

Video:

<https://biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Jesus-Tells-His-Disciples-to-Wait-for-a-Present>
(4:34) by BibleStoriesOnline



Lesson #1: JESUS GOES BACK TO HEAVEN (Matt 28:16-20; Acts 1:8-11)

Memory Verse: “Therefore, go 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 obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19& 20)



The Bible says that Jesus died and was buried. After three days Jesus came alive again! After this Jesus spent 40 days visiting with people and telling them about His Kingdom.

Jesus and His apostles were near the city of Bethany. He told the apostles to return to Jerusalem and wait there - because some great things were going to happen. He told them that the Holy Spirit was going to come and give them special power.



When someone tells someone to do a job and then gives them instructions, that is called a “commission.” Jesus gave his apostles “The Great Commission” of teaching about Him. He said that He was leaving to go back to heaven, so this job was very important. He said, “Therefore, go and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; **and teaching them to obey** everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



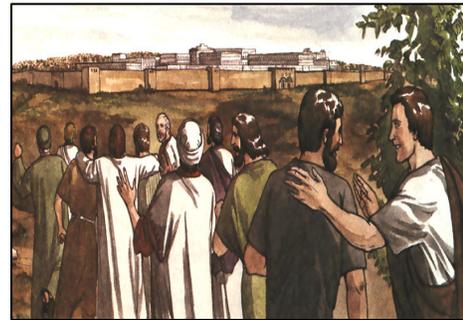
After Jesus told them these things, something amazing happened - Jesus began to float up into the clouds!

Soon the clouds hid Jesus. They couldn't see him anymore.



While they were all looking up into the sky, two men dressed in white stood beside them. They were angels. They told the apostles that just as Jesus went up into the clouds, someday He will come back to the earth on clouds again!

The apostles returned to Jerusalem, just as Jesus had told them to do. They knew that they would miss seeing Jesus, but they knew he was with them in Spirit. Jesus said he would send the Holy Spirit to help them. **They were excited to tell the good news.**



The good news about Jesus is called *the gospel*. We can be like the apostles and share the gospel: Jesus taught us how to live. He died to take our sins away. He was buried and then rose alive again! Now He is our King in heaven, but he will return some day to take us to heaven with Him.

The book of Acts is all about how the Holy Spirit helped the apostles to tell the good news. They made disciples, teaching people to trust and follow Jesus.

We can be disciples too! We can help others to trust and follow Jesus, just as Jesus' Great Commission says.



ALL GRADES ACTIVITY
Write the names of the 12 Apostles Below:



1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.

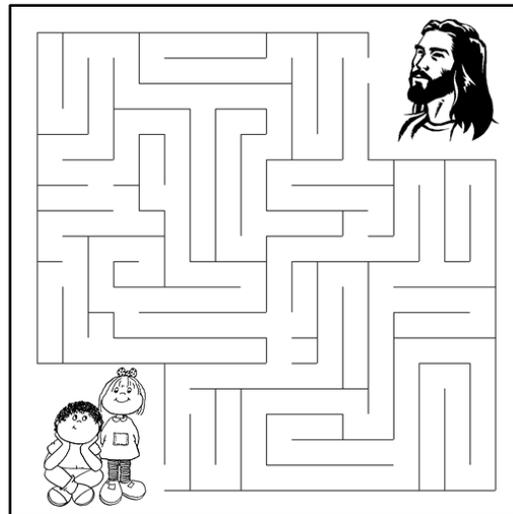
PETER	ANDREW	JAMES	JOHN
PHILIP	THOMAS	MATTHEW	SIMON
THADDEUS	BARTHOLOMEW		

JAMES ("The Less" – he was probably shorter or younger)
JUDAS (He was replaced by MATTHIAS after he died)

PRIMARY GRADE ACTIVITIES
Color the Picture and do the maze below:



The Great Commission Maze
I CAN LEAD MY FRIENDS TO JESUS!



