

## WEEK 2 LESSON GUIDE



### BIG IDEA

God gives everyone a mission.

### BIBLE

**Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit:**  
John 14:15-21; Matthew 28:18-20

## LARGE GROUP TIME

Welcome back, heroes! I hope you remembered from last week that anyone can do great things for God. **Did any of you get to practice being heroic?** That's great! Today we're going to talk about something specific Jesus wants all of us to do. So, put on your super suits . . . let's go!

### WHAT? What are we talking about today?

#### MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
  - "Battle Belongs" (Doorpost Songs)
  - "Limitless" (Planetshakers Kids)
  - "It's True" (Lifeway Kids Worship)
  - "The New is Here" (Hillsong Kids)

#### ACTIVITY | Superhero Training: Agility

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a "laser" maze kids have to get through without ripping it. (See details in Shop & Prep.) Use a narrow hallway to make the maze out of crepe streamers and painter's tape or use two sturdy rows of chairs for your pathway.
  - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Make this more challenging by timing kids as they complete the maze or by having them complete the maze while also dodging things being thrown at them (soft items, please!).
  - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Set up this maze so that the "laser grid" is not too challenging to get through. For kids with balance or mobility concerns, you might want to print out simple mazes that kids can complete. Have them yell out "mission accomplished" when they've finished.
- **Who's ready to continue their superhero training?**

- Some missions require heroes to have the ability to move quickly and easily – it’s called agility. So today’s training focus is an increase in our agility. The quickest team to get through without getting “zapped” by the lasers wins!

### ACTIVITY | Mission Accomplished!

- **Anybody know which famous superhero this describes?**
  - “Faster than a speeding bullet. More powerful than a locomotive. Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound.”
  - “Look! Up in the sky!” “It’s a bird!” “It’s a plane!”
  - You guessed it! It’s . . . Superman!
- Now Superman might be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, but you all have a special mission, too! You get to build a tall building!
- Let’s see how well you can replicate one of these iconic skyscrapers that are about as famous as the Man of Steel himself!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Spilt your group up into teams, depending on your group size. Show the groups a photo of a skyscraper, and have them try to replicate it using the materials provided. Here are some [photo ideas](#). Provide materials like cardboard blocks, straws, tape, pipe cleaners, foil, or whatever you have around.*
- Great job, teams! We’re figuring out together some of the things Jesus is calling us to do as his followers. It’s probably not to build a skyscraper, but let’s find out what it might be together!

### QUESTION | What is a superhero’s main mission?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *To prompt kids, you could mention the missions of these heroes:*
  - Emmet, “The Lego Movie” – to disarm the Kragle
  - Avengers, “Infinity War” – to defeat Thanos
  - The Incredibles – to defeat Syndrome
- **When you think of a superhero, what is their main mission?**
- **What do superheroes care about most? Why do you think that is?**
- Those are all great missions you mentioned! The main mission superheroes carry out is doing good and defeating evil!

**SO WHAT?** *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

### SCRIPTURE | John 14:15–21 (Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read John 14:15–21. Then, retell the Bible story with a modern superhero twist! Have another leader or volunteer read for Jesus, while wearing a cape! Divide the kids into three groups. Project or print the image containing the dialogue that the kids will say out loud. Point to the group when it’s their turn to speak. Encourage the kids to put a lot of emotion into their lines – the more dramatic, the more fun!*
- Before Jesus died on the cross, he was having one last meal with his disciples. They were sad because he said he was leaving them. But he wasn’t about to leave them by themselves!
- Let’s pretend you all are the disciples (world changers) and see what Jesus said to them.
  - **Jesus:** Huddle up, disciples. I wanted to let you know that I’m not going to be with you the same way I’m with you right now. So, there are a couple of things I want you to remember when I’m gone. To show the world you love me, you must . . .
  - **Group 1:** Crush our enemies!
  - **Group 2:** Unmask evil villains!

