

GRADES  
K-6

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

Printable Lesson Kit



**M** **GHTY MESSAGES**

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# THE GREAT COMMISSION

## LESSON OVERVIEW



### THE GREAT COMMISSION MIGHTY MESSAGE

The Great Commission contains the last words of Christ for his disciples before he ascended to heaven. This lesson combines the final passages from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. It will teach that the Resurrection is Truth, and how much of our daily reality relies on knowing that Truth. Knowing and sharing are both caring!



### How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



### MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons, markers, colored pencils
- Clear tape
- Scissors
- Paper (game)
- Straws (game)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

## SCRIPTURE & LESSON

### EXCERPTS FROM LUKE 24:9-49 NIV

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



### EXCERPTS FROM LUKE 24:9-49

<sup>9</sup> When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

<sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

<sup>11</sup> But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

<sup>12</sup> Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

#### On the Road to Emmaus

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.

<sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;

<sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast.

<sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.

<sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;

<sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.

<sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning

<sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.

<sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

<sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

<sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"

<sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.



- <sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther.
- <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.
- <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.
- <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.
- <sup>32</sup> They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"
- <sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together
- <sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."
- <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

### Jesus Appears to the Disciples

- <sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
- <sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.
- <sup>38</sup> He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?"
- <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."
- <sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.
- <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"
- <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.
- <sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."
- <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.
- <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,
- <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
- <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.
- <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

### MATTHEW 28:16-20 (NIV)

- <sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.
- <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.
- <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- <sup>19</sup> 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,
- <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end."



## Questions for Children about the Great Commission:

1. Combining the passages from Luke and Matthew gives us a special opportunity to see the messages together—one of believing Christianity is the Truth and one of seeing the importance of passing God’s love on. The passage from Matthew is one of two passages commonly known as “the Great Commission.” What does it tell us to do? ***Go and make disciples of all nations.*** Some wise Christians have noted that we are God’s voice on planet earth right now. If he speaks, he does so through people who are willing to repeat what he has said. What are some things we can do to make sure we hear his voice? ***When praying, it is important to listen with your heart. Many people simply speak, and if God has something to share, he doesn’t get the chance! Also, God reveals a lot about himself in the Bible. It is important to read with a humble and seeking heart. All the mysterious behaviors come clear, and you can see a loving God with lots of great intentions for man.***

2. The Luke passages are a little spooky. Jesus appears out of nowhere. He eats. He disappears. He appears but people don’t recognize him. ***What is it all trying to prove? That Jesus really did rise from the dead, and it isn’t a hoax.***

3. The women in the opening of Luke 24 had a bad experience with the apostles. What was it? ***They told an incredibly moving story, and Jesus’ best friends didn’t believe them.*** Have you ever tried to share why you believe in Jesus, and people either just don’t care or think you’re stupid? How did it make you feel? How does it help to know that the same thing happened to Jesus’ friends, and throughout their lives, to the apostles who came to believe them? ***It can make you feel special if you align your problems of doubt with these first believers’ problems with doubt.***



## TEACHER’S MIGHTY MESSAGE

What about belief in Jesus in the years after the crucifixion? Some people said he died, and that’s the end of the story. But other people, special people, saw him alive. A month or so after his murder, 500 people saw him alive near Jerusalem.

Jesus Christ is alive. He’s in heaven. And someday he’s coming back. Only this time, in a bigger form. Think of a candle. Then think of a ceiling light.

Jesus said in Revelation If we’re going to believe in the light of God, we have to believe it in good times and bad. When things get bad, we have to believe he has a bigger plan for us than what we’re thinking of. We have to believe he’s coming back, and in the meantime, he is with us always. And he wants us to share his love as often as possible.

We need to let his love fill us so we grow in faith, pass on his love, and can be his lamps in a dark world.



