

HomeWord
For Parents

For 40 days after the Resurrection, Jesus continued to show Himself, teach, and prepare His followers for life without His physical presence. When it finally came time for Him to return to His Father, He gave His parting instructions. This is what is now known as the Great Commission. What was Jesus's message?

He told His followers to "make disciples." This is a call that includes evangelism—proclaiming the gospel—as well as teaching these disciples to observe all that Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:20). And this is a commission to ALL believers through the ages. How critical it is that we obey it. We know that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Romans 10:13). But how will anyone believe in Him if they have not heard of Him? And how will they hear of Him unless someone preaches to them (Romans 10:14)? We must proclaim the truth to unbelievers. The Bible tells us that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). We are to be bold and not ashamed of the gospel. It is the gospel that is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes (Romans 1:16). Without the truth of the gospel, people will perish in their sins.

And the Great Commission does not stop there! It continues beyond a new believer's repentance and faith. You see, new Christians are like newborns—unskilled in the word of righteousness (Hebrews 5:13). There is a new life in their soul with amazing potential to learn and grow in wisdom and knowledge of the truth. These new believers are to be molded by the truth and trained to do all that Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:20). Those older and more mature in the faith are to instruct the younger Christians that they might continue to grow and bear fruit for the Lord (Titus 2:3; 2 Timothy 2:2).

Jesus ended His last, great commission with a promise that gives the encouragement and strength necessary to boldly fulfill His command. In Matthew 28:20 He told His disciples, and He tells us, "Lo! I am with you, always, even to the end of the age. Amen." We can be assured and confident of this promise as we strive to fulfill the Great Commission in our own lives.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord For Family Discussion

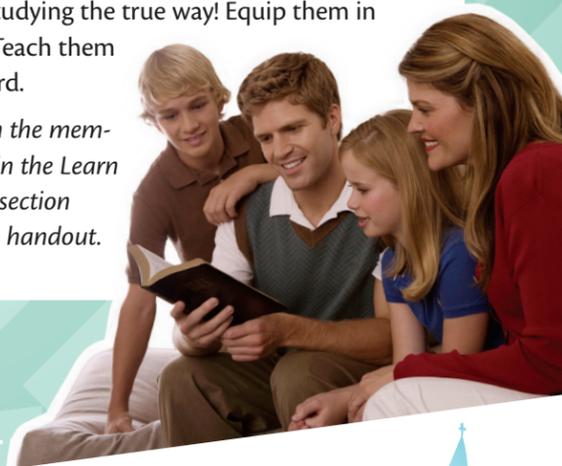
Suppose some of your friends said they wouldn't tell anyone about Jesus because they were too shy and it made them uncomfortable. **What would you say?**

A lot of people seem afraid to tell others about Jesus. But the last thing Jesus did was to command His disciples to tell others about Him. If no one told you about Jesus, you wouldn't know how to have eternal life. Think of it this way. If you had a cure for cancer, wouldn't you want to share that cure with the world? The gospel is even better than a cure for cancer. The gospel can save sinners from eternity in hell and separation from God forever. It is very important to tell people about Jesus. It's good news, and we should NOT keep it to ourselves.

inWord
For Family Study

"Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way" (Psalm 119:104). How will your children know the false way? Only by studying the true way! Equip them in all truth. Teach them God's Word.

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



The Great Commission

KEY THEME

- God reconciles sinners to Himself through the gospel of Christ.

