



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, NirV

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 kids what they know about kings, queens, princes, and princesses. What pretend princes or princesses do they know? What real princes or princesses can they name?

•• **KING ME**

What You Need: “Map” activity page, copy paper, crayons

What You Do:

- Tell kids they are going to have the chance to rule their own kingdom.
- Show kids the sample map and explain to them that they will be making maps of their own. 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; it doesn’t have to be something that’s on the example map.
- Give each kid a piece of paper and crayons and let them draw a map of their pretend kingdom.



- 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 king or queen of your own kingdom, huh? **[Transition] Today in Large Group Worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about the greatest king 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, crayons

What You Do:

- Give each kid a copy of the "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 with someone or someone shared about God with you.)**

•• **WHEELBARROW** (*application activity*)

What You Need: Masking tape

What You Do:

- Group kids into pairs.
- Using the masking tape, make a line on the floor at one end of the room and another one about 15-20 feet away.
- Have pairs line up together behind the starting line.
- As it is each pair's turn, have them choose one kid to lay down in a "push up" position and one kid to hold his feet as the first kid "walks" to the finish line on his hands.
- On the way back to the start, partners must switch roles.
- Then let the next pair have a turn until all groups have "wheelbarrowed" back and forth.



What You Say: “That looked like it was pretty fun “wheelbarrowing” around our small group space! Was it more fun to be the one walking on their hands or the one holding the feet? (*Pause.*) I think it would be more fun (*list which would be your favorite and why*), but Jesus tells us that we need to be humble sometimes and let others have a chance to go first. When we act in a way that honors God, we will remember that **[Bottom Line] I can put others first by doing what Jesus said.** As you go through your week, remember that sometimes we need to let others be the ones to go first even if that means we don’t get what we want.”

●● **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 that you’re going 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
 - Blue: People who are homeless
 - Brown: People who are lonely
- Instruct kids to stand when you mention their M&M color.
- After the prayer, you may let kids eat the M&Ms.

What You Say: “When Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, he told them to go out and tell everyone about him throughout the whole world. By following his instructions, **[Bottom Line] I can put others first by doing what Jesus said.** Now let’s take a moment to pray for all the people these M&Ms represent. When I say the color of the M&M you have in your hand, stand with me to pray for those people...”