# THE GREAT COMMISSION

## PRINTABLE CRAFT

### THE GREAT COMMISSION SUITCASE



#### MATERIALS:

- Clear Tape
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Scissors

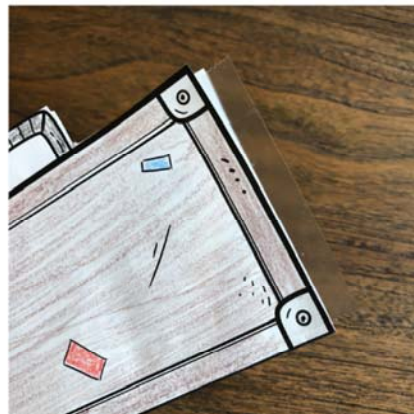


#### PREPARATION:

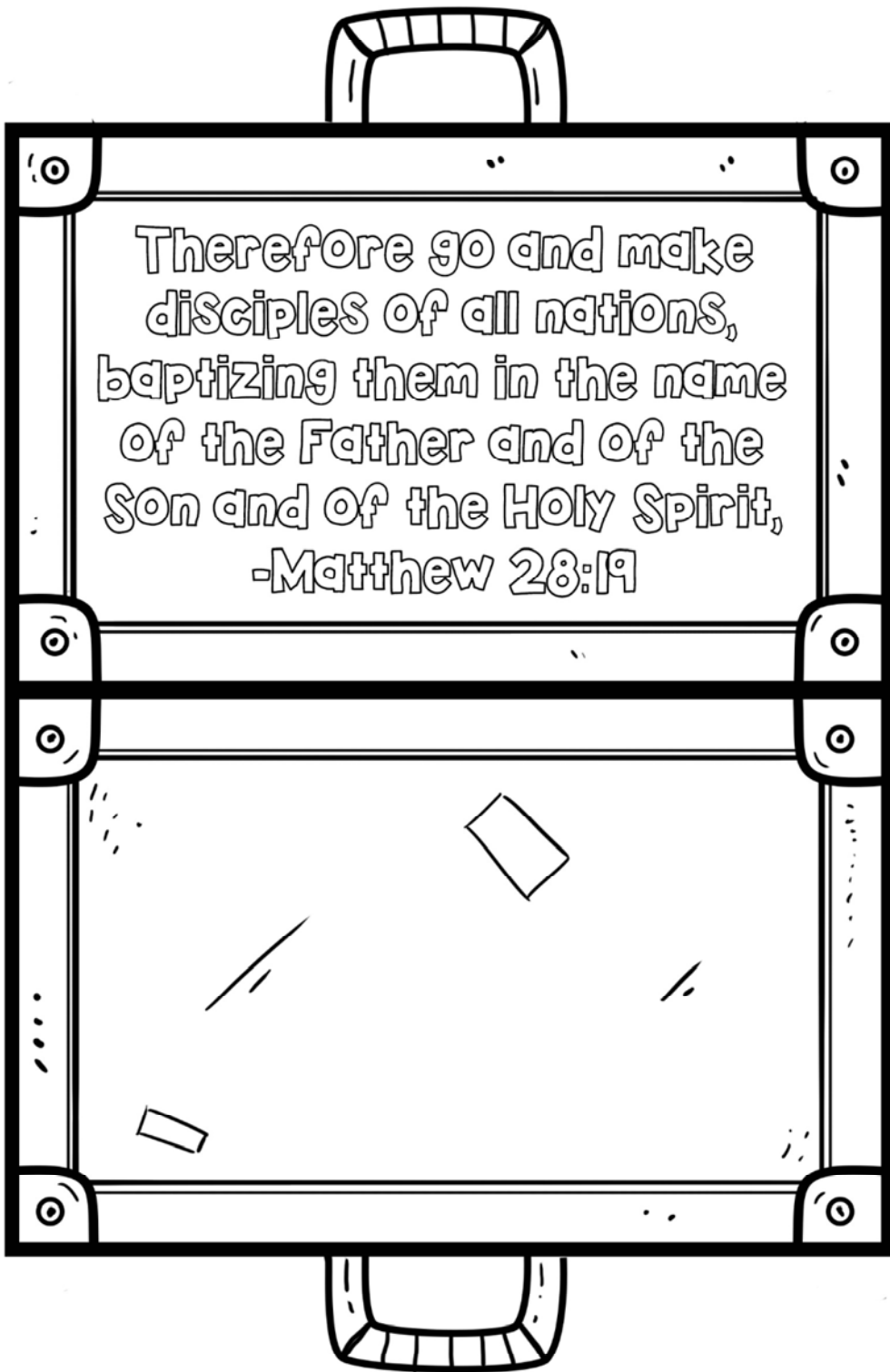
Before class print out one copy of the craft template for each child.

