

# The Greatest Commission

## Romans 2:1-4

**May Memory Verse:** Psalm 56:3 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in You."

NOTE: We hope your family is working together to commit this verse to memory! We took our kids to the dentist *and* to get their meningitis vaccinations this week... and we reminded them of this verse several times. What a comforting truth – when we are afraid, we can turn to God, who eases our fears and gives us His peace.

**Opening Activity:** Choose one or two that seem most appropriate for your children to start the lesson. Alternatively, feel free to work one or two into the lesson if your kids start getting antsy and losing focus (like ours do).

- Practice saying Psalm 56:3 together. Say it in funny voices, say it as loud or as quiet as you can. When kids express fear throughout the week, remind them of the verse and continue saying it together.
- Ask your children who or what they want to thank God for and pray for. Pray together as a family.
- On a map or globe, locate your home town or state. Explain that you live there. Ask your kids, "Where do other people live?" and have them point to different places on the map. *Jesus loves those people, too. Jesus loves everyone around the world and He wants us to tell other people about Him.*
- Show kids this video to introduce today's lesson:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFw8pLBSIo>

### Lesson:

- Provide a quick recap to your kids: "We have been studying from the book of Romans lately. Romans was written by a man named Paul who was a missionary. Today, we're going to talk about why Paul was a missionary. We're going to read about when Jesus told His followers to go tell others about Him!"
- Set the stage:
  - Jesus has been crucified and resurrected.
  - He has spent some time with His friends.
  - Jesus is about to go back to heaven to be with His father, God.
- Read Acts 1:3-11, then reiterate it in words for your kids to understand more easily, if necessary. For example: *Jesus was getting ready to return to heaven to be with God. Before He did, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for a little bit so that they could receive a special gift – the Holy Spirit! As they were talking about this with Jesus, He told them to go and tell people everywhere about Him. Jesus went to be with His father, but He is going to come back for the people who love and obey Him.*

- “Jesus told His followers to go all over the world and tell people about Jesus. This is called the Great Commission. Let’s practice being part of the Great Commission! We are going to walk all over our house and say really loudly, ‘Jesus loves you!’” If possible, set up some toys or stuffed animals beforehand so that kids can practice telling “someone” that Jesus loves them. Alternatively, have someone hide in the house; one child can go find that person and tell them “Jesus loves you!” before running back to the “home base.”
- “We practiced saying, ‘Jesus loves you!’ but what else should we tell people about Jesus?” Take a minute to explain the Gospel: God created everything, including people. But the first people – Adam and Eve – chose to do their own thing instead of obeying God. Now, everyone sins. Sin separates us from God forever. But God sent His son Jesus to earth. Jesus lived a sinless life. He was put to death on the cross, taking the punishment of our sin and guilt. He rose to life three days later, showing that He won over sin and death. If we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, He will. Then we can know Him, be part of His family, serve Him, and spend eternity with Him in heaven.
- “Why did Jesus want His followers to tell other people about Him? It says in Acts 1:11 that Jesus is going to come back to earth, and He wants everyone to know Him so that we can be with Him forever.”
- “There are missionaries all over the world who tell people about Jesus. But YOU can do that too. Who is someone you want to tell about Jesus?” Pray together for that person.

**Activity Ideas:** These are designed for use at the end of the lesson or throughout to break up the “sitting still” if needed.

- Before the lesson, pick a country that you already know some things about. If necessary, do some research about their population, food, religions, what kids do for fun, etc. Help your kids find the country on a map or globe (or use Google Earth to see it for yourself!). Tell them about the country. Talk about how Jesus loves all of the people who live there. Jesus wants them to know Him, too. Take a few minutes to pray for those people.  
SUPPLIES NEEDED: Globe/Map/Google Earth
- Call / FaceTime a friend or family member to tell them about learning to be a missionary.  
SUPPLIES NEEDED: Phone
- Print the coloring page on the following page (or make your own).  
SUPPLIES NEEDED: Coloring page/White paper, Crayons, Markers, etc.



Tell Others  
About Jesus!