

## For the Love of an Imperative Verb Matthew 28:16-20

Trinity Sunday, The First Sunday after Pentecost, Year A, RCL

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and **make disciples** [μαθητεύσατε, **mathēteúsate**] of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And **remember** [ἰδοὺ, **idoù**], I am with you always, to the end of the age. [NRSV89]

### 28:19

μαθητεύσατε, **mathēteúsate**; *vb*: *aor act imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers pl* from μαθητεύω:

translations: **make disciples** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright & Mann, Filson], also **discipulad** [IAdNT]

Crossett: In other places “go” is an imperative. Why not here?

Filson: “Teach them, win them to obedient faith, make them active members of the larger group of disciples.” [Filson, p. 305.]

Levine & Brettler: “. . . The change in Jesus’ status prompts the expansion of the mission to include both Jews and Gentiles.” [JANT, p. 66.]

### 28:20

ἰδοὺ, **idoù**; *vb*: *2<sup>nd</sup> aor mid imperative 2<sup>nd</sup> pers sg* from ὁράω:

translations: **remember** [NRSV89, NRSVue], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT; Filson], **lo** [NKJV], **look** [NJB], **surely** [NIV11], **he aquí** [IAdNT], not translated in Albright & Mann

Filson: “The Gospel ends with a promise.” [p. 306.]

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