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Have kids color in the suitcase, passport, Bible, and heart in anyway they like.
- 2) Have kids cut along the OUTSIDE edge of the suitcase.
- 3) Fold suitcase in half and use tape to secure each side (leaving the top open to tuck the passport, Bible, and heart inside)
- 4) Cut out the passport, Bible, and heart and tuck these items inside the mini suitcase



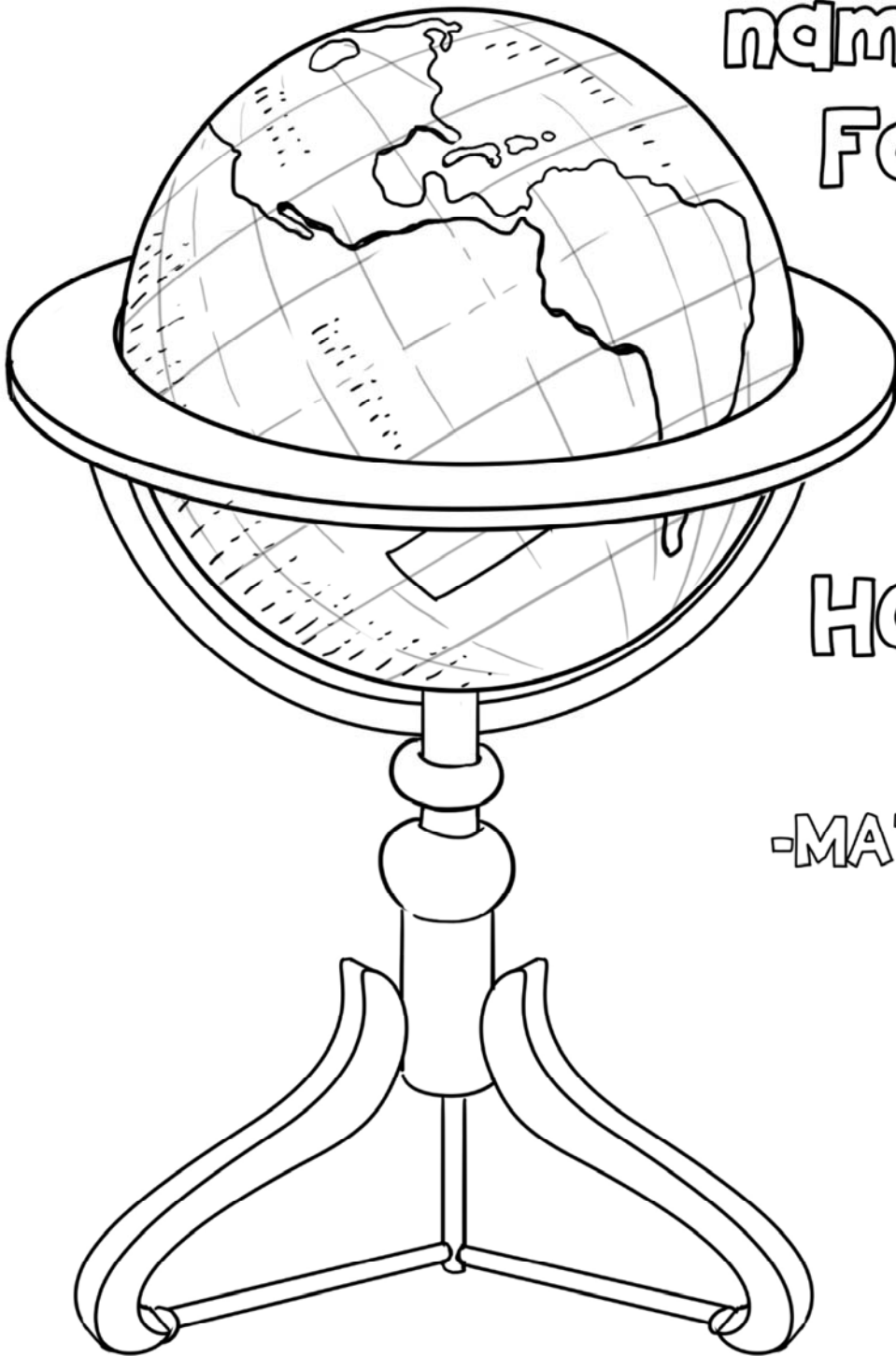




Therefore go and make  
disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the

name of the  
Father and  
of the  
Son and  
of the  
Holy Spirit.

-MATTHEW 28:19



### PASS IT ON

This game will give students a laugh as they try to pass on the love of Christ—with drinking straws! It will take some of the stress off the idea of fulfilling the Great Commission, and give some insight into how much fun it can be to love simply and love well.



#### MATERIALS:

- Scissors
- Paper
- Straws

#### OBJECTIVE

Students will compete in pairs to see who can give the most hearts to their friend.

#### PREPARATION

Cut out a lot of paper hearts using the scissors and paper. The hearts should be about the size of credit card.

#### INTRODUCTION

In the Great Commission, Jesus told his disciples--and all of us--to pass on his love everywhere we go. Because God's love is unconditional, to imitate him we have to have a lot of patience, a lot of forgiveness, and compassion! Let's try to think of each of the hearts we put across the table as being a measure of grace from God, so that we can feel his love for us and pass it on to our friends!



