



The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20

Goofus the Gallant paced nervously back and forth across the garden. He had decided to take on his first student ever, Robespierre. It was such a big challenge for him. He himself was still in training and yet he felt that God was leading him to teach Robespierre all he could about Jesus.

A few minutes later, he heard the creak of the garden gate. A sad looking Robespierre walked slowly towards the knight in training. "Oh hello Gus. I am so sorry that I am late, mon ami. I got a very upsetting letter from home."

"Is it bad news?" asked Gus.

"Oui, very bad," said the Frenchman. "It seems that my brother has been arrested! He was accused of stealing!"

"What a shame," said Gus. "Is he innocent?"

"Oh no, he is very guilty," Robespierre replied. "I come from a long line of thieves."

"Oh, I'm so sorry," said Gus, "That is sad news."

"Oui, it is, but the good news is he will get to see our mother and father. They'll all be sharing the same cell."

Gus looked surprised, "Are all of your family members in prison?"

"Oh no, no, my Grandmother lives at home," Robespierre assured him. "She's on parole."

Gus tried to comfort his new friend, "It sounds like you could use some good news! I'll get the Bible!" He carefully lifted the Bible from its special window and opened it to Matthew 28.

"Now, this report is about The Great Commission.

"I beg your pardon," asked a confused Robespierre, "what is The Great Condition?"

"Not condition," said Gus, "commission...mission! This report takes place after Jesus had been raised from the dead. He told His followers to go to Galilee and He would meet them there."

"Did Jesus show up?" asked Robespierre.

"Oh yes," Gus proclaimed, "Jesus always keeps His word! And Jesus had something very important to say to them. He said:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

"Wow! That sounds like He was giving them marching orders!

"Yes!" cried Gus. "Notice how Jesus said, 'Therefore go!' That's not a suggestion that's a command!"

"Oui, he was giving them a mission," Robespierre declared.

"He was giving them a co-mission," Gus proclaimed.

"Qu'est-ce que c'est? What is a co-mission?" asked Robespierre.

"It's a mission that we do together! But this mission also has a promise. 'Surely, I am with you always to the very end of the age!' Jesus promises that He will be with us always!"

A sad look crossed Robespierre's face. "Gus," he said, "I love the way that Jesus is always with us here in the Kingdom! I just wish Jesus could be in France, as well. My family could really use a Savior."

Gus reassured him, "Your family can know the Savior! King Jesus did say to take His message to all nations."

"I am afraid no one will ever go to my family. For some reason people don't seem to trust my family. If only my own family could hear these wonderful stories! I am sure they would want to serve the King."

"What if..." said Gus, "we prayed and asked Jesus to spread His message to your family? Yes, that's it! We shall pray that the Holy Spirit will send a team of believers to spread God's Word all over the French countryside!"

"And that my family will hear God's Word and be changed?"

"Yes! And that all of your friends and neighbors will want to serve the King! After all Jesus sent the disciples out two by two and it set the world on fire! We can change the world simply by choosing to obey the King's command."

"Wait a minute." Robespierre paused. "We can change the world? The King wants us to go?"

"Well...yes, Jesus wants all of His followers to carry His message to the world," he answered.

Robespierre smiled, "Perhaps God is calling you and me to go to France! He wants us to go on His Great Co-mission!"

"Oh, no! Robespierre, I can't," replied Gus.

"You want to obey God's command, don't you?" asked Robespierre.

"No! I mean yes...but, I don't think...I mean, I have my training... and..." Gus objected but Robespierre was so excited that he didn't hear it.

"Oh Gus, you are going to love my little village. I can't wait to introduce you to Grand Mere. She will make you the tastiest escargot and then we can visit Mama and Papa and my brother in prison..."

"Robespierre, no! Wait...wait..." Gus interrupted.

But Robespierre was already halfway to the garden gate. "There is no time for waiting, mon ami! There is so much to do. I must pack and write a letter to my family and steal a horse...I mean, buy a horse! Au revoir, mon ami! Oh and Gus, thank you so much," He said just before he disappeared through the garden gate to prepare for the journey.

"Ah...ah...you're welcome?" Gus trailed off. He stood there for a long moment looking confused. He wasn't quite sure what he had gotten himself into. He wanted to serve the King but this was quite unexpected. What would Theophilus and Sir Praisealot do? A thought occurred to him! He turned to his faithful steed. "Come Duncan," Gus called, "we must pray and ask the Lord how He wants us to serve him. After all...Serving the King is the noblest thing." Gus mounted Duncan and together they rode off to a quiet place where they could seek the Lord.