ask someone to discover whether they are spiritually open?
- **FOLLOW:** Is there someone you've had a spiritual conversation with who might be open to a follow-up conversation? What could your next step be?

Closing Challenge: Ask the Holy Spirit to bring one person to mind this week. Pray for an opportunity to listen, ask, and follow His leading in a spiritual conversation.