#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Have students get into pairs.
2. Give each student a handful of paper hearts and a straw.
3. Have them sit across from their partner.
4. When you say "Go!" students will have to pick up a heart by sucking into their straw.
5. They will then place that heart on their partner's side of the table.
6. They will keep repeating this action until one minute has passed.
7. Students will keep putting hearts on their partner's side of the table throughout the whole minute.
8. They may ONLY transport them using a straw. At the end of the minute, the student with the smallest number of hearts on their desk wins.



# WORD SEARCH

The Apostle Paul did not waste any time in spreading the love of Christ. On his first missionary journey, he visited 19 cities in the known world! Find them in the word search.

I	D	J	J	M	J	A	N	T	I	P	A	T	R	I	S
Y	Q	F	S	M	W	O	W	Q	M	C	L	O	E	A	F
Q	U	D	Q	I	V	E	J	E	M	E	A	D	P	N	Q
X	R	D	E	R	B	E	L	U	D	I	U	A	H	T	Z
M	V	O	R	Z	Y	A	I	T	C	I	I	M	E	I	A
D	S	S	Q	F	S	N	D	U	I	P	C	A	S	O	M
R	O	M	E	U	O	K	E	P	P	X	N	S	U	C	P
D	N	V	R	C	A	L	P	I	Z	B	H	C	S	H	H
N	I	E	I	R	E	A	L	R	D	T	W	U	A	M	I
M	J	S	T	S	E	I	R	L	L	E	C	S	U	P	P
K	F	S	P	J	H	L	V	W	P	W	H	I	U	U	O
K	Y	U	T	P	V	L	I	J	J	U	G	U	S	T	L
L	J	D	G	I	E	E	L	M	G	E	L	L	L	E	I
P	T	O	L	E	M	A	I	S	H	D	Q	A	I	O	S
C	S	A	L	A	M	I	S	R	B	Y	A	I	F	L	S
U	O	C	Z	A	P	O	L	L	O	N	I	A	V	I	L

