

# The Great Commission

**Bible verses:**

Matthew 28:16-20

**Aim:**

To think about the important task Jesus gave the disciples

**Today's fruit:**

Peace



## Memory verse

'But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses - in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.'

(Acts 1:8 ICB)



## Sing it

**Watch:**

'This little light of mine' (Kids Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:05)

'We are marching in the light of God' (Kid Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:24)



## Start it

Stop and Go game: Give an action such as clapping or marching on the spot. When the leader says 'Go!' everyone does the action, and when you say 'Stop!' everyone freezes. After a few rounds with different actions or leaders, say that we will be looking at a time when Jesus told people to 'Go!'.

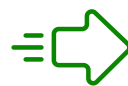


## Share it

Use the 'Week 1 Bible Action Script' handout to share the Bible passage together, and have a physical Bible on hand to find the passage together.

**Ask:**

Where did the disciples meet Jesus? What important thing did Jesus ask them to do? Does Jesus ask other people to tell people about him?



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Your own Stop and Go signs using paper and craft materials.
- **Play:** Use the game from 'Start it'. Ask if any of the children want to lead a round.
- **Pray:** Stop and Go prayers. Using the actions you used earlier, pray this prayer: Dear God, help us to **stop** and listen to you and know your voice. Help us to **go** and tell people about you when you ask. Amen.
- **Try:** Invite the children to respond to what they've explored. Explain that Jesus asked his followers - and still asks us - to go and share God's love. Share that saying yes to God can happen in our hearts and minds, but some people also like to show that choice through an action. Invite the

children to think about whether they'd like to do something to show they want to share God's love. Reassure them there's no pressure; it's OK to be unsure, and they can talk to a leader if they want.

You'll need to: Write 'Stop and listen' and 'Go and show' on slips of paper, enough for one for each child. Play some gentle music and let the children go and choose one or both prayers. Once they have chosen, everyone can stand up together and the leader can say this prayer:

**Dear God, for anyone who wants to stop and listen to you, I pray that they will know you and know what you want to say to them. For anyone who wants to go and show your love to others, I pray that you will be with them and fill them with courage. For all of us, I pray that you would fill us with your love and power. Amen.**

# Explore it **Light** **Week 1 Bible Action Script**

**Bible story action script inspired by Matthew 28:16-20 and adapted from the NIV and ICB translations.**

**As a group, think of two actions – one for ‘Stop’ and one for ‘Go’. Each time you say ‘Stop’ or ‘Go’, do the chosen action. Practise the actions, then read the script.**

The eleven disciples had to **GO** to Galilee.

They went to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they knew to **STOP** walking.

Some worshipped Jesus, but others were unsure if it was really him.

Then Jesus said, ‘All power in heaven and on earth is given to me. So **GO** to people in every country of the world. Don’t **STOP!**

‘**GO** out and teach them how to become my followers.

‘Help them to **STOP** and get to know me. Baptise them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have taught you.

‘You can be sure that I will be with you always. Wherever you **GO**, I will be with you until the end of the world.’

# Ascension



**Bible verses:**  
Luke 24:36-53



**Aim:**  
Jesus' return to Heaven did not mean he had left his followers. He promised help and gave them hope for what was to come.



**Today's fruit:**  
Patience



## Memory verse

'But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses - in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.'

(Acts 1:8 ICB)



## Start it

Play a game using short instructions and see if the children can keep up! Use following instructions (or make up your own); clap, high-five, jump, one leg, wave. Try giving one instruction at a time and then try giving more than one and see how they get on!



## Share it

Use 'Week 2 Bible Action Script' handout to share the Bible passage together and have ready a physical Bible to find the passage together.

### Ask:

Why do you think the disciples thought Jesus was a ghost? What would you have thought? How did Jesus help his friends?



## Sing it

### Watch:

'This little light of mine' (Kids Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:05)

'We are marching in the light of God' (Kid Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:24)



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** A beautiful sky collage together, using different art equipment. Include cotton wool balls to create clouds.
- **Play:** A game of 'Simon says'.
- **Pray:** Bubble prayers - (outside if possible). Blow bubbles and watch them disappear into the sky, representing Jesus ascending into the clouds. Thank Jesus that even though he went to be with God, we have Holy Spirit with us.

- **Try:** Giving the children some secret mini-missions. Once they finish, invite the group to guess what the mission was. Give the group clues if they are struggling to guess the mission. Here are some examples:
  - Find someone wearing the same colour as you and give them a thumbs up.
  - Smile at someone.
  - Tell someone one kind thing.
  - High-five three people.

# Explore it **Light** **Week 2 Bible Action Script**

Bible story action script inspired by Luke 24:33-53 and adapted from the NIV and ICB translations.

