



Church of God Sunday School

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:1-14

Before mankind was ever created, God had a plan for the salvation of men's souls. To fulfill this plan, God sent His Son Jesus to earth. Jesus lived on earth in a body just like ours to teach all men, women, and children how to live a holy (clean and pure) life.

It was also in God's plan for Jesus Christ to give His life for mankind. When Jesus went to the Cross, He died for the sins of the whole world. Three days later, God raised Him up. Men and women, boys and girls could then be free from sin if they asked Jesus to forgive them.

After Jesus was resurrected, He spent a short time (forty days) on earth before He ascended to Heaven to stay until His second coming. During that time, Jesus prepared His eleven disciples to carry on God's work after He was gone. He told His disciples to love one another. He told them the Holy Spirit would come to them after He had gone back to Heaven. The Holy Spirit would give them power to live holy lives and to teach others how to live holy.

Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment before He left. This was a great commandment. It was that the disciples were to go out and teach all nations. No longer were they just to teach in their own country, but they were to go to people of other nationalities and spread the Gospel (the good news of God's teachings) to all the world.

Jesus said that as they went out to do His will, He would be with them, helping them, through the Holy Spirit, to preach salvation. Signs would follow them to witness that Jesus was leading them. Some of the signs were that they could cast out devils, they would speak in languages that they had never learned, and they would lay hands on the sick and they would get well.

Everyone who believed the words of the disciples and was baptized would be saved from

the penalty of sin. All who did not believe the disciples' words would not be saved, unless they repented of, or turned from, their sins.



As Jesus was telling the disciples all these things, they listened very carefully. Then, after He was done speaking, while they were watching Him, Jesus began to ascend into the clouds. A cloud received Him, and He was taken up into Heaven, to sit on the right hand of God.

The disciples could not quit staring up into the sky where Jesus had disappeared. Suddenly, two men in white clothing (angels) stood by the disciples and said to them, ". . . why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus . . . shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

So the disciples went back to Jerusalem to preach and pray and do as Jesus had commanded them to, while they waited for the Holy Spirit. The signs confirmed their preaching was of the Lord. And, because of their obedience to Jesus, the message of salvation went around the world.

Today there are ones who have not heard the message, and it is now our job to tell them. We are to be ambassadors or missionaries. An ambassador is an appointed messenger or representative. Second Corinthians 5:20 says, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ . . . we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." A missionary is someone whose goal is to fulfill a distinct purpose. A Christian's mission is to take the Gospel to others who do not know it. All Christians are to be soul winners.

How can you be an ambassador or a missionary for Christ? First, you must become a Christian, by asking Jesus to forgive your sins and come into your heart to live and to guide you. Then, you can be a good Christian



example in your home, at your school, and in your neighborhood. Be obedient to your parents. Invite your friends to Sunday school and to church. You can also support those who go to other countries to be foreign missionaries by praying for them and saving your money and putting it in the mission offerings.

But it is most important to keep your own heart open to God. Then He can talk to *you* about becoming a foreign missionary. While you may never be called to

go to a foreign country, God should always be able to see that you would be willing to go if He should call you. That is what pleases God.

~~~~~  
**Memory Verse:** "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19).  
~~~~~



"Go Ye Into All the World"

1. Jesus gave His disciples a new _____.
2. Jesus told His disciples to spread the _____ to all the world.
3. Today, God wants us to be _____.
4. All Christians are to be _____ winners.

Use these words in the blanks above:

soul missionaries commandment Gospel

List several ways you can spread the message of salvation:

Be a _____.

Be _____ to your parents.

_____ your friends to Sunday school and church.

_____ for foreign missionaries.

Save your money for the mission _____.

Keep your _____ open to God.



CHILDREN'S BIBLE

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Fit the words into the crossword grid. Then use the words from the grid to complete the story below.

