

TAKE THE LEAP  
Week 4  
February 27–28, 2021  
Steve Norman



WARM-UP

Before the pandemic and cancelations, what was your favorite community event to participate in?

DISCUSS

Read Matthew 28:18–20 (The Great Commission)

- What are some reasons why we often think of this in terms of missionaries to other countries instead of in our own families and communities?
- Why is it important that we need to look at this first in our own community?
- Often the opportunity to share verbally with others in our immediate communities starts with our actions. How can our actions bring about an opening to share what Christ has done for us personally?

Read Acts 6:1–7

- In what ways did the disciples reach out to their community here?
- What does this passage also show us about where the responsibility lies in reaching out to our community?
- What are some of the qualities that are vital in leading community outreach opportunities?
  - Why are these same qualities necessary when we are looking for opportunities in our day-to-day activities?
- Why do you think there were “rumblings of discontent” among the believers? (v. 1)
  - What sometimes happens in our modern churches as the numbers begin to grow and the church expands?
- What does this passage say about the idea of having people serve where they are most gifted?
- Discuss how both spiritual ministry AND material ministry are equally important in the church.

As two different groups of Christians came together (those who had grown up in Jewish customs and those who had not come from Israel), there was tension.

- Let’s apply this to 2021. Discuss how tension might arise between those who grew up in the church and those who are new to faith.
  - How have you learned to show grace and put relationships first in your interactions with Christians from different backgrounds?
- When we sense our own discontentment about how we “do ministry” at our church rising up, what is a healthy mindset switch that helps us keep the Great Commission in our focus?

NEXT STEP

- Read **Matthew 28:18–20** again. Jesus doesn’t talk about personal preference here or about our own needs. Identify one mindset block that has stood in your own way of *going* and *making disciples*.
- Think of an area in your community where you could better show and share what Christ has done for you. Pray that God will give you an opportunity to do this.

PRAYER

In groups of 2–4, share what you identified as your next step. Then take turns praying for each other’s needs.

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