**As you read the script, you will hear lots of emotions or words that describe feelings. When the group hears a feeling word, they can try and show that emotion. Practise with the words 'happy' and 'angry' before reading the script.**

When the two disciples arrived back from the road to Emmaus, they spoke to the whole group. They explained what had happened to them on the road and how **excited** they were when they recognised Jesus.

While they were still speaking, Jesus himself appeared to the disciples and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you.' the group was very surprised and **afraid**.

They thought that they were seeing a ghost. Jesus said to them, 'You don't need to be so **afraid**. Now look at my hands and my feet. It is really me! Touch me. Then you will know that I am not a ghost. You can see that I have a real body.'

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. This was such good news, they were very **happy**. But they still could not really believe it.

So he asked them, 'Do you have anything that I could eat?' They gave him a piece of fish that they had cooked. While they were watching, he took it and ate it.

Then he said to them, 'I told you when I was still with you that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.'

They were still **confused**, and so he told them, 'This is what is written: The Messiah would be killed and rise from death on the third day. You saw these things happen - you are witnesses. You must tell people to change their hearts and lives. If they do this, their sins will be forgiven. You must start at Jerusalem and preach these things in my name to all nations. Listen! My Father has promised you something; I will send this promise to you. But you must stay in Jerusalem until you have received that power from Heaven.'

Then Jesus led the group of his disciples out of the city. They went to a place near the village called Bethany. He held up his hands towards them all and blessed them. While he was blessing them he left them and was taken up into Heaven. The disciples worshipped Jesus and returned to Jerusalem with great **joy**.

# Holy Spirit

**Bible verses:**

Genesis 1:1-5;  
41:37-40;  
Exodus 31:1-5;  
1 Samuel 16:13

**Aim:**

To explore who the Holy Spirit is, from creation to today, and take time to encounter the Holy Spirit.

**Today's fruit:**

Faithfulness



## Memory verse

**'But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses - in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.'**

(Acts 1:8 *ICB*)



## Start it

Have a balloon and lamp or torch. The balloon helps us think about air. We cannot see air, but we know it is there because the balloon is full. Without air, it would simply fall flat. The lamp or torch reminds us of electricity. We do not see electricity moving through the wires, but we see the light shining. Today we are thinking about the Holy Spirit. We cannot see the Holy Spirit with our eyes, but from the very beginning of the Bible we see what he does. The Holy Spirit is not imaginary. He is real and is God's presence at work in this world.



## Share it

Use 'Week 3 Bible Action Script' handout to share the Bible passage together, and have a physical Bible ready to find the passage together (if the group aren't sure of answers, prompt them by showing them the action).

**Ask:**

What was on the Earth at first? Who was moving over the water? Before creation, before anything happened, the Holy Spirit was here. God was moving in the darkness. What was the first thing God made?



## Sing it

**Watch:**

**'This little light of mine'** (Kids Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:05)

**'We are marching in the light of God'** (Kid Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:24)



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Try this easy craft: **Holy Spirit Hovering the Earth (Easy Bible Craft for Kids)** 0:57 by Trueway Kids
- **Play:** With the balloons in pairs or as a group. Keep the balloons off the ground for as long as possible.
- **Pray:** Explain how the Holy Spirit is God's power and presence with us. Ask the group to lie down and close their eyes. Pray that we would all know and feel the Holy Spirit with us now and every day.
- **Try:** using the lamp/torch, have a go at making shadow shapes!

# Explore it **Light** **Week 3 Bible Action Script**

**Bible story action script inspired by Genesis 1:1-5 and adapted from the NIV and ICB translations.**

**As you read the script, you will do some actions to help tell the story. Invite the group to copy your actions.**

At first, the Earth was completely empty. There was nothing on the Earth.

*Action: Hold up closed fist.*

Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit moved over the water.

*Action: Hold up a flat hand facing down, and move it slowly in front of you.*

Then God said, 'Let there be light!'

*Action: Hold closed fist up high, and open it.*

And light began to shine. God saw the light, and he knew that it was good.

*Action: Smile, and use your index finger to draw a big smile shape.*

Then he separated the light from the darkness.

*Action: Point to the left, then to the right.*

God named the light 'day', and he named the darkness 'night'. There was evening, and then there was morning. This was the first day.

*Action: Hold up one index finger.*

# Pentecost Part 1



**Bible verses:**  
Acts 2:1-15



**Aim:**  
To explore the promise and gift of the Holy Spirit for Jesus' followers



**Today's fruit:**  
Love



## Memory verse

**'But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses – in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.'**

(Acts 1:8 *ICB*)



## Start it

Have an object hidden in a gift box. Ask the children to guess what might be in it. Say that today you'll be thinking about the disciples who were going to receive a gift, but they didn't know what it would be (you could choose something that can be opened and shared later).



