



Kindergarten-2nd

April 26-27, 2014

DATE

The Great Commission

LESSON TITLE

Acts 1:1-11; Matthew 28:16-20

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus gave us a special job: to show others how to follow him.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Kids need to feel heard. If they ask you something, even if it's not timed well, stop and respond positively.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to show their parents what they drew—and more importantly, why they drew it.

large group heads up

Today, we're reviewing the story of Jesus' rescue and examining the special job Jesus gave us (the Great Commission). We're also talking about practical ways to do that job! Ahead of time, spend some time praying about Matthew 28:18-20.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

SPREAD THE WORD

**Can play as a whole group or split into two groups.*

- Everybody stands in a group.
- Give one kid a silly secret to share. Options are:
 - She sells seashells
 - Noisy Ned needs nuggets
 - Roses are red; violets are blue
 - Kids' Club rocks!
 - Make up whatever you want
- That kid has to tell two people and then sit down.
- Those two people tell two people than sit down.
- Basically, once you are told the secret, you have to tell two more and sit down.
- See how long it take to spread to everyone (how long it takes everyone to sit down); then everyone share the secret out loud.
- Try again with a new secret and time it. If you are in teams, you can race.
- Then gather up and ask kids about the best/worst parts of their week

Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) review the story of Jesus' Rescue, (2) recognize that Jesus gave us a special job to tell others about him and (3) identify ways we can teach others about Jesus.

Why? Making disciples is a command Jesus gave us. We want kids to think about how to do that.

Tip: If small group went long, make sure you get to the application activity. If it was shorter than usual, spend a longer time retelling the story (question #1).

small group

REVIEW AND DIG DEEPER

***Try this for a more engaged discussion: tell kids you're going to ask a question. Then give a beanbag to somebody and it's their job to answer. Then, everybody has to listen carefully to the next question. The kid with the "beanbag" must toss it to someone else.**

1. Tell me what happened after Jesus died on the cross and came back to life. (Let kids use the **images sheet**).
2. Before Jesus went back up to Heaven, he gave us a special job. What was it?
3. What does it mean to make disciples?
4. Why did Jesus tell us to baptize people?
5. How can we teach others to follow Jesus and obey him? (by following Jesus ourselves; *showing* them how)
6. Why did Jesus give us this special job? (he wants everybody to know about him)

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Give each kid a piece of colored paper. Let them stick a "Great Commission" sticker on it.

- Read the verse together (look it up in the Bible)
- Remind them that we want to spread this good news so that everybody can know Jesus!
- Have kids write/draw one way they plan to teach others to follow Jesus this week. You can use the examples from large group or brainstorm new ideas:
 - Get baptized so everyone knows you follow Jesus
 - Let a friend choose what to play
 - Go home and telling somebody what you learned in Kids' Club
 - Invite a friend to come with you to Kids' Club
 - Tell a friend who's sad that you'll pray for them

(Continue on the following page)

Have kids share what they drew. **Then pray together, asking God to specifically help each kid make disciples and teach others to follow Jesus this week.**

Extra time? Ask kids if they have any questions about Jesus' Rescue. (Do your best to answer, but feel free to say you don't know.) Have them turn their sheets over and draw a second way they can follow Jesus. You can also have them pair up and act out their drawings. Or gather around the screen and re-watch today's video.

special notes

The goal today is to thoroughly review Jesus' rescue, then dive deep into the Great Commission (which we're calling a "special job" Jesus gave us).

presenter tips

Make sure to communicate that there are many ways to share the good news of Jesus.

script

Hi everybody, welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. You guys have been out there telling secrets! That looks fun. How did your secret get around so quickly? (Let kids respond.) That's right, you all helped to tell it. What about if the people who sat down just stopped telling others? What would happen? (Let kids respond.) Yes, some people wouldn't know the secret.

You guys were telling silly secrets, but is there anything so exciting and joyful that we want everyone to know about it? (Let kids respond.) You know what? There is! The good news of Jesus' rescue is something that EVERYONE should know!

REVIEW

(picture of the cross) Remember, the wrong things we do—sins—separate us from God. But Jesus came and took OUR punishment. Then he came back to life, which means he's stronger than death! That means death—or punishment—can't separate us from God...and we can be close to him again!

