



The Great Commission

Lesson Aim: To learn effective ways to carry out the Great Commission.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Rose

THE WORD

Bible Story: Matthew 28:16-20, 22:37-39

What He has done: Jesus sent His disciples to make disciples of all nations.

Key Verse: Matthew 28:19-20

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Genesis 28:15a

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I know that my Redeemer lives and that in the end He will stand upon the earth.
 And I will see God. I myself will see Him with my own eyes." Job 19:25, 27

Unit 4: The King Who Rose			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
18	Jesus is Risen, John 20:1-18	Jesus rose from the grave.	To know the Easter story and its significance.
19	The Road to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-18, 27-31	Jesus explained who He is.	To recognize who Jesus is and what He has done.
20	Jesus Talks with Peter, John 21:15-17	Jesus asked Peter to care for His followers.	To be invited to receive Christ as Savior and challenged to care for believers.
21	The Great Commission, Matthew 28:16-20, 22:37-39	Jesus sent His disciples to make disciples of all nations.	To learn effective ways to carry out the Great Commission.
22	The King Ascends, Acts 1:8b-11	Jesus ascended into heaven.	To honor Jesus' final words and to look forward to His return.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Revelation 7:1-12. Please join us in praying, "Thank you for the Great Commission and the promise of Your presence. Use us to inspire each child with Your words. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Worldwide Scramble	Paper plates (one plate per child) or sheets of scrap paper, markers
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "At the Name of Jesus" "Follow Me" "To Him Who Sits on the Throne" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Absolute All Time Favorites For Kids Cedarmont Worship for Kids: Volume 2
		Worship Scripture Reading: Zephaniah 3:17	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 21 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Matthew 28:16-20, 22:37-39	Map—Mountains of Galilee (Northern Israel), Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters, masking tape, large paper heart
		Christ Connection: Genesis 28:15a	
	Final 5	Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Tell the World	Favorite snack (or a snack that is popular in another country or culture)
	Up to 10	Game: Touch the World	Non-helium round balloons or inflatable beach balls (one for every 4-6 children), timer
	Up to 10	Craft: Making Disciples Maps	Paper plates, pencils, markers or crayons, heart stickers, world map or globe
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Four Corners of the Earth	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible, paper, marker
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is the farthest place you have ever been?

GAME: WORLDWIDE SCRAMBLE

Purpose: Children will play a game to introduce going into the world to make disciples for Jesus.

Supplies: Paper plates (one plate per child) or sheets of scrap paper, markers

Prepare: On each plate, write the name of a different place in the world. Include places nearby, in your country, and around the world. You should have one less plate than children in your class. In addition, write the name of your city or town on a plate. Keep it separate from the other plates.

Optional: In class, display a map of the world. Let each child choose a location they have been to or that interests them and ask them to copy the name of that place onto a plate.

Before Jesus left earth and went back to heaven, He gave a big command to His disciples. Jesus told His disciples to go and help people all over the world become His followers. Jesus also wants us to obey this command. Let's play a game to discover some of the places where we can tell people about Jesus.

Directions:

1. Place all the plates (except the one with your town on it), locations facing down, in a large circle around the room. Leave an area outside the circle for children to sit when they are eliminated from the game or place chairs outside the circle.
2. Place the plate with your hometown on it in the middle of the circle.
3. Children stand in a circle within the circle of plates.
4. Children face inward and hold hands.
5. Say, **On my signal, we will shout "One, two, three, tell the world!" Then, drop hands and race to find a paper plate to stand on. There is one less plate than children. If you do not get a plate, return to our hometown in the center of the room and wait for my instructions.**
6. The child without a plate to stand on may pick any plate in the circle, turn it over, and announce that location to the rest of the class. The child then places that plate on top of the hometown plate in the middle of the circle and sits down outside the circle. Note: The child whose plate was chosen stays in the game.
7. Continue playing until the last plate has been added to your city or town and one child remains.



Jesus as the King who rose

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Jesus promises He will always be with us. He is here with us right now in this room. He hears us sing and pray and He sees us give our offering. Our offering is used to help build His kingdom here and all over the world. Read Zephaniah 3:17.

We can worship Jesus by obeying and following His directions in the Great Commission. The Great Commission is the mission Jesus gave us to go and make followers of all nations. We can tell other people our Redeemer lives and that one day we will get to see God.



Sing Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Know That My Redeemer Lives." You may also choose to sing songs that remind the children Jesus is with them.



Perform Kingdom Adventures script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 4, Lesson 21.



