FAMILY OF CHURCHES

"Redemption Church exists to make disciples, join together as members of a family, and **mobilize missionaries**."

Great Commission Training

Overview

RFC Mission Statement

RFC exists to multiply gospel impact in Utah and around the world through church planting, leadership development, and community transformation.

GCT Description

The Great Commission Training* (GCT) is a 16-week missionary training program designed to develop and equip aspiring missionaries for faithful and fruitful ministry in cross-cultural contexts.

Along with classroom teaching and discussion,** GCT participants strive together as a *missional community* that encourages and learns from one another while working together in practical cross-cultural ministry in the SLC area. This cohort experience focuses on developing the knowledge, character, and skills—the head, heart, and hands—necessary for effective service on the mission field.

All who desire to be sent out from an RFC church must complete the GCT before being affirmed, commissioned, and deployed overseas. It is advised (though, not required) that you complete the GCT within two years of moving to the field.

If you are interested in serving in cross-cultural missions, we encourage you to prayerfully consider applying for the next Great Commission Training cohort this coming Spring/Fall!

Click here to view the GCT application.

*Our next round of GCT will begin January 5th, 2026 and will be hosted at Redemption North Davis on Monday nights from 6:15p–8:15p, running alongside the RFC Leadership School schedule (Jan.–May). Another round of GCT will be offered Fall 2026. Applications for the Spring 2026 cohort close 12/29/25.

Areas of Focus

The Great Commission Training focuses on developing the Head, Heart, and Hands of those who aspire to serve as cross-cultural missionaries:

Head (Knowledge):

GCT participants will develop a deeper understanding of the biblical and theological foundations of missions as well as grow in their knowledge of God's Word and how to apply it in cross-cultural contexts. They will examine the components of the missionary task, be exposed to various mission principles and practices, discover the role of the sending church, and learn about the RFC sending process.

Heart (Character):

GCT also aims to cultivate the character and spiritual vitality of those who desire to serve as missionaries. Knowing the challenges that come with serving in cross-cultural contexts, it is crucial that aspiring missionaries establish healthy rhythms of abiding in Christ, growing and serving within Christian community, and recognizing and overcoming spiritual warfare. GCT will foster an environment where participants can grow in their love for God and others, assess and strengthen their emotional health, and focus on character refinement all of which will help them to persevere on the field.

Hands (Skills):

Finally, GCT will equip participants with some of the practical skills needed for effective missionary service. They will be given tools, resources, and hands-on ministry experience that will give them the confidence to effectively research and engage a people group, communicate cross-culturally, work effectively within a team, share the gospel, disciple new believers, and establish healthy churches.

Books and Other Resources

1. *Let the Nations Be Glad* by John Piper (Theology of Mission)
2. *IMB Foundations* by the International Mission Board (Missions Strategy)
3. *Apostolic Church Planting* by J.D. Payne (Church Planting)
4. *Tradecraft: For the Church on Mission* by Larry McCrary, Caleb Crider, Wade Stephens, and Rodney Calfee (Practical Missionary Skills)
5. *Deepen Discipleship* (Interactive NT Reading Plan) by the International Mission Board

Assignments

1. **Deepen Discipleship:**

   Deepen Discipleship (DD) is a core component of the Great Commission Training, designed to cultivate spiritual depth and maturity in future missionaries. Developed by (and required to serve through) the International Mission Board (IMB), DD is a 6-month interactive New Testament reading plan designed to be done with a small group in the context of a local church.

   Throughout the 16-week GCT (and a little beyond), participants will commit roughly 15–30 minutes five days a week to a rhythm of personal engagement with God through assigned Bible readings, meditation, memorization, and prayer.

   In addition to personal study, there is a communal aspect to this plan as the GCT Missional Community walks through it together in mutual discipleship, encouragement, and accountability. Along with sharing some of our answers to the discussion questions via our RFC GCT Slack (see below), we will devote a portion of our weekly GCT meetings to discuss and pray together through the Deepen Discipleship material.

2. **Attendance, Readings, and Discussion:**

   In addition to reading through the NT via *Deepen Discipleship*, each person will be responsible for reading three books (listed above) and a portion of the IMB *Foundations* document over the semester. They will need to come to each GCT meeting prepared to participate in a group discussion over the assigned material.

   If you expect to miss more than two weeks during this training cohort, please talk with Daniel *before* the semester begins. If too many meetings are missed without urgent reasons, we may

respectfully ask you to step back from GCT and apply again next round.

3. **Practical Ministry Experience:**

   All GCT participants are to be actively involved in cross-cultural ministry and personal evangelism in preparation for their time overseas.

   Over the course of the 16-week semester, the GCT Missional Community will work together as *local missionaries* to develop a strategy of mapping and identifying an international people group in the SLC area (Entry), of establishing contact and building relationship with one or more from the people group (Entry), and of engaging them in culturally appropriate gospel conversations (Evangelism).

   Participants should come to GCT each week prepared with updates on this work.

GCT Communication Channel: Slack

We will host all of our GCT communications on Slack, a private messaging platform that is accessed via the mobile/desktop app or web browser. This includes GCT announcements, supplementary materials and resources, Deepen Discipleship discussions, ministry project updates, logistics coordination, and any ongoing conversations, etc.

You can access the "RFC GCT Slack" via this invite link or by going to rfcgct.slack.com. Here is a cheat sheet that we use for Redemption North Davis to get you started with downloading and familiarizing yourself with the app or web browser. Reach out to Daniel Williams via the contact info below if you would like help getting set up!

After Completing the GCT

Exit Interview:

After completing the GCT, participants will meet with Daniel Williams and one of the pastors of their RFC church to gather feedback and assess their readiness for missionary service. This may include sharing feedback on their experience going through the GCT, hearing affirmation of identified giftings and strengths, receiving feedback on areas in which they can continue to grow, and talking through what next steps would be encouraged.

It is important to note here that fulfilling the requirements of the GCT does not necessarily mean participants are *ready* to be sent as a cross-cultural missionary. RFC pastors and churches reserve the right to clearly communicate that a trainee is not quite ready for missionary service in a cross-cultural context.

Potential Next Steps:

- You become a more globally minded and missionally faithful member.
- An RFC church sends you to join one of the missionary teams they partner with.
- An RFC church sends you to a new people/place/team within their focus areas.

Questions?

Daniel Williams

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**Sample Topics to be Covered in Classroom Teaching & Discussions

Abiding with Christ
Biblical Contextualization
Biblical Foundation for Mission
Business as Mission
Church Planting Movements (CPMs)
Conflict Resolution
Cross-Cultural Communication
Effective Teaming
Engaging the Poor and the Vulnerable
Forming an Advocacy Team
Going and Sending with the Redemption Family of Churches
Language Learning
Marriage, Family, and Singleness Overseas
The Missionary Call
The Missionary Task
    - Entry
    - Evangelism
    - Discipleship
    - Healthy Church Formation
    - Leadership Development
    - Exit
Missions History
Spiritual Warfare
Sustainable Indigenization
Unreached/Unengaged People Groups (UPGs/UUPGs)
Your First Term Overseas