

APRIL THEME

GOOOOOAL!

BIBLE STORY

Matthew 28:16-20 (Acts 1:6-11)
The Great Commission | Ascension
Spark Story Bible |
The Great Commission pg. 496-497
The Ascension pg. 498-499

BOTTOM LINE

I can put others first by doing what
Jesus said

MEMORY VERSE

“Don’t do anything only to get ahead.
Don’t do it because you are proud.
Instead, be humble. Value others
more than yourselves.”
Philippians 2:3, NIV

LIFE APP

Humility | Putting others first by
giving up what you think you deserve

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to
be treated, and with God’s help...
I can!

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **HUMILITY** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story

This WEEK: Next, we head to **Matthew 28:16-20**. Now that Jesus was alive, the disciples would have thought that now it was time for Jesus to become king, but that wasn’t God’s plan. Jesus gave them a new job: go and tell everyone about Jesus and be like Jesus was to the rest of the world.

Bottom Line: I can put others first by doing what Jesus said. We get to continue the mission that Jesus gave his disciples all those years ago. When we choose to share Jesus’ love with others, we’re putting them first. We pray that kids will realize that they have an important role in God’s One Big Story.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray that kids would be inspired by today’s message to take on the challenge of telling others about Jesus. Ask God to put friends in their path who need to hear God’s story, and that God would give your few the courage and humility to tell it!

•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask
 - What do your parents tell you to do?
 - What do your teachers tell you to do?
 - What do your coaches tell you to do?
 - When is it easy to do what your parents/teachers/coaches tell you to do?
 - When is it hard to do what your parents/teachers/coaches tell you to do?

•• I’M THE RULER!

What You Need: Copy paper, markers

What You Do:

- Tell kids that, like the parents, teachers, and coaches they talked about earlier, they are going to have the chance to rule their own household, classroom, or team – like a king would rule a kingdom.

- Hand out copy paper and markers and explain that they will be making a map of their own household/classroom/team playing space. Take a couple minutes to brainstorm what kids would want in a “kingdom” of their own. Point out that because they’re just imagining it, they can have anything they want.
- Let them come up with rules (or laws) for their “kingdom”. Write some of these on the back of the kids’ maps.
- If time allows, give each kid a chance to stand up and share his map. Encourage him to tell the rest of the kids about his “kingdom” and its laws.

What You Say: “Those “kingdoms” look really nice and I think I could handle living under those laws! It would be pretty fun to be the ruler of your own household/classroom/team, huh? **[Transition] Today in Large Group Worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about the greatest ruler who ever lived.**”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Large Group Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

•• A WORLD OF HUMILITY *(application activity/review the Bible story)*

What You Need: “A World of Humility” activity pages, markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a copy of the “A World of Humility” activity page.
- Tell kids that in some other countries, people speak in different languages than we do.
- Show them the words on the Activity Page and tell them that this is how you say “humble” in those countries.
- If you have a smart phone, type in the foreign words on <https://translate.google.com/> and listen to how they are pronounced.
- Try to say the words together.
- Let kids color the map with a different color for each country.

What You Say: “The world is filled with all kinds of people that are different from us. People in other parts of the world look different, act different, and speak differently than we do. But Jesus didn’t just die for some people or for the people who look and act like we do. Jesus died for everyone and he told us to share his story with the WHOLE world. We can share about Jesus through our actions when we remember that **[Bottom Line] I can put others first by doing what Jesus said.** God told us to love others and put them first, and God meant everyone in the world. A great way to love others and put them first is by telling them about God’s great love for them.” **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you shared about God’s love and Jesus with someone or someone shared about Jesus with you.)**

•• TELEGRAPH *(application activity)*

What You Need: Copy paper, pen

What You Do:

- Guide your group to sit around your small group table.
- Have everyone turn their chairs 90 degrees to the right, so that they are facing the back of the person in front of them.
- Give the person behind you a piece of paper and a pen, and turn toward the kid in front of you.
- Begin “Telegraphing” “JESUS.LOVES.YOU” around the circle:
—Finger-write a capital “J” on the back of the kid in front of you.



- That child will, in turn, write “J” on the back of the child in front of her, and so on.
- When the letter reaches the kid with the paper, he writes it on the paper.
- As soon as the child in front of you passes the “J” up the line, write a capital “E.” (*Be sure to wait until the child in front of you passes the letter or symbol up the line before you “write” the next character. This will help avoid confusion!*)
- After the “human telegraph” “transmits” the message, check to make sure that it’s accurately received.
- Guide the “receiver” to read the “telegraph” to the group.
- HINT: You might want to do one or two “practice runs” with simple words like “CAT” or “DOG” before you transmit the main message.

What You Say: “Jesus told his friends to spend the rest of their lives telling others about him. He told them to tell their neighbors, people in their hometowns, people in other cities, and even people in other countries!”

“Believe it or not, you just did what Jesus said and told others about him! What are some other ways you can tell others about Jesus? (*Pause to let kids respond.*) **[Make It Personal]** (*Tell kids a way you share about Jesus with others.*) Telling people about God and showing them how Jesus lived is an incredible way you can put others first. So remember: **[Bottom Line]** I can put others first by doing what Jesus said.”

•• **FROM A WHISPER TO A SHOUT** (*memory verse activity*)

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Review the memory verse (*found on the front page of this leader guide*) with the group.
- Once everybody has memorized the verse, say it all together.
- Then, repeat the verse as a group, but this time, instruct kids to shout the words “don’t,” “proud,” “humble,” and “others.”
- The third time you say it together, ask kids to whisper the words “don’t,” “proud,” “humble,” and “others.”
- The fourth time, instruct kids to clap instead of saying “don’t,” “proud,” “humble,” and “others.”
- The fifth time, lead them in stomping their feet instead of saying “don’t,” “proud,” “humble,” and “others.”
- If time and interest allow, let kids think up their own actions to do in place of the key words.

What You Say: “You guys have done a great job learning the memory verse this month! When we think about this verse, we should think about these important ideas—don’t be proud; be humble. Being humble means we **[Bottom Line]** put others first by doing what Jesus said. What are some ways you have put others first this month? (*Pause for answers*) Those are some really great examples of putting others first. Let’s remember to keep up the good work and keep putting others first like Jesus said and did!”

PRAY AND SEND

What You Need: Bag of M&Ms, paper towels

What You Do:

- Let kids choose an M&M from the bag. You may let them choose more than one if you’d like, but don’t let them take a huge handful!
- Tell kids not to eat their M&Ms and to place them on a paper towel so they don’t melt.
- Instruct kids to pray for someone based on which color M&M they have:
 - Red: People who live in other countries
 - Orange: People who are sick
 - Yellow: Friends who don’t know Jesus
 - Green: People in our country who don’t know Jesus yet



GRADE 2-3

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

- [Apply] Give each parent a Faith Five Family Tools as they come to pick up their child and remind them to use it as a family devotional tool this week.**

This image shows a full page of handwriting practice paper. It features multiple sets of horizontal blue lines spaced evenly down the page. Each set consists of three lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The paper is otherwise blank, with no text or other markings.