“ _____ 12A _____ 11 _____ 10 _____ 8
 _____ 5 _____ 15 _____ 7 _____ 6 _____ 1
 _____ 12D _____ 9 _____ 16A _____ 2 _____ 15

_____ 16A _____ 3 _____ 10 _____ 15 _____ 16A _____ 14 _____ 10
 _____ 15 _____ 16A _____ 19 _____ 18 _____ 10 _____ 20

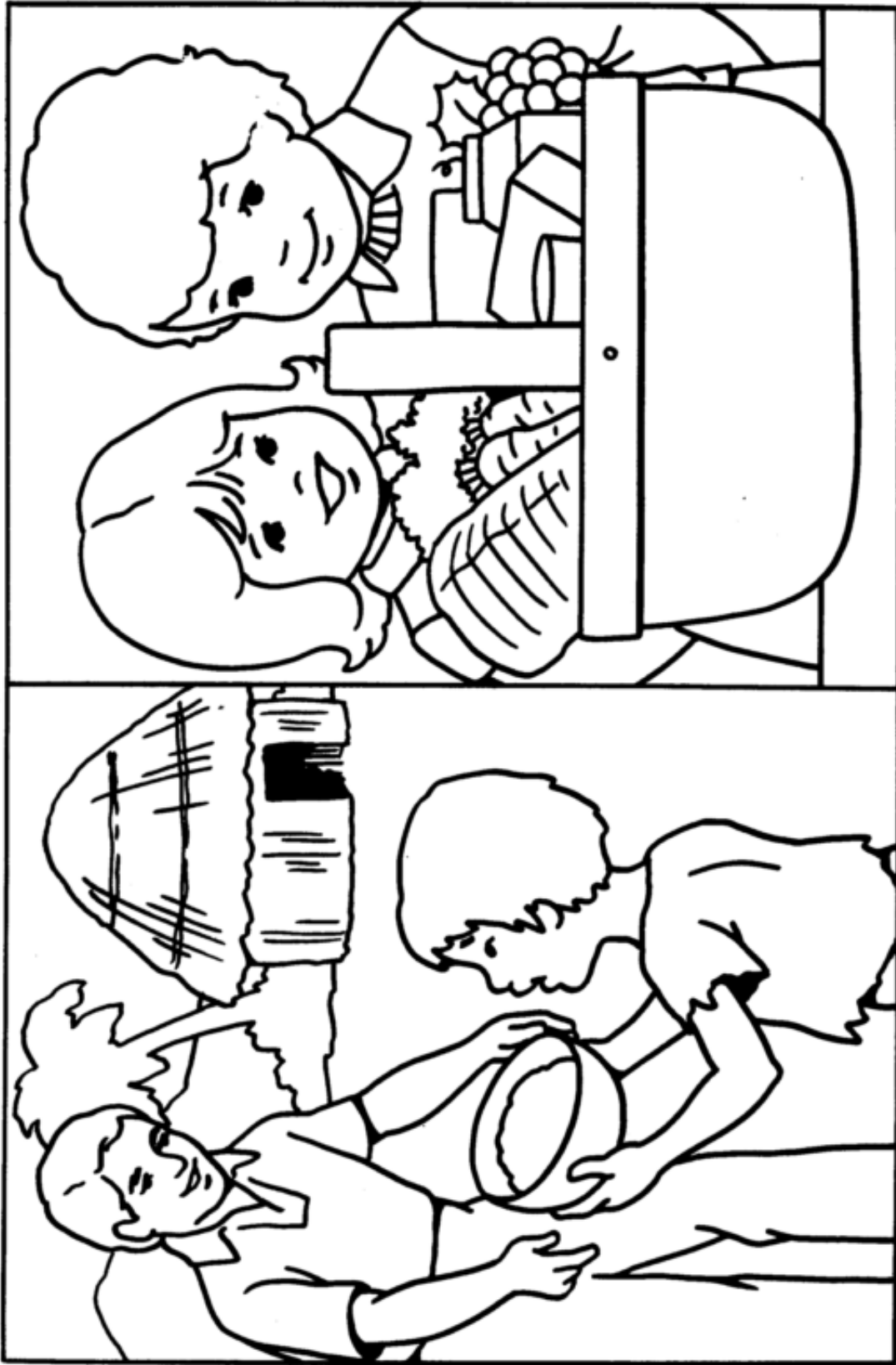
_____ 12D _____ 16D _____ 17
 _____ I _____
 _____ 13 _____ 4 _____ 21

_____ 23
 _____ ”
 _____ 22 _____

to go of in all the and you Son have Holy obey them
 make name Spirit Father nations teaching disciples Therefore baptizing commanded everything



*THE GREAT COMMISSION
"GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD."*



I can feed hungry people too. My family can give some of our food to a poor family.

I can help to feed hungry people. I can send my money to missionaries. They can use the money to buy food to give to hungry children.