Let's watch a video to see what happened next...after Jesus came back to life. As we watch, see if you can find at least ONE thing Jesus did when he came back to life.

Video: God's Story / Jesus' Rescue

Wow, so what are some things Jesus did when he came back to life? (Let kids say things like: appeared to Mary, appeared to two men on the road, appeared to his friends, appeared to more than 500 people, went up to Heaven, two men in white promised he'll come back, etc.)

Why was everybody so surprised to see Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he had been *dead*. Nobody expected him to come back to life. But he did, because he was stronger than death!

And one of the most exciting parts—if not THE most exciting part—of Jesus' rescue, is that



script continued

when he went up to Heaven, two men in white told people that one day, Jesus will come back from Heaven. Until then, he's with us through the Holy Spirit.

When we choose to say something like, "Jesus, I have done wrong things. But I believe you took my punishment. I want to follow you," we instantly become part of God's family. And one day, Jesus will come back...and God will re-create a perfect world with no wrong things...and his whole family will live in it with him forever!

THE GREAT COMMISSION

This is fantastic news! So Jesus doesn't want his rescue to be a secret. He wants EVERYONE to know about it, so that we all have the freedom to choose to be part of his family. In the Bible, before Jesus went back to Heaven, he gave everyone who follows him a special job:

SLIDE: Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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."

MAKING DISCIPLES

Let's look at that for a second. Jesus said to go and make disciples. Does anybody know what a disciple is? (Let kids say: somebody who follows Jesus.) That's right, somebody who follows Jesus. So Jesus is saying, "Go and show people how to follow me!"

BAPTIZING THEM

Then he said to baptize people and teach them to obey him. What is baptism? (Let kids respond: **click to show gif**). Yes, it's when somebody goes into the water and comes back out. Kind of like how Jesus was buried and came back to life. It shows that a person wants to be like Jesus by following him. Baptism is like a BIG announcement. It's like somebody saying, "I follow Jesus."

Now, why did Jesus tell *us* to show people how to follow him and then baptize them? (Let kids respond IF you think they are old enough to understand.) Well, baptism is a lot like telling a secret. When a person is baptized, we know they follow Jesus. So if somebody decides to follow Jesus, they should let everybody know by getting baptized!

TEACHING PEOPLE TO OBEY JESUS

OK, Jesus also tells us to teach people to obey him. I need everybody to stand up. If Jesus told us to teach people how to follow and obey him, we're going to need to know how to teach something, right? So I'm going to teach you something. I think it would be fun for you to learn some dance moves!



script continued

(Stand perfectly still as you describe dance moves. You can make up your own or use these): Step the right; swing your arms to the right as you step. Now go left while swinging your arms to left. To the right again. To the left again.

Wow, you guys didn't do so well... How 'bout I show you? Follow along with me: (do the dance moves this time, as the kids follow. Speak as necessary but make sure to *show* everything you tell them). That was so much better! Thanks, guys. You can have a seat.

Was it easier the first time or the second? Hold up 1 finger or 2. (Let kids respond. Hopefully, they hold up 2 fingers). Yeah, it was WAY easier the 2nd time, right?

And you know what? Teaching dance moves is a lot like showing somebody how to follow Jesus. It's a whole lot easier when you *show* them how to do it by following Jesus yourself! So let's practice. Give me a thumbs up if I say a way to show others how to follow Jesus...and a thumbs down if I say something that's either not following Jesus or not showing anybody else how to follow him. Ready?

(Go through the following options, guiding kids in a thumbs up or down. Remind kids that an option may be good, but that we're looking for ways to show others how to follow Jesus!).

- Believing in Jesus' Rescue, but keeping it a secret (down)
- Getting baptized so everyone knows you follow Jesus (up)
- Taking the biggest piece of pizza for yourself (down)
- Letting a friend choose what to play (up)
 - *Remind kids this is like the dance moves—showing vs. telling*
- Going home and telling somebody what you learned in Kids' Club (up)
- Worrying that God won't take care of you (down)
- Inviting a friend to come with you to Kids' Club (up)
- Telling a friend who's sad that you'll pray for them (up)

Great job, you guys! Well done. And you know what? There are LOTS of ways to show your friends how to follow Jesus and obey him. It starts with YOU following him and obeying him... so that you can show them how! And the good news is, Jesus knows we'll mess up sometimes—that's why he rescued us! We can just move on and keep following!

