

CITY LG – April 18th – 19th, 2026

Bible Story: Great Commission and Ascension • *Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-11*

Bottom Line: You can share the good news about Jesus.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • Philippians 4:4 NIV

WORSHIP

My God is Bigger

Standing in Your Light

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hello, friends! Welcome back to our Block Party! This month's theme is 'Block Party: Celebrating Jesus and Joy That Never Ends!'

Give me your biggest party cheer on the count of three. One ... two ... three!

Great! Today, we're learning that you can share the good news about Jesus. And to start our celebration, we're going to play a game with one of my favorite things to do at a block party...watch fireworks! It's called ... 'Which Firework is Different'.

In this game, we get to watch the coolest fireworks show ever. The fireworks will go boom ... pop ... swish ... right in the air!

Here's how it works: you will see 3 fireworks and you need to see if you can tell which one is different.

VIDEO: *Which Firework is Different*

That was so much fun! And you know what? Fireworks remind me of joy—big, bright joy. And we can have joy because Jesus is alive, and we can share His good news everywhere we go.

All month long, we've been learning something really special: Jesus gives us joy that never ends. Joy isn't just being happy for a moment. Joy stays with us because Jesus is always with us. And the Bible helps us remember where that joy comes from. Today, we're going to look at a verse that tells us why we can be joyful every single day. This verse reminds us that when we belong to Jesus, our hearts can be full of joy no matter what is happening around us.

Our Memory Verse is found in Philippians 4:4. I'll read it first, and then we'll all say it together!

SLIDE: *Memory Verse*

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! —Philippians 4:4 (NIV)

You can keep this verse in your heart all week long. When you feel scared, or when something is hard, or even when you're having the best day ever, you can remember that you belong to Jesus, and

because of that, you can always have joy. Jesus is with you, and He loves you so much. That means you can show His joy everywhere you go!

Today, we're going to hear a true story from the Bible that helps us understand something important about what Jesus asks His followers to do.

This story reminds us that following Jesus is something we get to be part of! God has awesomely invited us to be a part of what He is doing!

But before we get into our true story from the Bible today, let me tell you about something amazing that we've been doing all year!

We're going through the key stories of the Bible! By the end of the school year, which is just a little over a month from now, we'll have looked at the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

We're continuing our journey through the Bible. Today's story is from the days Jesus was on Earth after He rose from the dead.

As we get into our true story from the Bible today, let me ask you a question to get you thinking about something: Have you ever had a time when you weren't sure what was going to happen next? Maybe your teacher said, 'Everyone, line up,' and you didn't know where you were going. Or maybe someone said, 'I have a surprise for you,' but they didn't tell you what it was.

When we don't know what's coming, it can feel a little confusing, right? Yeah, that happens to all of us sometimes. And guess what? That's how Jesus' friends were feeling in today's true story from the Bible. They loved Jesus. They followed Jesus. They wanted to stay close to Him. But they didn't know what would happen next, and they had lots of questions. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Bible Story

What a wonderful story we heard today. Jesus spent time with His followers after He came back to life, and they got to see Him with their own eyes. Then Jesus gave them a big job—to go and tell everyone the good news that He is alive and He loves them.

"Let's take a look at our Bottom Line today.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

You can share the good news about Jesus.

Today's story reminds us of something really special. Jesus gave His followers a big, huge, tremendous job—to go and tell everyone the good news that He is alive and that He loves them. And guess what? That job is for us too!

One of the best ways to share who God is to love others like Jesus. When you're kind like Jesus, the world sees Him. When you're honest like Jesus, the world sees Him. When you're forgiving like Jesus, the world sees Him. Maybe you can be kind to a friend who's having a hard day. Maybe you can pray for someone who's sad. Every time you do those things, you're showing the world who Jesus is.

But Jesus doesn't just want us to show the world who He is, He also wants us to tell people about Him and about what He did. So tell people about how much God loves them and what Jesus did for them. Tell them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus so they can be friends with God forever!

You don't have to be a grown-up to share Jesus with someone. You don't have to know everything. You just have to remember this: God is with you, and He will help you. Let's talk to the God whose love is so big, it's for the whole world!

Jesus, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You for coming to Earth, dying for us, and rising again so we can be Your friends forever. Now we have this good news of Your great love to share with others. We're so glad that You're alive and You're with us. Please help us show Your love to others this week. Help us be kind, help us be brave, and help us tell people how amazing You are and how much You love them. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

Do you remember what we are raising money for this year? Yep, Clean water wells in Malawi, which is a country in Africa. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water, and then they don't have to walk back with heavy containers. Let's watch a video that will show women filling their bins with clean water from a brand new well that was just installed in their village!

VIDEO: Missions video 1

Amazing right? Can't wait to see how these wells impact the villages in Malawi!

SLIDE: Theme