- **Group 3:** End pollution!
- **Jesus:** Uh, no . . . that’s not exactly what I was going to say. Listen very carefully. What I really want is for you to obey my commandments.
- **Group 1:** Oh, like following orders?
- **Group 2:** And carrying out our mission?
- **Group 3:** No matter what it takes?
- **Jesus:** Yes, that’s right! But don’t worry. You won’t have to do this on your own. Someone is coming who will help you, who will make sure you know what is right and true.
- **Group 1:** Wonder Woman?
- **Jesus:** Not quite.
- **Group 2:** Batman?
- **Jesus:** Someone even more marvelous.
- **Group 3:** Captain Marvel?
- **Jesus:** She’s cool, too. But I’m sending the Holy Spirit, who is more amazing, more powerful, more wonderful, more awesome than all the superheroes combined. The Holy Spirit is working even now! But soon, the Holy Spirit will actually be with you to give you guidance. And as the Holy Spirit does this, you’ll be reminded of my mission and will receive help to do the things I want you to do!
- **Group 1:** We’re sad you have to go, but we trust you!
- **Group 2:** We’re a little confused, but we know you’ll show us the way!
- **Group 3:** We’re afraid, but we know the Holy Spirit will be with us!
- **All Groups:** Just say when, Jesus!
- **Who is always with us, filling us, reminding us of Jesus’ mission, and helping us to be like him?** Yes – it’s the Holy Spirit!
- Sometimes it can be hard to obey Jesus, right? There are so many times when we want to do our own thing. But as the Holy Spirit reminds us of Jesus’ great love for us, this helps us want to love Jesus back.
- **How lucky are we that we have a super heroic helper like the Holy Spirit?**

### BIG IDEA | God gives everyone a mission.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up your phone on a table. Have an “incoming message” sound effect play. (Choose a notification tone from your phone setting or find an audio clip online.) Have another volunteer phone you. Put them on speaker as they say the Big Idea aloud.
- Oh! It sounds like we have a message from headquarters. Let’s see what we got.
- **Did you hear that? God gives everyone a mission.**

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### VIDEO | Heroic, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week’s episode of Grow TV.

## VIDEO | Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, Nobody

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show this [video](#) (stop at 0:46), and have kids answer the questions below. Consider reading along out loud as the video plays. For more information on how to legally use copyrighted material for educational purposes, [read this!](#)
- **Who was given a job to do?** (Everyone!)
- **But who actually did it?** (Nobody!)
- Oh no! **What about you?**
- **Who here has been given a mission by God?**
- You're right — you *all* have! **Are you guys ready to not just hear God's mission and hope someone else will do it, but actually do it? Who's with me?!**
- **God gives everyone a mission.** And it's everybody's job to do it!

## ACTIVITY | Super Orders

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play a quick game of Captain's Orders, calling it "Super Orders." Teach kids these poses and start by slowly calling out the orders. Whoever does the wrong movement is out. For fun, call out the orders faster and faster until there's one victor standing who correctly followed the super orders.
  - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Play this is an action relay game where kids have to line up facing the same direction. Tap the first kid on the shoulder and have them turn around to learn one of the "super orders" from a leader. They tap the next kid in line and pass the same action down as accurately as they can. When it gets to the last person, have everyone turn around to see if they got it right. You can talk to them afterward about how important it is for us to go to the source when it comes to carrying out the missions God gives us.
  - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Consider selecting only a few of the superhero motions to do (preferably the ones with the simplest movements) and if possible, also provide images of the superhero that action pertains to. Practice a few times with the kids so that they know that when they hear a superhero's name and see their picture, they should follow you to do the corresponding pose.
- I will call out a superhero's name and show you an action that goes with it. Your mission — should you choose to accept it — is to follow these super orders whenever I call them out. Let's see how quickly and accurately you can remember them!
  - **Superman:** Place hands in fists on hips with feet apart.
  - **Black Widow:** Crouch down on one knee with other leg sticking out to the side, one hand touching the ground and other arm held out behind you ([like this](#)).
  - **Ironman:** Arms out to the side with palms facing down and tiptoe.
  - **Spider-Man:** Flick your wrist forward while folding in your middle and ring fingers, like you're slinging a web.
  - **Wonder-Woman:** Cross arms out in front of you to form an "X."
  - **Black Panther:** Cross arms at wrists and bring to chest.
  - **The Flash:** Run in place until the next order is called.
  - **Doctor Strange:** Sit down criss-cross applesauce and hold hands out in a meditating pose.
  - **Hulk:** Jump up and down and slam your fists on the ground like you're smashing something.
- It wasn't always easy to follow the super orders, but if you paid careful attention, you were able to follow them.
- Remember that **God gives everyone a mission.** The most important, most heroic part of the mission in real life is following Jesus' commands! That means we have to stay close to him so we recognize his voice by praying, reading the Bible, and worshiping God!