KEY PASSAGES

- Matthew 28:18–20
- 1 Corinthians 15:1–5
- Romans 1:16, 10:13–15

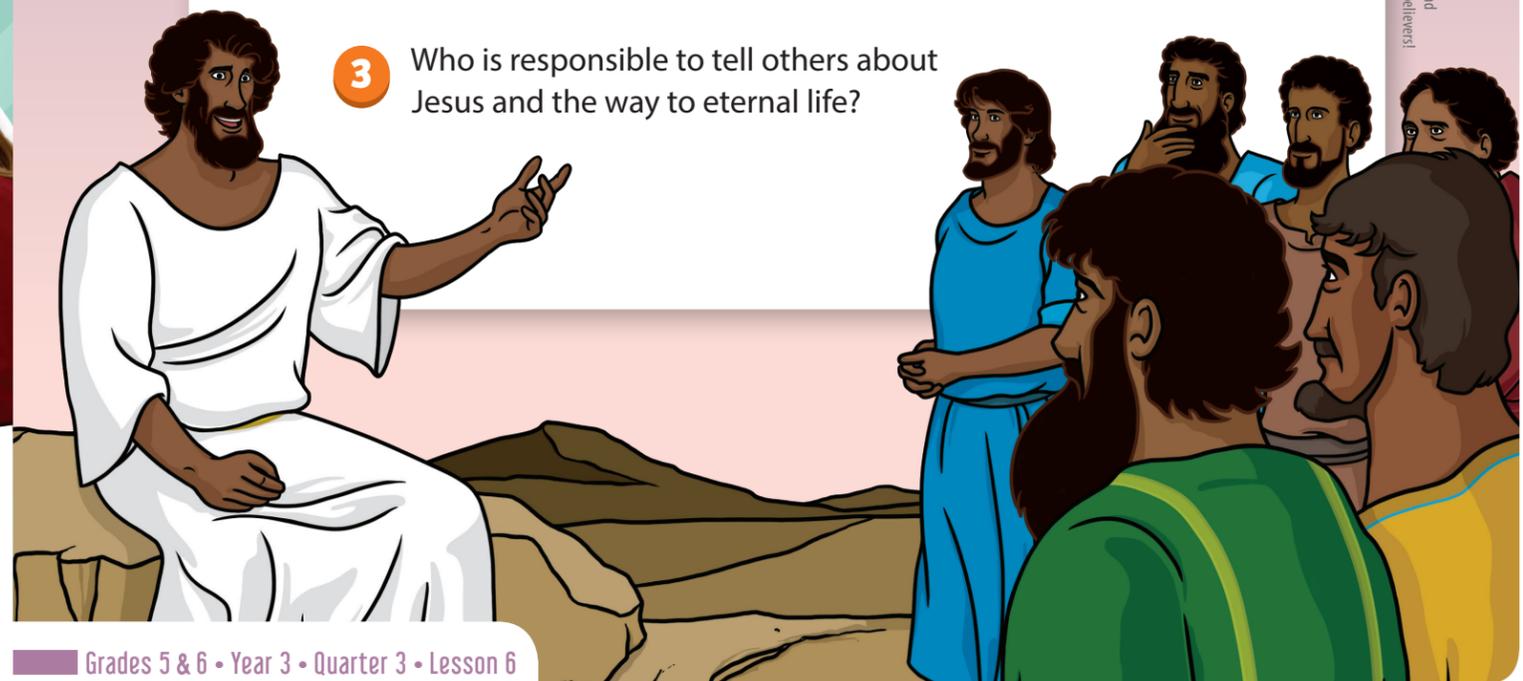


What You **HEARD** in the **WORD**

- Jesus commanded His followers to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations, making disciples. This is the Great Commission.
- We must obey Jesus's command because the good news of the gospel alone can bring eternal life to sinners.

Answer these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Jesus commanded His followers to preach the _____ and make _____.
- 2 Why is it important to keep telling people about the gospel?
- 3 Who is responsible to tell others about Jesus and the way to eternal life?



1) Gospel, disciples. 2) So they can hear and know the only way to eternal life. 3) All believers!

Read the Word

Monday {John 5:24}

This verse describes the good news. What is it?

Tuesday {Acts 8:4}

What did the Christians who were scattered because of persecution do?

Wednesday {Mark 16:15}

Where should the gospel be preached?

Thursday {Romans 10:13}

Who can be saved?

Friday {Romans 1:16}

Why should we preach the gospel and not be ashamed?

Saturday {Matthew 28:19}

Do you know this verse? Recite it to your family or a friend.