Jesus sends His disciples

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned about when Jesus talked with Peter. How many times did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him? (Three.) When Jesus said, "Feed My sheep," who were the sheep He was talking about? (His followers.)

Today, we will learn about the last time Jesus appeared and taught the disciples while He was here on earth. He met with them on a mountain near Galilee. If a map is available, show the mountains of Galilee in Northern Israel.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Matthew 28:16-20, 22:37-39. **We will begin with Matthew 28:16-20. Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Matthew 28:19-20.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

These words of Jesus are called the Great Commission. To commission someone means to send them to do a mission or job. Jesus sent His followers with the mission to go and show people in every nation how to follow Him. Jesus sends us with that same mission today! It's the greatest mission in the world—so we call it the Great Commission.

Let's read in the Bible to discover our mission from Jesus. Read Matthew 28:16-20.

Jesus is sending us to teach His followers "to obey everything I have commanded you." Now, let's read the two greatest commandments Jesus has given us. Read Matthew 22:37-39.



Jesus sends us

THE WAY

To make disciples is to lead others to become followers of Jesus. Jesus is telling us to go and lead others to follow Him. Have you ever wanted to talk to someone about following Jesus but didn't know what to say? (Children respond.) Since Jesus sends us to go and make disciples of all nations, we can trust He will help us do that! Here is a way to tell a friend who God is and what He has done.

CROSS YOUR HEART

Purpose: To demonstrate the forgiving love of God when we ask Him into our hearts forever.

Supplies: Masking tape, large paper heart

This object lesson is designed to be very simple. Put it in your own words, but keep it brief so children can easily remember it.

- **This perfect heart shows God loves us.** Show the paper heart.
- **We are separated from God's love by our wrongdoing or sin.** Tear heart into two pieces.
- **God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for us. His death paid for our sins, so we could be forgiven and close to God again.** Use two pieces of intersecting tape to make a cross. Use them to put the two pieces of the heart back together.
- **When we believe and follow Jesus, His Spirit stays with us in our hearts forever.** Hold heart close to your chest.
- **If your friend would like to pray to become a follower of Jesus and be close to God forever, you can lead your friend in the ABC prayer or one like it.**

Read the ABC prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I Admit I am a sinner.

I Believe You are the Lord who died to take my sins away.

Please Come into my heart and I will follow You forever. Amen."

In the Great Commission, what does Jesus tell us to teach others? (Everything He commanded us to do.) **We can teach others to obey through our own example of obeying the two greatest commandments Jesus gave us. What did Jesus say is the greatest commandment?** (Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind.) **How can you obey that in your life?** (Children respond.) **How can you love your neighbor as yourself?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nearly 2000 years before Jesus promised to be with us always, Jacob had a dream in which the Lord appeared at the top of a staircase and made a similar promise. Let's check it out.



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Genesis 28:15a. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Genesis 28:15a.

The Holy Spirit lives inside the hearts of everyone who believes in Jesus. If you are His follower, He will never leave you. He will help you follow the Great Commission!

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

The Bible says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a Great Commission card. Take it home and review it every day this week so you will know how to help someone follow Jesus. That's what the Great Commission is all about!

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in their completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 21 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus sending His disciples to go and teach the world about Him. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Know That My Redeemer Lives," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: TELL THE WORLD

Purpose: Connect with your students while enjoying a snack to help them think about telling other people in the world about Jesus.

Snack Suggestion: Favorite snack (or a snack that is popular in another country or culture)

Jesus commanded His disciples to teach other people around the world to obey Him. Jesus wanted the disciples to teach people in the towns nearby, in places on the other side of the country, and as far away as they could go in the world.

Directions:

1. Give each child a snack and drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. As you eat, ask the children to answer the Snack Question: **“If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you like to go?”**

GAME: TOUCH THE WORLD

Purpose: Children share examples of the Great Commission in action ways.

Supplies: Non-helium round balloons or inflatable beach balls (one for every 4-6 children), timer

Option: Draw the continents on the balloon or ball.

Option: For older children, try the Naming Nations version of this game. Children must name a different nation before each balloon pop.