## SCRIPTURE | Matthew 28:18–20

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Matthew 28:18–20 out loud together. After you share the talking points scripted below, read the Bible verses together again. This time, instruct the kids to yell out “therefore!” in unison when they get to that word. “Jesus has authority and he’s with us. THEREFORE, we can be sent to do the mission he’s called us to do!”
- **What does Jesus have in heaven and on earth?** That’s right. God gave Jesus authority.
- **What does authority mean?** In any superhero operation, there usually needs to be someone in charge to authorize missions. If heroes did whatever they wanted, it would be chaos. For us, Jesus is the one with the authority who can tell us what we need to do. And that’s exactly what Jesus did — he gave his followers and all of us a mission.
- **So according to these verses, what are the different parts of Jesus’ mission for his followers?**
  - Go!
    - We can do this by going beyond the friends and family we normally spend time with.
  - Make disciples of all nations and baptize them.
    - We can do this by living as Jesus followers so that people around us are curious about who he is!
  - Teach people about the ways of Jesus.
    - We can do this by helping others discover God’s words in the Bible.
- And not only did Jesus give his followers authority, but he also promised to be with us always!

## NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

## REFLECTION | Great Responsibility

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show [this poster](#) of Spider-Man.
- Spider-Man as Peter Parker was once told by his Uncle Ben: “With great power comes great responsibility.”
- **Has Jesus given us power?** Yes, he has! **But power to do what?** We have been given great power to be like Jesus and to do the things he did while he was on the earth. Part of the great things Jesus always did wherever he went was to love others and to show God’s goodness to everyone he met.
- **So what do you think our responsibility is because we’ve been given power from Jesus? Do you remember our Big Idea?** That’s right: **God gives everyone a mission.** Our responsibility is to carry out God’s mission, to try to love others with Jesus’ love, to speak and act as he did.
- We can’t do this on our own strength and by our own power. He will help us every time we ask him!

## ACTIVITY | What is My Mission?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play [this clip](#) from “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier, Episode 5.” After the discussion, hand each kid a [paper plate](#) and have them turn it upside down. Have them color, cut, and paste the shield design from the printable to the center of the plate. Then, around it, they can write down names of people they can show God’s love to. If you have time, encourage them to toss their “shields” around to each other!
  - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** With this activity and any others that require writing, remember to give the option to draw pictures or provide images they can attach. You can always provide a leader or peer to buddy up and transcribe for them as well.
- Captain America had passed on his shield to Sam — who’s also his own superhero called Falcon — because he had the character to take on this new role. He had to focus and train so he could carry on Cap’s mission and continue fighting evil and protecting people.

- In the same way, Jesus wants us to continue the mission he started.
  - **Who do you think are the people Jesus wants you to show his love to with your words or actions?**
  - **How can you show Jesus' love to those people?**
- Sometimes, loving people and showing them God's love can be hard. But as we practice becoming more like Jesus and asking him for strength, we'll get better and better — just like Sam got better at throwing around Cap's shield.

### MEMORY VERSE | 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

- **"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split up kids into smaller groups. Have each group make up motions together that will help them remember the memory verse. Encourage the kids to use as many superhero movements as they can think of. Have each group show the larger group how great their muscle memory is!
- **(Don't forget to also check out the memory verse signs — a combination of SEE and ASL — available in your Programming folder or at [growcurriculum.org/2Timothy1-7](http://growcurriculum.org/2Timothy1-7).)**

### PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Display the prayer poster of the week and have kids pray in unison with a Black Panther pose (arms cross to chest)!
- Help me, God, to show my love for you when I obey.
- With the Holy Spirit's help, I'll follow all your ways.
- There will be many challenges and even opposition,
- But you give me strength to face them all and carry out my mission!
- Amen.

## SMALL GROUP TIME

### DISCUSSION

- **What did Jesus say his followers should do if they love him?**
- **Who was Jesus going to send to his followers once he left?**
- **How does Jesus describe what the Holy Spirit would do?**
- **Read Matthew 28:19–20. These verses are known as the Great Commission, which contains the final instructions Jesus gave his friends. What were they?**
- **How would you explain to someone the mission Jesus has given you?**
- **What is one thing you can do this week that will help you carry out your mission?**
- **Is your mission the same as your neighbor's? In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?**

### ACTIVITY | Team Jesus!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids make a superhero emblem. Give them each a sheet of adhesive paper to color, cut, peel, and wear! You could show them some [images](#) or [a tutorial video](#) of how to draw famous superhero emblems to inspire their creativity.
- **God gives everyone a mission**, and that is to continue what Jesus started while he was on earth.
- So to remind ourselves that we're part of Team Jesus and that we're supposed to carry out his mission, let's make a superhero emblem we can proudly wear.