### Words to Find:

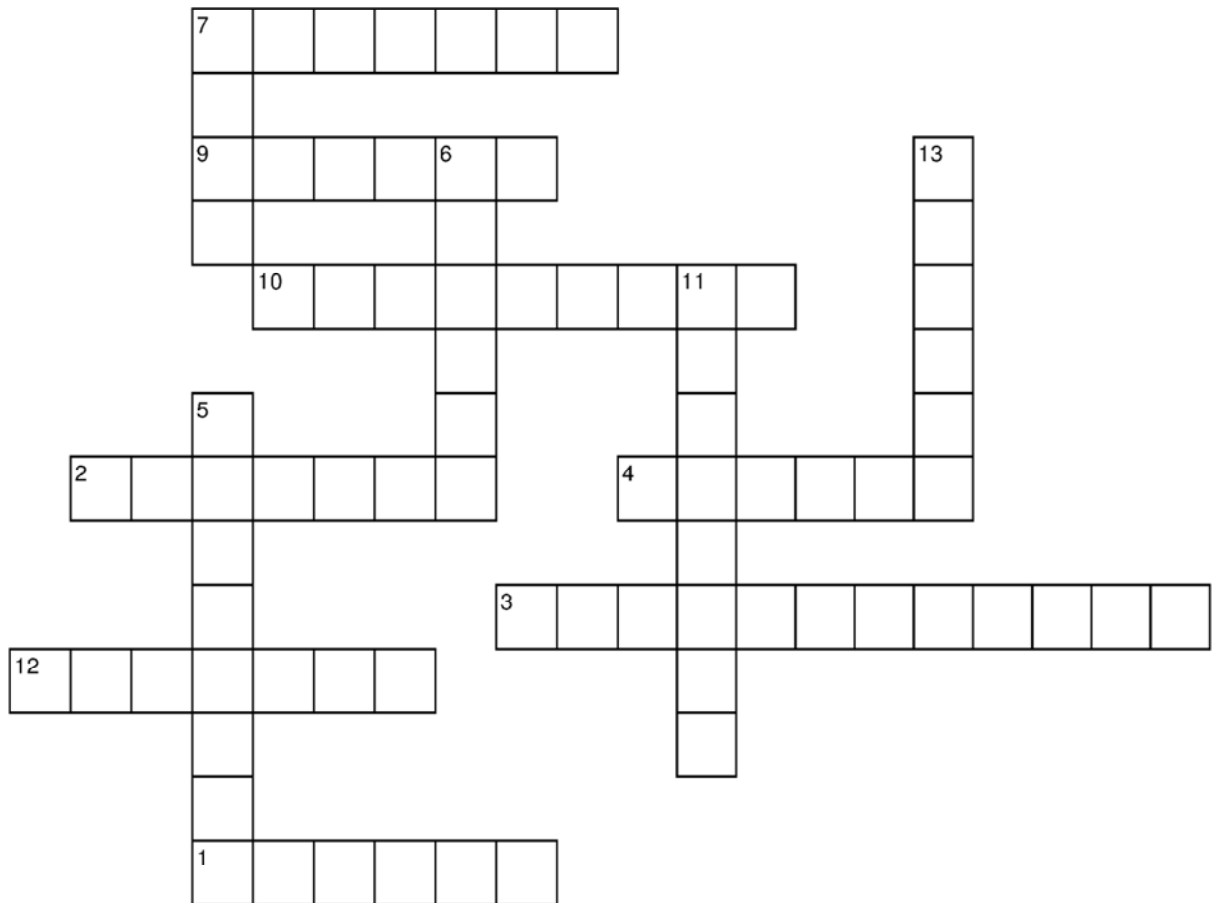
AMPHIPOLIS  
 ANTIOCH  
 ANTIPATRIS  
 APOLLONIA  
 APPII

DAMASCUS  
 DERBE  
 EPHESUS  
 ICONIUM  
 JERUSALEM

LYSTRA  
 PHILIPPI  
 PTOLEMAIS  
 PUTEOLI  
 RHEGIUM

ROME  
 SALAMIS  
 SELEUCIA

Use the All About HOPE Reference Sheet to understand the hope of the Great Commission message and fill in the crossword.