Learn the Word

Unscramble the words and fill in the blanks

Go _____ and _____
reftheoer akem

disciples of all the _____,
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_____ of the _____
amne threFa

and of the _____ and of the
Sno

_____ Spirit. Matthew 28:19
olyH

LIVE the Word

Suppose your friend thought that he didn't need to share the gospel. After all, that was for adults. **What could you say?**

If you know the gospel and believe it, you can share it—no matter how old you are! Sharing the gospel is just telling people about Jesus, His death on the Cross, His burial, and His Resurrection. And anyone who doesn't know about Jesus needs to hear about Him. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the only place where sinners can find forgiveness, hope, and eternal life. It is very important to tell them the truth because sin separates us from God. Only sinners who call on the name of the Lord can be saved. And they have to hear about Him before they can call on Him! They need to know that Jesus died on the Cross, He was buried, and He rose again on the third day. Everyone who believes this, repents of his sins, and receives Jesus as Lord will have eternal life. This is good news for anyone. And anyone can share it!



TAG-A-LONG SENTENCES

To discover truths from the lesson, fix the sentences below. Each word is either combined with part of another word or is divided in the wrong place. Separate the letters, and write each word in order in the blanks below the sentences. Then read the sentence to make sure it's right.

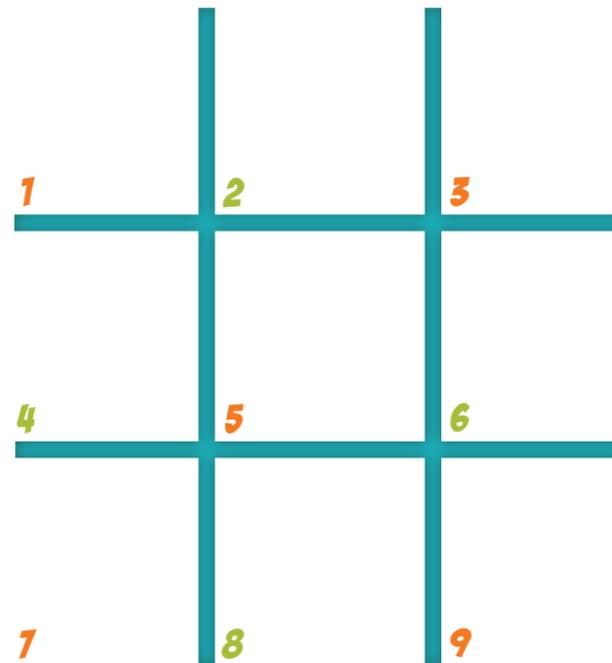
1. JE SU SWA NTEDE VERY ONET OKNO WHIMA NDOB EYH ISCOM MAN DS.

2. SOH ESA IDTO GOINT OAL LTHENA TIO NSA NDTE ACHTH EM.

3. WEA RET OPR EACHTH EGOS PEL.

3-IN-A ROW—WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Read each clue in the list below and decide if it's true or false. Put an F for false statements and a T for true statements in the proper boxes. (Hint: When you finish, you'll find two rows of "True" three in a row.)



1. The disciples had all authority in heaven and in earth. Matthew 28:18.
2. Jesus told His disciples to go to all the nations to preach the gospel. Matthew 28:19.
3. Jesus told His disciples to go out and make people happy. Matthew 28:19.
4. The gospel is the power of believers. Romans 1:16.
5. The Great Commission was Jesus's last command to His disciples.
6. The Great Commission is just for missionaries.
7. Jesus died for sinners.
8. Jesus was buried and rose from the grave three days later.
9. It's important to tell others about the gospel, so that they can believe.



Come next week ready for a fun review with games and a skit! You won't want to miss it.

ANSWERS: 1) False. All authority in heaven and in earth was given to Jesus. 2) True. 3) False. Jesus told His disciples to go out and make disciples. 4) False. The gospel is the power of God. 5) True. 6) False. The Great Commission is for all believers. 7) True. 8) True. 9) True.

ANSWERS: 1) Jesus wanted everyone to know Him and obey His commands. 2) So He said to go into all the nations and teach them. 3) We are to preach the gospel.