There are many ways we can tell others about Jesus and show them how to obey all He has commanded. In this game, the balloon stands for the world and our goal is to keep the world up in the air. When it is your turn to touch the world, give an example of a way we can tell others about Jesus or obey His commands. (Examples: Talk with others about God. Tell Bible stories. Invite others to church. Serve others. Earn and give money to those who are traveling to tell other nations about Jesus. Love others. Make right choices.) **Then, bop the world as high up as you can. Let’s see which team can keep the world in the air the longest.**

Directions:

1. Divide the children into teams of 4-6 children.
2. Give one balloon to each team.
3. Each team stands in a circle. If space is limited, seat children to play.
4. On your signal, start the timer. Players take turns saying one way to follow the Great Commission and then bopping the balloon upwards.
5. If a team’s balloon touches the floor, that team receives one point and continues playing.
6. The team with the least points at the end of the 5 minutes is the winner.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: MAKING DISCIPLES MAPS

Purpose: Children make a map to remember to obey Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations.

Supplies: Paper plates, pencils, markers or crayons, heart stickers, world map or globe

Prepare: Print and display: **"Go and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19a**

What did Jesus command us to do? (Make disciples of all nations.) **What does Jesus want us to teach people to do?** (Obey Him.) **Let's each make a map of the world.**

Directions:

1. Place the world map or globe where children can see it.
2. Look at the world map or globe and draw an outline of the world on your paper plate.
3. Copy the words of Matthew 28:19a onto your paper plate.
4. Color your map.

Think of where you would like to go to help people become Jesus' disciples. Would you like to stay close to home, visit another place in your country, or visit another country far away? Place a heart sticker (or draw a heart) on each place you would like to go.

Take your map home and place it where you can see it. Each time you look at it, ask Jesus to show you how to help other people become His disciples.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I know that my Redeemer lives and that in the end He will stand upon the earth.
And I will see God. I myself will see Him with my own eyes."
Job 19:25, 27

GAME: FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH

Purpose: Children will play a game of Four Corners to learn the Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible, paper, marker

Prepare: Write the name of four different countries or continents each on a piece of paper. Post one of the four signs in each of the four corners of the play area.

Optional: Have the children choose the four countries or continents you will use for the game.

Optional: For a more competitive version, the children whose corner is called recite the Bible Memory verse together and then sit down. Play continues until only a few remain in the game.

Today, we are celebrating that Jesus is alive forever. Let's read our Bible Memory Verse together. Read the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse together. **This verse from the Bible tells us Jesus is alive. He is our Redeemer; He took the punishment we deserve for sinning. Where will He stand one day when He returns? (Upon the earth.) Who will see Him? (We will.)**

Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse by playing Four Corners of the Earth.

Directions:

1. Choose a Caller to stand in the middle of the room to count aloud to 10 with eyes closed.
2. Children rush to stand in different corners before the Caller says, "10."
3. Caller calls out one of the four corner countries/continents.
4. All children in that corner recite the Bible Memory verse together as quickly as possible.
5. Choose another Caller and play again. All children remain in the game.
6. Play as long as you like or as time allows.

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Job 19:25, 27 to each child or group.
2. As helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to thighs, and sits down.
3. Repeat three times, faster each time.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus (Circa 0-33 A.D.) beginning with the only story of His childhood and then focusing on His relationships, His ministry, His teachings, and the events surrounding His death, resurrection, and ascension. It concludes with a study of His kingdom parables. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

The Road to Emmaus (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Who did Cleopas and his friend meet on the road to Emmaus? (Jesus.) They did not recognize Jesus because they didn't understand He had risen. When did the two men recognize the man walking with them was Jesus? (After Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread.)

Jesus Talks with Peter (Circa 30-33 A.D.) After He rose, Jesus appeared to the disciples and talked with Peter. Jesus had forgiven Peter for denying Him. What question did Jesus ask Peter three times? ("Do you love Me?") Who are Jesus' sheep? (Those who follow Jesus.) What does Jesus' direction, "Take care of my sheep," mean to you? (Children respond.)

The Great Commission (Circa 30-33 A.D.) After Jesus appeared to many people, He met with His followers to give them the Great Commission. He told them to go into all the world and make disciples. The Great Commission is not just for the disciples on the mountain; it is for everyone who follows Jesus. That includes us! What did Jesus tell us to teach others? (Everything He commanded us to do.) What is your favorite part of the Great Commission? (Children respond.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Life of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Life of Jesus: Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus Is Baptized > Jesus Is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus Clears the Temple > Jesus Is Transfigured > Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes > Jesus and Nicodemus > Jesus and the Woman at the Well > Jesus with Mary and Martha > Jesus and Zacchaeus > Jesus Is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet > Jesus and the Last Supper > Jesus in the Garden > Jesus and the Cross > Jesus Is Risen > The Road to Emmaus > Jesus Talks with Peter > The Great Commission > The King Ascends

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan