

## Family Worship Guide – Week 26

### MEMORIZE

Matthew 28:18-20 – And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### READ

Read Matthew 28:16-20.

In this passage Jesus commissioned his disciples with a specific task they were to perform before he returned to earth. Any of us who are his disciples, any of us who are Christ-followers, have also received this commissioning, and, as a result, this task becomes the focus of our lives. That task is to “make disciples.” The other three verb forms in these verses “go,” “baptizing,” and “teaching” (which are actually participles), describe aspects of the process of making disciples. Whoever we are, no matter how old or how young, how knowledgeable or how experienced, we are to make disciples of both those around us where we live and among the nations of the world. Of course, we are not alone in taking on this task. Not only do we have all other disciples of Jesus joining us in the work, but we have Christ himself, who has promised to be with us “always, to the end of the age.”

#### Questions:

- What does it mean to “make disciples?”
- How can you specifically be involved in making disciples?
- How does Jesus help us to fulfill our task of making disciples?

**Bottom Line:** All disciples of Jesus are to make other disciples.

### SING

As we come to the end of Matthew, we hear Jesus’ call for his disciples to take the Gospel to the nations, with the secure hope that, not only will this great commission be accomplished, but that Christ will be with us through it all! This week our family worship song is “O Church Arise”. Let’s continue in worship as we sing the truth of who we are in Christ and rejoice in what he has called us to do as his church. Let’s declare together our confidence, “When faced with trials on every side, we know the outcome is secure. And Christ will have the prize for which he died, an inheritance of nations!”

Visit our website for a link to this song: [www.brookhills.org/gathering/this\\_week.html](http://www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html).

### SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship him together.

#### Preschool

- Before you begin gather some blue Play-Doh, toothpicks, and tape. Then print out a few small copies of flags of other nations from the Internet. Open your Bible to Matthew 28:18-20.
- Have your child roll the Play-Doh into a ball to represent the world. Show them how to tape the paper flags to the toothpicks and then stick them into the “world.”
- Read the verses to your preschooler. Explain to your preschooler that “to make disciples,” means that Jesus’ followers should go out into the world and tell everyone about Jesus. God wants all nations to hear about his love. When we tell others about Jesus we are doing what God wants us to do.
- Explain to your child that the Bible tells us about God’s love for his people. He loved us so much that he sent his only son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins. God wants everyone all over the world to know him because God loves us.
- The Bible tells us that everyone that loves Jesus must tell others about him and help people know how much God loves them. It doesn’t matter if you are a child or an adult; you, too, can tell others about Jesus.

- Conclude by praying with your child. Thank God for loving us and for Jesus. Ask God to help us tell others about Jesus.

### Children

- Ask your children if they can remember a time that a parent or teacher asked them to do something like clean their room or finish some homework and then left and said they would be back later?
- Discuss how differently people respond to this situation. Some of us get right on the job, but others put it off thinking we have plenty of time before our parent or teacher returns. Which one do you think will be embarrassed or ashamed?
- Read Matthew 28:18-20.
- Jesus gave his disciples clear instructions before he left them. Do you think they just lay around looking at the sky waiting for him to return? They had work to do and it was important they obeyed Jesus' instructions so when he came back they would not be embarrassed or ashamed that he found them not doing what he told them to do. Jesus' instructions were meant for us, too. Jesus knew we would have a hard time doing the job on our own. That is why in verse 20 he promised he would be with us. As Christians we have the Holy Spirit to help us as we work to make disciples.
- Talk about ways you can begin right now to make disciples. Make a list of friends, classmates, family members, etc. who need to know Jesus. Think of ways you can share the good news of Jesus with them. Invite them to play. Invite them to church. Ask them to a Backyard Bible Club. Share, show and teach and serve them with the Gospel.

### Students

- A great way to help your students learn the principle of making disciples, not merely knowing how to talk about making disciples, is to have them live out the "making" process. A few days prior to your discussion of Matthew 28:16-20 let your student(s) know that they will be making a meal for the family on a given day. Have them prepare a menu and then a shopping list for what they are going to make. Along the way take notice of anything that they may struggle with or even forget in the process, but also be a helpful asset when they ask for assistance.
- During the meal read Matthew 28:16-20 together. Ask them what the difference is between knowing how to make something, and actually making it. Let them provide answers, and then ask them how disciples are made. Draw their attention to the phrase "going, baptizing, and teaching" in the passage, and have them share if they struggle with any of those steps in the process. (With baptizing the focus is really on someone coming to a point of salvation, so do they challenge others and explain how someone can be "saved"?)
- The point is that God has called us to make disciples, not merely know how they are made. He also does not leave us alone to complete the task; just as you did not leave your student to make the meal completely on their own. That mission can seem daunting at times, but with Christ we are able. With time, effort, and repeated attempts, we see making disciples becomes easier, just as it would with preparing meals. The key is that we realize it has to move from something we know about to something we do.