## Share it

Use 'Week 4 Bible Action Script' handout to share the Bible passage and have ready a physical Bible to find the passage together.

### Ask:

Does anyone know any words in a different language? Shall we try some out together?

- *Guten Tag* – German
- *Bonjour* – French
- *Hola* – Spanish

(All greetings mean 'Hello')

The Holy Spirit helped the disciples to be able to tell people about God in lots of different languages all at the same time. How do you think the crowd felt?



## Sing it

### Watch:

**'This little light of mine'** (Kids Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:05)

**'We are marching in the light of God'** (Kid Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:24)



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** World flag bunting. Use plain A4/A5 paper. Ask the children to choose a world flag to copy and colour – display the world flags on a screen, or you could use page 9 from 'The World Coloring Map' from National Geographic.com ([nationalgeographic.com/maps/article/world-coloring-map](https://nationalgeographic.com/maps/article/world-coloring-map))
- **Play:** Pass the parcel. A fun game to remember that the Holy Spirit is a gift.

- **Pray:** Have a globe or map. Pray for the countries all around the world, that they would know God's message love.
- **Try:** Watch: *God's Story: Pentecost* by Crossroads Kids' Club (3:50)

# Explore it **Light** Week 4 Bible Action Script

**Bible story action script inspired by Acts 2:1-12 and adapted from the NIV and ICB translations.**

**As you read the script, invite the group to make themselves comfortable and close their eyes. Invite them to use their imagination to ‘see’ the story as you read.**

Imagine this ...

We are all together in a room, with the followers of Jesus. Suddenly we all hear a noise. It sounds like a strong wind blowing. The noise is filling the whole house!

We all look around the room and we can see something that looks like flames of fire. The flames are separated, hovering above each person in this room. We feel God is here with us, and we are all filled with the Holy Spirit. We begin to speak different languages, languages that we’ve never learnt. It’s noisy, as everyone is speaking at once! The Holy Spirit is giving us the power to do this.

There are lots of people here in Jerusalem at the moment, and the streets are busy. There seems to be people from every country in the world. A large crowd gather because they heard the noise. They are surprised because, as we are speaking, everyone can hear us in their own language.

They all look amazed. They don’t understand how we can speak in so many languages. Someone in the crowd shouts out, ‘Look! These people we hear speaking are all from Galilee. But we hear them in our own languages. How is this possible? We are all from different places, but we can all understand the great things they are saying about God.’

The people are all amazed and confused. They ask each other, ‘What does this mean?’

# Pentecost Part 2



**Bible verses:**  
Acts 2:42-47



**Aim:**  
To explore how the Holy Spirit continued to work in and through Jesus' followers.



**Today's fruit:**  
Faithfulness



## Memory verse

'But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses - in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world.'

(Acts 1:8 ICB)



## Sing it

**Watch:**

'This little light of mine' (Kids Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:05)

'We are marching in the light of God' (Kid Songs) by Hi Heaven (2:24)



## Start it

Use blocks or something similar to build a tower together. Take it in turns to build and work together to make something. Say that today you'll be exploring what happened when the followers of Jesus all helped each other and worked together.

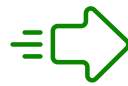


## Share it

Use 'Week 5 Bible Action Script' handout to share the Bible passage and have ready a physical Bible to find the passage together.

**Ask:**

What were some of the things the believers did? Why was it good that they did things together?



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Make something as a group or in pairs. Offer different recycled materials and decorative crafting supplies and encourage the group to collaborate on creating an item (you could give them a specific thing to make or let them choose).
- **Play:** Have some toy food items or bricks (or another appropriate toy) and ask the group to share everything, just as the disciples did.
- **Pray:** Doing what the disciples did! Share some food happily with joyful hearts (please be aware of any allergies).
- **Try:** Watch: **God's Story: Acts (0.00-1.36)** by Crossroads Kids' Club

# Explore it **Light** **Week 5 Bible Action Script**

**Bible story action script inspired by Acts 2:42-47 and adapted from the NIV and ICB translations.**

**As you are reading, when the group hears the phrase ‘The believers’ followed by an action, they can act it out; eg ‘The believers ... shared’ or ‘The believers ... ate’ etc.**

**The believers listened** to the teaching of the disciples.

**The believers shared** everything with each other.

**The believers ate** together and **prayed** together.

Many wonders and miraculous signs were happening through them, and everyone felt great respect for God. **All the believers shared** everything.

They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those who needed it. They shared a common purpose, and every day they met together in the Temple area and shared meals together in their homes.

**The believers shared their food happily** and ate with joyful hearts.

**The believers praised God** and were liked by all the people. More and more people were being saved every day, and the Lord was adding them to their group.