WORSHIP

Let's worship together and thank Jesus for his rescue! When we think about how much Jesus loves us, it often makes us more excited to do the special job he gave us.

Song: Dance Shout and Sing

Song: Come With Me

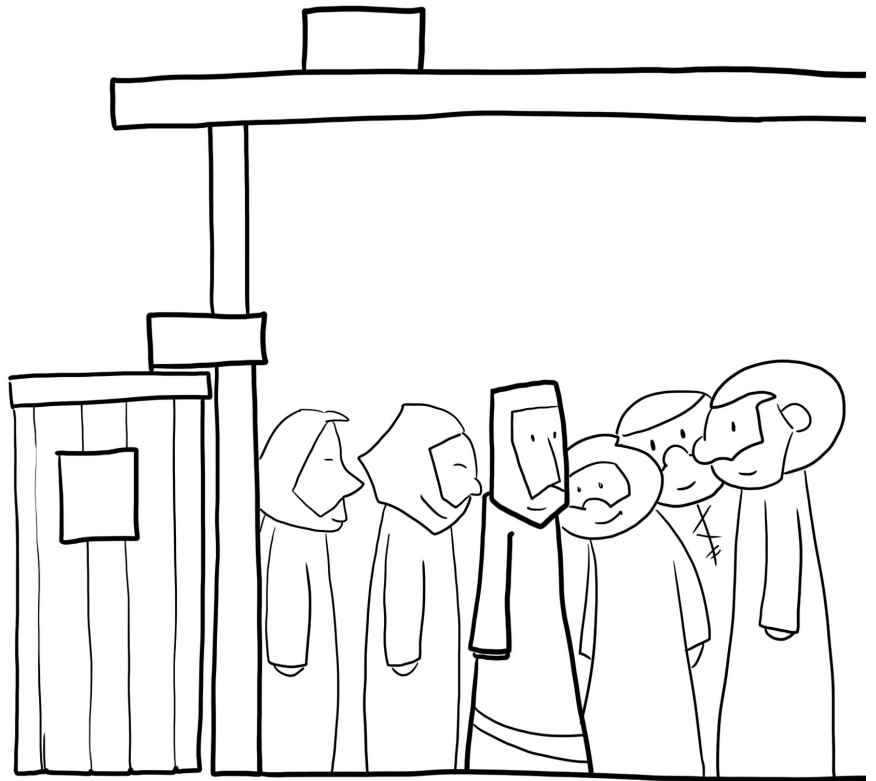
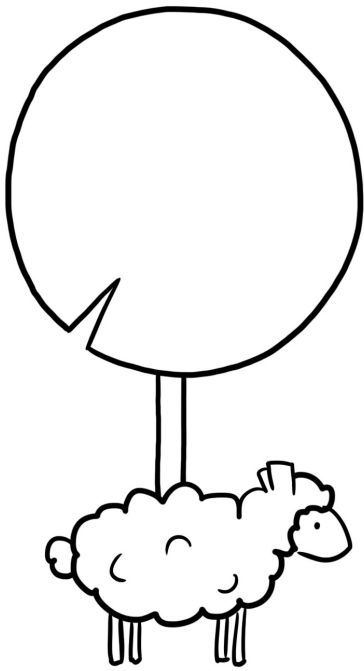
PRAY

Ask somebody to ask God to help us do the special job Jesus gave us: to teach others how to follow and obey him!



script continued

name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

No supplies necessary

small group supplies

- Markers
- Bible
- 1 beanbag per small group
- 1 verse sticker per kid printed on Avery label 5352
- 1 colored piece of paper per kid
- 2 sheets of story images per small group (printed in color)

large group supplies

none

a/v needs

1. Image: cross
2. Video: God's Story / Jesus' Rescue
3. SLIDE: Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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."
4. Gif: baptism
5. Song: Dance Shout and Sing
6. Song: Come With Me (with hand motions)

connect questions

Tell me about the special job Jesus gave us.
How will you show others how to follow Jesus?

parent page

SEPARATE PARENT PAGES FOR APRIL