

Reality – Bible Lesson for November 1, 2020 – Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

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. The Beginner’s Bible:** Pages 466 - 467
- 5. The God’s Story for Me Bible:** Page 442
- 6. Materials useful in teaching the lesson – 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
Craft: Elementary – downloaded templates; blue paper dinner plates or white paints painted or colored blue; glue sticks

Craft: Go Make Disciples –

<https://craftingthewordofgod.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/jesus-loves-the-little-children.pdf>

<https://craftingthewordofgod.com/2016/06/14/jesus-loves-the-little-children/>

Instructional Videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VdL_F6KKXQ&t=8s

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

Preschool –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIr361B5v6s>

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: (You can use a simplified version of the lesson below and/or read it from "The Beginner's Bible – Pages 466 - 467, or "The God's Story for Me Bible" – Page 442)

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. 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. 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.’” 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. Bible Application:

Craft: Elementary – Go Make Disciples



Instructions

1. Print the template.
2. Color and cut out all of the pieces.
3. Use a blue paper plate or color or paint a paper plate blue.
4. Glue the continents onto the blue paper plate. Cut off any excess overhang to leave a perfect round paper plate shape.
5. Glue the children to the outskirts of the plate.
6. Finally, glue the cross to the plate.

5. 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.

OR

Preschool: Play "Back and Forth"

Put a masking tape line across the room. The children will stand with their feet together on one side of the line. At the signal, they will start hopping back and forth across the line, with their feet together. When you call out STOP (or ring a bell), then everyone stops on one side of their line. Choose RIGHT or LEFT. All the children who stopped on that side of the line will say the memory verse with you.

6.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.