www.BibleAppForKids.com

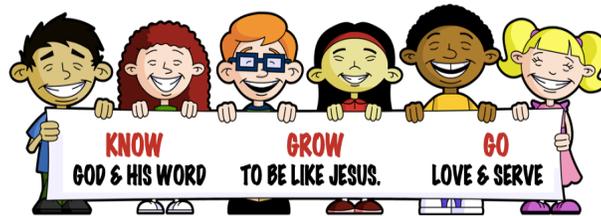
UPPER GRADE ACTIVITIES

Use your Bible to fill in the blanks. (**Matthew 28:17-20**)

¹⁷ When [the eleven disciples] saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were _____. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All _____ in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, _____ them in the _____ of the _____ and of the _____ and of the _____, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



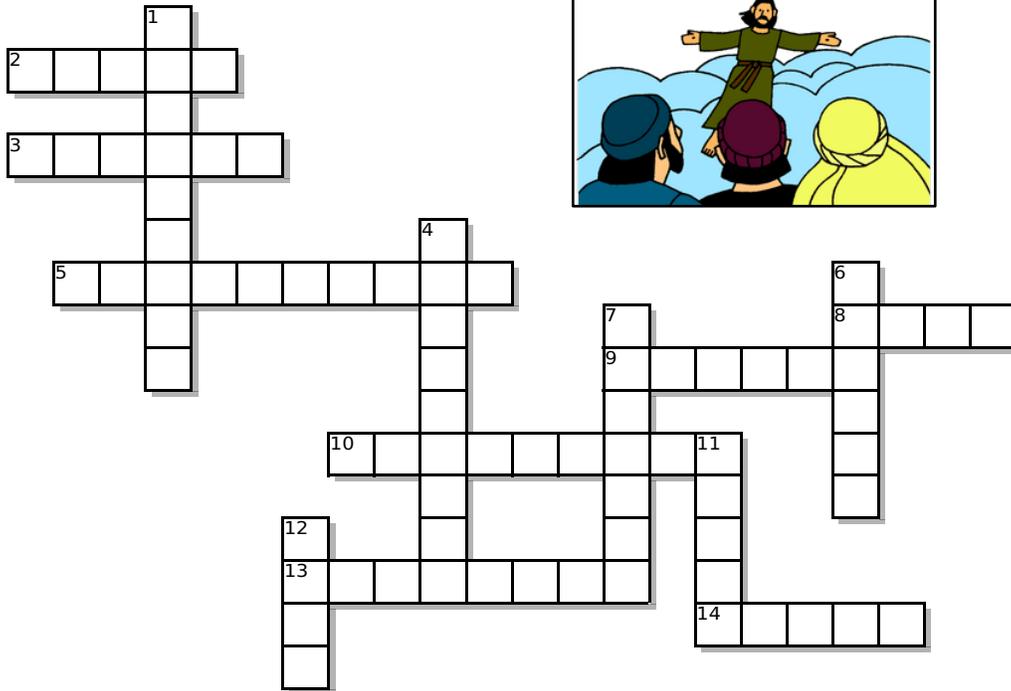
What do ***you*** think it means to be a **DISCIPLE of JESUS?**



UPPER GRADE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

GREAT COMMISSION AND ASCENSION

MATTHEW 28:19-20 AND ACTS 1



ACROSS

- 2 The Holy Spirit gave the apostles special _____.
- 3 Jesus went up into the _____.
- 5 Jesus promised to send the _____ to help the apostles.
- 8 Disciples should _____ everything that Jesus taught.
- 9 Two _____ appeared while the apostles were looking into the sky.
- 10 "_____ them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

- 13 12 special disciples that Jesus chose.
- 14 Jesus wants people to _____ and follow Him.

DOWN

- 1 Jesus told the apostles to return to _____.
- 4 Jesus said, "Go and make _____."
- 6 This means "good news" about Jesus.
- 7 Go and make disciples of all _____.
- 11 _____ Commission
- 12 Someday Jesus will come _____ in the clouds.

WORD BANK: ANGELS, APOSTLES, BACK, BAPTIZING, CLOUDS, DISCIPLES, GOSPEL, GREAT, HOLYSPIRIT, JERUSALEM, NATIONS, OBEY, POWER, TRUST