

Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 4

MEMORIZE

Matthew 28:18-20 – And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

READ

Read Matthew 28:16-20.

In this passage Jesus commissioned His disciples with a specific task they were to perform before He returned to earth. Any of us who are His disciples, any of us who are Christ-followers, have also received this commissioning, and, as a result, this task becomes the focus of our lives. That task is to make disciples. The other three verb forms in these verses “go,” “baptizing,” and “teaching” (which are actually participles), describe aspects of the process of making disciples. Whoever we are, no matter how old or how young, how knowledgeable or how experienced, we are to make disciples of both those around us where we live and among the nations of the world. Of course, we are not alone in taking on this task. Not only do we have all other disciples of Jesus joining us in the work, but we have Christ Himself, who has promised to be with us “always, to the end of the age.”

Questions:

- What does it mean to make disciples?
- How can you specifically be involved in making disciples?
- How does Jesus help us to fulfill our task of making disciples?

Bottom Line: All disciples of Jesus are to make other disciples.

SING

What a glorious honor it is to be welcomed by the King to join him in advancing his kingdom! May God pour out his grace and his power on us that we might relentlessly obey his great commission to go and make disciples of all nations. Let's continue in musical worship as we sing “Reign In Us”. Oh that God would *reign in us* as we joyfully submit to his call to make disciples here in Birmingham and among all peoples!

Visit our website for a link to this song: www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship Him together.

Preschool

- Before you begin open your Bible to Matthew 28:18-20 and read the verses to your preschooler.
- Talk about the different ways you communicate with friends and family. (Ex.: phone, e-mail, text message, mail, etc.)
- What would be a good way to get the good news of God's love to friends, family and people all around the world? Jesus told His disciples how He wanted it done.
- Jesus said, "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." Jesus wants us to tell everyone we meet about His love for us and share what He has taught us in the Bible. God sent Jesus from Heaven to Earth to save us from our sins/bad choices. He sent the Savior, Jesus, for everyone! Because God loves us, His children, He sent His only Son to save us and now we need to share this good news with other people.
- He said, "Go and make disciples."
- Whoever we are, no matter how old or how young, we are to make disciples of both those around us where we live and among the nations of the world.

- Conclude your family time with prayer. Pray that God will help you to obey the command that He gave us to go and make disciples and share the good news with everyone.

Children

- Read Matthew 28:16-20 with your child. Ask if they know what special name we have for this passage (The Great Commission).
- Ask your child if they understand what it means to commission someone. Discuss with them that when you commission someone you send them out to accomplish an important, specific task. In this passage Jesus is about to return to heaven, and He is commissioning His followers to go out and share the gospel and make disciples of Christ.
- Explain that the first part of the commission is that we “go.” First, we have to go and tell people about Jesus.
- Ask if they can point out the next part of making disciples (baptize them). Make sure your child understands that after someone puts their faith in Christ, they are to be baptized to show that they are a follower of Christ.
- Ask if your child can point out the third thing we are to do (teach them). Emphasize that we teach them about the commands in the Bible and how we are to live as followers of Christ.
- Ask your child if they think Jesus was only talking to that specific group of disciples. Point out that Jesus doesn’t just say that some of His followers should go. This command is for every follower. Emphasize that every follower of Christ is called to make disciples—children and adults alike.
- On a piece of paper or poster board, have your child write “Jesus commissions me to make disciples” or “Jesus commissions His followers to make disciples.” Have them write out the three aspects of this mission below (go, baptize and teach).
- Tell your child that this passage makes a great promise to us that when we go out to make disciples, we are not alone! Point out that at the end of the passage Jesus says He will go with us—we can go with boldness because He will never leave us, He will always be with us, helping us as we share the gospel and make disciples.
- Ask your child where we are supposed to go to share the gospel (to all nations). Emphasize that all nations includes the United States and every other country on the planet—this means we are to share the gospel in our neighborhoods, at school, at church, on mission trips—wherever God sends us, we share the gospel.
- Spend some time talking to your child about how they can go and share the gospel with friends at school or in your neighborhood. Encourage them to hang the “Great Commission” poster in their room as a reminder of what God has called them to. You may also encourage them to memorize Matthew 28:18-20 if they haven’t done so already.

Students

- **Activity**
 - Give each family member a specific task to complete (something they have not done before).
 - Example: Sally is to wash one load of laundry.
 - Help her sort clothes.
 - Show her how to add detergent.
 - Show her how to use the settings.
 - Complete the task with them.
- **Discussion**
 - Read Matthew 28:16-20.
 - Walk through the “Read” section above.
 - As believers, God has given us a mission. How does the task you completed earlier illustrate God’s mission for us?
 - We each had a task to complete this week that was new for us.
 - We had to learn what to do, i.e. someone had to teach us the correct way to accomplish the task, and make an effort to complete it.
 - We also had to have help to complete our tasks.
 - How do these statements relate to our mission as Christ-followers?
 - This is a big task, but Jesus himself is with us to accomplish it.
 - As a family, how are you making disciples?
 - Do you have a plan?
 - How are you encouraging one another?