### Across

1. David promised to built this
2. Abraham built 2 alters based on a....
3. These are much stronger in kids vs adults
4. God's love has been poured into our...
7. Return home daughters; I am too old for a
9. All who have hope in him do this...
10. A great story of hope in the future
12. We hope in God's Help, God's future, God's

### Down

5. Why, my soul, are you this
6. God has plans to give us hope and a....
7. We have all been called to one...
11. Those who hope in the Lord will renew this
13. The strengthened will soar on wings of ...



Scriptures to Read: Mark 16:9-20

“

### This Week We Learned About ...

The Great Commission contains the last words of Christ before he ascended into heaven. Parts of it are in all four Gospels. We picked the verses in the Gospel of Mark. This lesson taught the kids that we have a responsibility to share the love of Christ with many people daily and that we can count on Jesus to always be with us wherever we go.

”

#### ✓ Questions for Kids:

1. Who saw Jesus first after he rose from the dead? **A. Mary Magdalene**
2. Jesus promises that whoever believes will not be what? **A. Condemned**
3. Why did Jesus rebuke the disciples who didn't believe? **A. They lacked faith.**

#### ✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Why do you think God wants our help to spread the gospel. You can be creative with this answer.

Tell a story about a time you shared your faith with another person. Make sure to explain what happened and how you felt while it was happening.  
Who is someone you want to pray for to receive Jesus into his/her heart?

#### Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



*He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."*  
**Mark 16:15**



*"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."*  
**Matthew 4:19**



*Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.*  
**Psalms 96:3**

### FIRST TIME HOPE APPEARS IN THE BIBLE:

Ruth 1:12: Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons.

### LAST TIME HOPE APPEARS IN THE BIBLE:

1 John 3:3: All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

### THREE VERY IMPORTANT OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON HOPE:

Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Psalms 42:11: Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Isaiah 40:31: But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

### THREE VERY IMPORTANT NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON HOPE:

Romans 5:5: And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Ephesians 4:4: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called.

1 Corinthians 2:9: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

### God's important messages for children on HOPE:

Children can put a great deal of hope in God's help, God's future, God's rescues, etc., but they need to be taught. Once taught, it is great fun to watch them hope, because their imaginations are much stronger than adults', and they have far less difficulty imagining things they are hoping for.

### Bible stories showing HOPE:

- Children can put a great deal of hope in God's help, God's future, God's rescues, etc., but they need to In Genesis 6, Noah builds the ark out of hope for his family's future.
- Abraham built two altars based on a promise from God, in Genesis 12:8 and 13:4, because of the hope he had in God's word.
- David gave God his promise to build a temple. Though it was not completed in his lifetime, he had hope in his son Solomon. His prayer is in 2 Samuel 7.
- Some great Psalms of hope include Psalms 30, 31, 39 and 42.
- Pentecost is a great story of hope in the future and hope coming to fruition. Located in Acts 2, it tells of the disciples gaining the great understanding promised to them, but also looking into a future of uncertainty but with the promised hope of the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Lookup:** Mark 16:15 and write it down.

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**Lookup:** John 13:34-35. Write down verse 35.

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The first verse is about preaching. The second is about loving others. We are not all preachers. A wise minister has said, "The best way to give others a view of God is to make them ask the question, 'What's so different or so special about this person?'" (this person being you). What can you do so that people are raising this question about you?

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Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Thank God for his protection in a situation that  
Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Using your own words ask him to show you  
ways to stand out as your part in the Great Commission.

