

## Reality – Bible Lesson for November 1, 2020 – 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades

### Mission – Helping Others to Know God Jesus and the Great Commission

#### Lesson 1

- 1. Lesson: Jesus and the Great Commission**
- 2. Scripture:** Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:4-5 and 10-12
- 3. Memory Verse:** “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.” – Matthew 28:19-20
- 4. Mission Story:** Samuel Morris – Part 1
- 5. Bible Skills:** The Books of Law, Old Testament History, and Poetry – Lesson 2
- 6. Materials needed for teaching the lesson -** a Bible; pens and pencils  
**Beginning Activity – Object Lesson:** a plate with enough of an edge that it can hold liquid; red, blue, green, and yellow food coloring; a spoon; a small bowl or saucer; toothpicks; milk; cooking oil; dishwashing liquid **Bible Skills:** Bibles; chairs; a die

#### Missionary Image:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel\\_Kaboo\\_Morris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Kaboo_Morris)

#### Instructional Videos:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VdL\\_F6KKXQ&t=8s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VdL_F6KKXQ&t=8s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JbzIEYALSpY>

**1.Prayer:** Pray with your children – then introduce the following object lesson:



## Instructions:

1. Pour a few drops of the dishwashing liquid into a small bowl and soak the ends of toothpicks in it. Set aside.
2. Pour enough milk into the plate so the bottom of the plate is covered and there is a thin layer of milk.
3. Pour oil over the milk. You don't need as much oil as milk, but you'll need enough for it to eventually form a very thin layer over the milk. Stir with the spoon then set the spoon to the side.
4. Now, spend a few minutes watching the milk and oil separate and form oil clusters.
  1. While this is happening talk about how this looks like the world and all its people. People like to live together in families and towns and countries. The plate looks like a map of the world.
  2. Then talk about what it would be like if no one in the world followed Christ.
  3. Now, add drops of food coloring to represent Christians and talk about how Christians live in the world among people who do not follow Christ. (Small droplets will make the best effects.) What if Christians only stayed in one place and never told people about Jesus.
5. Now, for the fun part! Ask the children what they think the world would look like if Christians were to follow what Jesus told us to do and go out into the world to tell other people about Jesus. Then let the children take turns lightly touching the soap end of a toothpick to one of the drops of food coloring. The food coloring shoots out across the milk and oil and makes amazing color swirls.
6. Continue doing this until the white plate is full of colors. All the while you and the children are doing this talk about how telling people about Jesus changes the world.

## **2. Bible Story: (Please notice the bold print Bible verses. This is designed so that you can stop and let the children take turns reading these verses out loud)**

Jesus' disciples had spent three years following Him. They heard Him teach about God's Kingdom and witnessed Him perform many miracles. Even though the disciples had been told by Jesus what to expect, they were probably frightened and confused when the things that Jesus said would happen were taking place. Now Jesus was preparing His disciples to live without Him (in bodily form), but He was not going to leave them completely. Jesus instructed His followers not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father – which is the coming of the Holy Spirit. **(Acts 1:4-5)** The

disciples didn't fully understand what was about to happen. But even though they didn't understand, they needed to follow the instructions Jesus gave them. Jesus had a great responsibility to give His disciples. And, as followers of Christ, we share in that responsibility too.

Jesus encouraged His disciples to tell what they had witnessed – each one had a story to tell the world. He told them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of His father – the promise of the Holy Spirit. The disciples had watched their Master be wrongly accused and nailed to a Cross. They had been in hiding, fearing for their lives after the crucifixion. Now they were restored with Jesus and soon, He would be going to be with the Father. Although Jesus was returning to Heaven, He was not abandoning His disciples. God never abandons His children.

Jesus took His disciples to the Mount of Olives and blessed them one final time. Jesus knew that the words He was about to say were the last words He would give them before He ascended into heaven – so you know that these words were chosen carefully. He knew life would be hard for His disciples as they continued His teaching and ministry. Jesus said that they were to be His witnesses to all that He had done.

On the mountain, Jesus gave His disciples the **Great Commission**. First, Jesus stated that all authority had been given to Him. What the Father has authority to do, Jesus has the authority to do. **(Matthew 11:27, John 3:35)** God the Father gave this authority to Jesus.

Because of Jesus' authority, He commanded His disciples to go into the world and preach the gospel, the good news, about Him. Jesus told His disciples, "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." **(Matthew 28:16-20)**

All believers are called to share the gospel with others, teach them to obey God's commands, and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The good news about what Jesus has done to rescue us from our sins is too great to keep to ourselves. Before Jesus went back to Heaven, He gave the disciples – and us – a job to do. Jesus wants His followers to teach people everywhere about Jesus so they will trust in Him as their Lord and Savior. Then, those people who believe would become disciples of Jesus too.

As Jesus gave this command to the disciples and to us, He reminded us that He promises to always be with us. One of the names of Jesus is Immanuel – "God with us." Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus is always with us. At the end of the age – once all nations have heard the good news of God's Kingdom – Jesus will return, and all believers will be united with Him forever.

As the disciples were listening to their Savior, right before their eyes, His feet lifted off the ground and He began to rise up into the air. Jesus was taken up, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. Imagine being there on that day. Do you think the disciples strained to see Jesus and tried to get just one last glimpse of Him?

As the disciples stood there in awe, they were addressed by angelic beings, "They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.'" **(Acts 1:10-12)** The angels told the disciples that Jesus had ascended into Heaven and that one day He would return. And He will!

The disciples had work to do. They would miss having Jesus be with them but very soon God would be sending the Holy Spirit to them. The Holy Spirit would give them power to do the important job of sharing the Good News with others.

You and I also have work to do. We need to be witnesses for Jesus. Sometimes children have opportunities that adults don't have. They have friends at school. They know people through sports or other group activities. They can even succeed at being a witness to some adults in their family when grown-ups can't.

We need to live as Jesus lived and love those around us. It means we care about those who are hurting and pray for them. We need to start witnessing in our own families, then our own cities, then beyond. Jesus said to go to the ends of the earth. The amazing life you've found in Christ is not just for you – but for the whole world! Remember - God does not send us alone. The disciples were not sent out alone. God went with them. They were even given the Holy Spirit – and Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to be with us too! We never go alone. And until Jesus comes back, we are to follow His instructions and make disciples of all nations too. God is always in us and working through us. Even if we go through hard times, He will be there. He never abandons us.

### **3. Bible Exploration – Checking for Understanding:**

1. If you had been one of Jesus' 11 disciples, how do you think you would have felt, or what would you have thought, after Jesus gave you those final instructions and then you watched Him go up into Heaven? (Accept all responses.)
2. How could praying help others become disciples of Jesus?
3. Who could you teach about Jesus? (Help students think into the future a little too.)
4. How could showing kindness or offering friendship help others become disciples of Jesus?

#### **4.Mission Story:** Samuel Morris – Lesson 1

Samuel Morris was born in 1872 in Liberia (western Africa). His actual name was Prince Kaboo. His father was king of the Kru tribe. During a war with the neighboring tribe of Grebos, the Kru tribe was defeated. Because Prince Kaboo's father could not pay his war taxes, he had to surrender his son – to be held by the Grebos tribe until the debt was paid. Kaboo was just a small child and his father was able to free him quickly. However, when Kaboo was a young teenager, new fighting broke out. His people were defeated, and he was again taken until the war debts were paid.

When Kaboo's father was unable to pay his ransom, the Grebos began whipping Kaboo to force his father to pay. Once when Kaboo was being whipped, a blinding light flashed, and a voice from heaven said, "Rise up and run." Strength returned to Kaboo's wounded body, and he ran into the jungle. Grebo warriors searched for him until it was dark.

But nighttime did not stop Kaboo. God provided a miraculous light to guide him. During the day, he slept in hollow logs. Finally, he arrived at the home of Monrovia, where missionaries told him about Jesus.

When Kaboo heard the story of Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus, he exclaimed, "That happened to me, too. A light flashed, and God spoke from heaven." Kaboo (called Samuel Morris by then) went to the United States to study God's Word at Taylor University in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Whenever he spoke at the university or while traveling, powerful revivals broke out. Many people gave their hearts to Jesus.

However, weeks of being beaten when held captive in Liberia had weakened Samuel's body. During the harsh winter of 1892-93, he became ill. He died that spring. Though Samuel's death at the age of twenty seemed tragic, God used it to inspire many students to be missionaries. A Taylor University Bible School was even started in Africa.

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One story that is told about Samuel is when he was at the mission in Monrovia. He had been talking to one of the missionaries for hours. She was growing tired and finally told Samuel, "If you want to learn any more about the Holy Spirit, then you'll have to go see Stephen Merritt in New York City." So, at the age of nineteen, Samuel left the mission house in Liberia and talked his way on board a ship bound for New York.

Besides being a Bible teacher and well-known preacher, Stephen Merritt ran a mission for homeless people in New York City. When Samuel stepped off the ship and onto the dock in New York, he boldly said to the first person he met, "Please take me to Stephen Merritt." He had no idea how big New York City was!

But even though the mission was on the other side of town, the man Samuel had approached had stayed at the mission often and agreed to show Samuel the way. When Samuel met Stephen Merritt, he explained, "I have come from Africa to talk with you about the Holy Spirit."

"I'm sorry, son," said Merritt, "but right now I'm going out the door to a prayer meeting. Wait in the mission. When I get back, I'll see about a place for you to sleep." Stephen Merritt forgot about his new guest until he returned late that night. In the mission, he found Samuel with seventeen men around him. They were some of the toughest street men Merritt had ever housed, but Samuel had them on their knees praying and asking for God's forgiveness.

That Friday evening was just the beginning.

On Saturday, Merritt was scheduled to speak at a funeral. He invited Samuel to go along with him, thinking he would show this bright young African around the city and introduce him to some important people. After seeing the opera house, Central Park, and several other sights, Samuel said, "Stephen Merritt, do you ever pray in this coach?"

"Oh yes," said Merritt, "I often find it a fine place to pray as I drive about." "Good," said Samuel, and he knelt down and began to pray. "Dear Father, I have come all the way from Africa to talk to Mr. Merritt about your Holy Spirit, but all he wants to do is show me other things. Please take these things out of his heart so he cannot talk of anything except your Holy Spirit."

Merritt was shocked, but their conversation changed. As they talked, the power of the Holy Spirit seemed to fill the coach. At the funeral, the message Merritt had prepared left his mind, and instead, he preached what the Holy Spirit gave him to say. When it was over, many people gave their lives to Jesus.

Later, Merritt said that even though important church leaders had prayed over him, he had never felt the power of the Holy Spirit so strongly as he had in that coach with Samuel. On Sunday, Merritt invited Samuel to speak to a Sunday school class of young people. At first, they laughed. But when Merritt returned to the room after a short time away, he found the young people crying over their past sins and praying to God for forgiveness.

Those young people organized the Samuel Morris Missionary Society, which helped support Samuel when he left New York to study at Taylor University.

"Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you." – Matthew 7:7

**5. Bible Skills:** The Books of Law, Old Testament History, and Poetry – Lesson 2  
Remind the children that we are still reviewing the Books of Law, Old Testament History, and Poetry. Ask again - are any of you still able to name all five of the Books of Law: (**Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy**) Excellent! How about the Books of Old Testament History: (**Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther**). And the

Books of Poetry: (**Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon**). Incredible!

### **Play First Game – TIC-TAC-TOE:**

Guide the children to form two teams. **Explain** – “We are going to set the chairs up like a tic-tac-toe board. I will ask a team a question or give a team an assignment. You will answer the question or complete the assignment. If you are correct, one team player moves to a chair on the board. If you are not correct, the other team has a chance to answer the same question.” Play until one team gets three people across – vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. Use the following ideas for questions or assignments or make up your own.

1. Name any book of the Bible in the Books of Law, Books of Old Testament History, or Books of Poetry. Name the book before the one I called, the one I called, and the book after the one I called.
2. Name a division of Law, Old Testament History, or Poetry. Say: “Give the name of any book in that division.”
3. Call out Genesis, Joshua, or Job. Say: Name the other books in that division.
4. Ask the children to name any or all of the Ten Commandments.
5. Ask the children to recite Psalm 23.

### **Play Second Game:** (if time allows)

**Say:** I have a die with 6 sides on it. I want you all to stand in a circle and I will roll the die. When I call out the number it lands on, you are to get in groups with that number of people in them. I will call out a Bible Book of Law, Old Testament History, or Poetry. Your group calls out the book before, the book, and the book after. Let’s see how fast you can play the game.

**6.Memory Verse:** Have the children say the memory verse - “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.” – Matthew 28:19-20

### **Elementary: Play “What’s Missing – A to Z”**

Write the verse on the board and have the children read it. Then begin by erasing all words that start with an “A.” Have the children read the verse again inserting the missing words from memory. Then erase a few more words, following the alphabet (words that start with “B”, then words that start with “C”, etc.), until all words are removed. Continue in this manner until all the words are erased and the children are

reciting the verses entirely from memory. \*Note - this is like the "What's Missing" game – it just goes in alphabetical order.

**7.Closing Prayer:** Lead the children in a closing prayer.

Here is an example of a prayer that would be appropriate for today...

Dear God, thank you for giving us the opportunity to be witnesses for Jesus. Thank you for trusting us with the especially important job of sharing Jesus' love with our friends. Please help us remember that when Jesus rose from the dead and went to heaven, He gave us an important job to do. And help us do that job well! In Jesus' name we pray.

Encourage them to also say their own individual prayers about any added concerns they have. Don't forget to pray for missionaries.