***Sunday School materials 17/05/2020***

***JESUS GOES HOME!***

***Paw prints.***

The aim of this session is to explore Jesus' plan for the whole world.

The Great Commission is a job that Jesus gave to you and me, not just the first disciples.

This week we are exploring Jesus' going home, up into heaven and the job he left for us to do. Last words are really important and Jesus could have said anything at that point. He chose a simple instruction. “Go into all the world and tell people about me”. This is something followers of Jesus have been doing ever since.

The fact is the Great Commission has not yet been fulfilled, so it passes on to us. It is to us, today, that Jesus says “preach the Gospel to the whole world…” We are all in contact with people who have never heard about Jesus. So, in this session the real job is to help them to think about how they can be involved in fulfilling the Great Commission today!

***BIBLE VERSE: Matthew 28:16-20***

***AROUND THE WORLD***

Feel free to leave out activities that might not work for your family.

1. Set up a computer with the following quiz on it [www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/worldquiz.html](http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/worldquiz.html)

2. Different breads from around the world picture quiz.

3. PowerPoint quiz on famous world landmarks.

4. Jigsaw puzzle of the world if you have one..

Explain that Jesus told His disciples to go to all peoples throughout the world and help them to become His followers and disciples as well.

***DANCING AROUND THE WORLD.***

Matt is an American who has become famous on the internet for doing his ‘dance' all over the world. He has made 3 videos and in the 2008 video lots of people worldwide got involved in dancing with him.

The video can be downloaded and other information found out from <http://www.wheretheheckismatt.com/>. The videos are from different years. I like the 2012 one best!!

When you've watched it say that for Matt, the idea of making a video of himself, - doing a dance all over the world, was rather a good one. He has been able to give up his job designing video games and has been sponsored by a company to make two more videos of him dancing all around the world.

During His last few moments on earth, Jesus challenged His disciples to travel the world too, not to dance, but to let everyone know about Him and how His love and forgiveness can change their lives. He promises not to leave them, and tells them that He will always be with them – not in a physical presence but in a spiritual sense.

***THE WORLD!***

Draw a simple outline of the world. Use the PDF download.

Encourage children to collage or colour in some of the world using simple colours to differentiate the land from the sea.

As they work on the map talk to them about the different places they have visited and different countries where friends and family live.

The Point: To encourage the children to start to think about the world.

***THE BIG STORY***

Begin by telling the story of Jesus’ ascension. You can read it from a children’s Bible, showing the pictures: but to add an extra dimension, which you get to the bit where Jesus goes up to Heaven, show this by hoisting a doll into the air.

(You can do this simply by tying the doll to a piece of string which is laid over the top of a table or chair, or a door. When you pull the string, the doll will rise. If you have the facilities you may be able to put the string over something attached to the ceiling – a rafter or similar.)

After you have read the story, the children may like to help Jesus to ascend by themselves.

Now reinforce the teaching with a game:

Jesus gave 3 instructions to his followers. He told them to go into the world, to tell people about Jesus and to make disciples.

Have the children stand in a space. When you call, “Go,” they should run around the room. When you call, “Tell,” they should stand still and move a finger as if explaining something. When you call, “Make disciples,” they should wrap arms around themselves. Go faster and faster!

Say that members of God’s kingdom are expected to be active – God wants us to make a difference to the people that we come in contact with.

The Point: To tell the children what happened when Jesus ascended, and to learn his last instructions.

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#### ***PLAYING OUR PART***

#### ***Equipment***

Map of the world, map of the UK, street map of your village.

Remind the children that Jesus said, ‘Go to all the world and make people my disciples’ ([Matthew 28: 19](https://biblehub.com/matthew/28-19.htm)). Show them a map of the world. Do they think that they can go out and tell everyone in it about Jesus? Show them a UK map – can they tell everyone there?

Say that if all the Christians in the world told the people round about them, that would be a really good start – we don’t all have to go all over the world – although some people do. Do they know any missionaries?

Show a map of the local area and ask the children who they would like to tell about Jesus. Do they know where they live on the map?

Ask them to imagine that those people believed in Jesus and then started to tell other people. If you put a pin in the map every time that happened, there would soon be lots and lots of pins – maybe there would be pins all over the world map too.

Finish by praying that the children would be able to talk to other people about Jesus.

The Point: To show how we can play our part in the Great Commission.

#### ***CRAFT: CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSION.***

#### ***Equipment***

Attached sheet printed on nice card for each child, pens, felt tips/colouring pencils, glitter pens, stickers, wax seal (coloured candle or crayon without paper and stamp), glue & ribbon.

Ask the children to remind you what it what that Jesus asked His disciples to do. Say that we call this special job ‘The Great Commission’. Commission just means being asked to go and do a particular thing.

Print the attached certificate. Help them to write their name in the gap under ‘Jesus Commissions’. Let them decorate the certificate with pictures, glitter and stickers.

If you like, cut a small piece of ribbon (5cmx2cm) and glue one end onto the bottom of the certificate. Melt wax (being aware of safety) over the glued-on part and, when it has cooled slightly, press in an appropriate seal (e.g. metal stamps with letters on; a button with a good design, stuck to a cork as a handle).

The Point: To remind the children that they are part of this story.

***WORSHIP:*** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aADUKP0s0xo>