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# THE GREAT COMMISSION

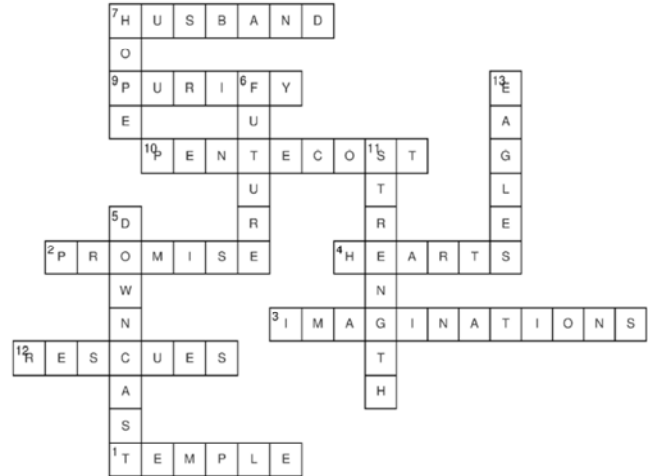
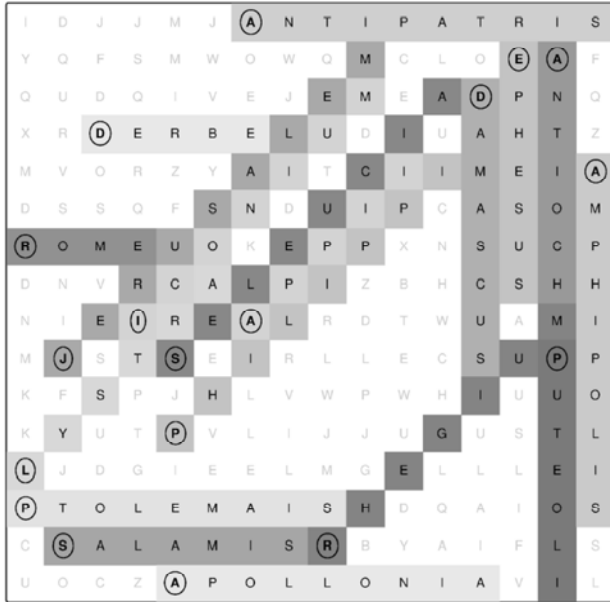
## QUIZ



To share Jesus with others, it's most important to know what he said! Fill in these most famous words of Christ by looking up the scriptures in the NIV translation and filling in the answers. Try to reflect on what each means. Try saying them in your own words!

### MOST FAMOUS WORDS OF JESUS FILL-IN

1. Jesus said to her, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_, and the life: The one who believes in me will live, even though they \_\_\_\_\_;" John 11:25
2. Therefore do not worry about \_\_\_\_\_, for tomorrow will worry about \_\_\_\_\_. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Matthew 6:34
3. Jesus answered, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6
4. By this everyone will know what you are my \_\_\_\_\_, if ye love one \_\_\_\_\_." John 13:35
5. For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in \_\_\_\_\_ should not perish but have \_\_\_\_\_ life. John 3:16
6. For those who exalt themselves will be \_\_\_\_\_, and those who humble themselves will be \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 23:12
7. You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 5:14
8. Blessed are they that \_\_\_\_\_: for they will be \_\_\_\_\_.  
Matthew 5:4



1. Jesus said to her, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_, and the life: The one who believes in me will live, even though they \_\_\_\_\_;" John 11:25 **resurrection / die**
2. Therefore do not worry about \_\_\_\_\_, for tomorrow will worry about \_\_\_\_\_ . Each day has enough trouble of its own. Matthew 6:34 **tomorrow / itself**
3. Jesus answered, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ . No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 **way / truth / life**
4. By this everyone will know what you are my \_\_\_\_\_, if ye love one \_\_\_\_\_ ." John 13:35 **disciples / another**
5. For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in \_\_\_\_\_ should not perish but have \_\_\_\_\_ life. John 3:16 **him / eternal**
6. For those who exalt themselves will be \_\_\_\_\_, and those who humble themselves will be \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 23:12 **humbled / exalted**
7. You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 5:14 **light / hidden**
8. Blessed are they that \_\_\_\_\_: for they will be \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 5:4 **mourn / comforted**

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

NAME:

DATE:

