



Children's Lesson – April 22, 2020

JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS!

BACKGROUND FOR CAREGIVERS

Bible Passages – Matthew 28:16-20 (The Great Commission)

At the end of Matthew 28, Jesus gives what's known as "the Great Commission." We are to spread the good news of Jesus. Countless sermons have been preached on this authoritative command to "go" into the world. Entire evangelistic movements have been inspired by one little word - "GO." Because of this, it's important that we really understand what Scripture is communicating.

Every once in a while, the English translation doesn't quite carry the emphasis of the original Greek. This is one of those instances. Much has been made, especially within world missions literature, of the imperative command "Go" at the beginning of this verse. "Go into all the world" is what gets the most attention. So we're told from the pulpit to "Go" spread the gospel. But in the Greek, the emphasis is a little different.

Consider reading the verse as "(since you are) going, (and as you go), make disciples ... baptizing them and teaching them." The focus of the Great Commission is to make disciples or followers of Jesus. It assumes that we'll be going. It's not giving us a new command to go. We are to share the good news of Jesus with the world: that all people can know God and be His disciples.

As followers of Christ, we're called to be disciples: people who wholeheartedly follow Him. While we seek to be and make disciples, we use all our spiritual gifts: teaching, wisdom, evangelism, encouragement, etc. All of the gifts within the church body are for the purpose of this one mission (Romans 12, Ephesians 4).

As you prepare for this lesson, think about how the Holy Spirit has revealed Himself to you. How is God calling you to "make disciples of all nations"? Who are the people in your life currently seeking the good news?

Jesus is the Good News!

KEY VERSE

I (point up)

Am always (point one finger up and trace a circle around and around)

With you (point both thumbs towards yourself)

Matthew 28:20

BIBLE STORY

Today we are going to talk about sharing the “**good news**” about Jesus with others. Every time we say the words, “**good news**” I want you to give me a thumbs up (model thumbs up). Let’s practice: Jesus is the “**good news**” (show thumbs up). Awesome job!

You and I have friends and Jesus had good friends too. He had 12 special friends, He called his disciples. Jesus taught his disciple friends all about God and His love for them.

Jesus told all his friends to go and tell everyone in the world the “**good news**” (show thumbs up) they knew about God and His love. This was an important job. Who is the “**good news**” (show thumbs up)? Yes, Jesus is the “**good news**” (show thumbs up)!

Do you think God wants just one or two people to know about Him, or does he want *everyone* to know about Him? You’re right! God wants everyone in the *whole world* to know that Jesus is the “**good news**” (show thumbs up). Jesus is the way to be with God forever and that is totally “**good news**” (show thumbs up)!

Jesus’ friends did what He said. They went all over the world and told people about God’s love. They told people about how Jesus died on the cross for their sins. But the “**good news**” (show thumbs up) is that Jesus didn’t stay dead. He rose from the grave and **Jesus is alive!** Because of Jesus all people can know God and be with Him forever. And that is called “**good news**” (show thumbs up).

Before Jesus left and went up to heaven, He promised that He would always be with His friends, no matter where they went or what they did. And Jesus is with us too! We can tell everyone that Jesus is the “**good news**” (show thumbs up) and He will always be with us.

PRAYER

Let's pray and thank God for the “**good news**” – **Jesus!**

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus.

Thank you that because of Jesus, all people can know you.

Help us to share the “**good news**” of Jesus with others.

Thank you for how much you love us – we love you too, God!

AMEN

WORSHIP SONGS

- **Jesus Is The Great, Good News**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x-Umg6oEYY>
- **Motions – The Good News**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZZkSkTjo4g>
- **Good News Great Big God!**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWFBpS-pT6M>
- **Have You Heard?**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXEAr9LuQ1U>
- **Good In Every Way! Roar VBS Song**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_tLcv3jjjA
- **What Is the Gospel? Jesus is the Good News (10 min video)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uppiUEzOwOg>

CRAFT

Jesus Loves All People – Globe Mobile

Supplies Needed: download and print craft sheets, scissors, glue crayons/markers, string/yarn, tape

Caregivers:

- This craft will end up looking like a mobile. The people will hang from the double-sided globe - attached by strings of various lengths.
- Cut out the pictures of the globes and the pictures of the people.
- Cut strings of various lengths.
- Tape the bottom of one piece of string on the back of each person (the top will be attached to the globe). Then glue the matching person to the other side.

Children:

- Colour the pictures of the globes.
- Tape the tops of the pieces of string (and the people) to the white inside of one globe.
- Glue the two globes together – to make a double-sided world mobile.

As you show others your craft, say, “**Jesus is the Good News**”!



