

# The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) Sunday School Lesson

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 [ministry-to-children.com/discipline-of-evangelism-lesson](http://ministry-to-children.com/discipline-of-evangelism-lesson)

April 28,  
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This Bible lesson will teach children about the spiritual discipline of evangelism. Sometimes we forget that children can speak God's truth, even better than grown-ups. (See Matthew 21:16) Telling others about Jesus is also a key for kids to grow in their own faith.

Spiritual disciplines are just a fancy way to say "spiritual exercise." That means something we can do to help us get closer to Jesus and stronger in our faith. Evangelism is exactly such an activity.

This lesson is designed for a smaller group of children, but could be adapted for any Sunday School or Children's Church setting.

**Bible Topic:** Telling Others (Evangelism)

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:16-20

**Target Age Group:** Elementary (1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Learning Context:** Any small group setting like Sunday School

**Target Time Frame:** 30 minute

**Lesson Objective:** Children will learn about the spiritual discipline of telling others.

**Introduction:** Begin the lesson by reading the key verse to the children. For older elementary, encourage a volunteer to read this verse to the group.

Matthew 28:19-20 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." (ESV)

**Explain:** Jesus commands us to tell other people about Him. Besides our main verse in Matthew, Jesus also speaks of telling others in **Mark (16:15), Luke (24:47), and Acts (1:8).**

*\*\*If you are extending this lesson, take a moment for the children to find those passages in their Bible or have a sword-drill game as you read them to the class.*

Continue by explaining the main idea in your own words: If we wish to be more like Jesus, we should strive to be obedient to the command to tell others about Christ. Telling others about Jesus doesn't have to be difficult or complicated. We can say something as simple as,

“let me tell you what Jesus did for me.”

Sometimes it may seem scary to tell others about Jesus, but we have the Holy Spirit with us to guide us as we speak. Our actions allow others to “see” Jesus in us, and thus show them the Gospel. If we live in a way that is pleasing to God, others will take notice and may even ask us why we are different. We have to understand that we as humans have no power to “make someone get saved;” the Holy Spirit must be at work in the person’s life. It is only our job to tell them and leave the door open for them to accept Jesus as Savior.

**Activity:** Practice telling others! If time allows, use role playing in the classroom where one child pretends to not know about Jesus. This can be a fun improvisation skit for two adult teachers or teenage helpers to demonstrate. Challenge kids to tell friends at school about Jesus. The next time you meet, ask them to tell you about the conversation they had with those classmates.

**Activity:** Dominoes object lesson about sharing Christ. Watch this video demonstration and add 10 minutes to your lesson time if you plan to include it.



Watch Video At: [https://youtu.be/7CFX5f\\_t6AE](https://youtu.be/7CFX5f_t6AE)

Object lesson on the Great Commission

**Craft:** Kids can make a beaded bracelet to give to a friend that shares the Gospel message. You can attach a small piece of paper that tells what each colored bead stands for. We recommend the Wordless Book or Who Will Be King? as tools for kids sharing the Gospel

with other children.

- Black stands for our sin
- Red stands for Jesus' blood that took our sins away
- White stands for our sin washed clean
- Blue stands for baptism
- Green stands for us growing in faith
- Gold stands for our reward in heaven

**Bible Memory:** Use any of our [creative methods](#) to help the children memorize the Matthew 28:19-20 Bible verse from this lesson plan.

**Related Resources:** You could also use our [Gospel Coloring Book](#). For more about sharing Jesus with children, read our articles on how to witness to kids.

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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# Group Games and Lesson Introduction

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In the Great Commission, we are sent out to share our faith with one another and encourage others to know and love Christ. Spark the interest and honor the theme of that Great Commandment, as you prepare students to study it (note: most of these elements could be used at home or in a larger group setting). Here are some potential activities to enjoy.

How big is the world? Ask students to think of as many countries and languages as they can. How many are there? Which is the largest? Provide some facts for things they may not know, and explain that Jesus sent the disciples to spread Christianity to ALL the world!

- Look at a globe, and discuss features of our great planet. What might it mean to go into ALL the world? What do you know about the work of a missionary?
- Play “red light/green light” in honor of GOING into the world.
- Sending...the Commission has to do with a sending into the world. Celebrate this by sending some letters or cards of your own! Discuss types of mail and why the postal service is important. We get to be “mail men” of a sort, too!
- Commissioning...a sending! Brainstorm some other people or jobs that get “sent.” People like pastors, nurses, military officers, and many others are officially designated and sent into the world to do their jobs. We get to do that as Christians!
- What does a secret agent do? We get to be agents of God’s will! Think of what a special forces team or secret agents do...when we go out as Christians, our lives can be just as exciting. What are some “sneaky” methods of serving others not for our own credit, but for letting someone else feel loved?
- Does your church support a missionary? Learn about them, and find special ways to pray for and support them.

Remind children that Jesus has given us all an important job to spread the good news of Jesus to everyone. We are going to discuss the importance of this God-given commandment. Jesus Didn’t just ask the disciples to tell the world of Him if they felt like it...He wants everyone to be part of the Great Commission!

**Ask:** Who can you think of that needs to hear some good news? If you had good news, who might be the first person you’d share it with?



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# “Go Make Disciples” Craft Ideas based on the Great Commission

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The Great Commission is something we should not take lightly, as Christians. It is not a mere suggestion, but a commandment and a blessing. It is a beautiful thing to share with children, and to remind them of their role in the spreading of the Gospel. These simple crafts are meant to serve as reminders of the part we are called to play in God’s work on Earth.

## Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Main Text: Matthew 28:16-20)

*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, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” -Matthew 28:19-20*

*Jesus Commands it... Spread the Good News!*

*GO Make Disciples!*

*Tell the World About God’s Love!*

*Share the Love of Christ...Go Make Disciples!*

## More Teaching ideas about the Great Commission

- See our [video playlist of these crafts and lesson ideas](#).
- See all our [resources based on the Great Commission](#)
- Compare this full [Sunday School lesson on the Matthew 28:16-20](#)



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# Craft one: "Commission Globe"

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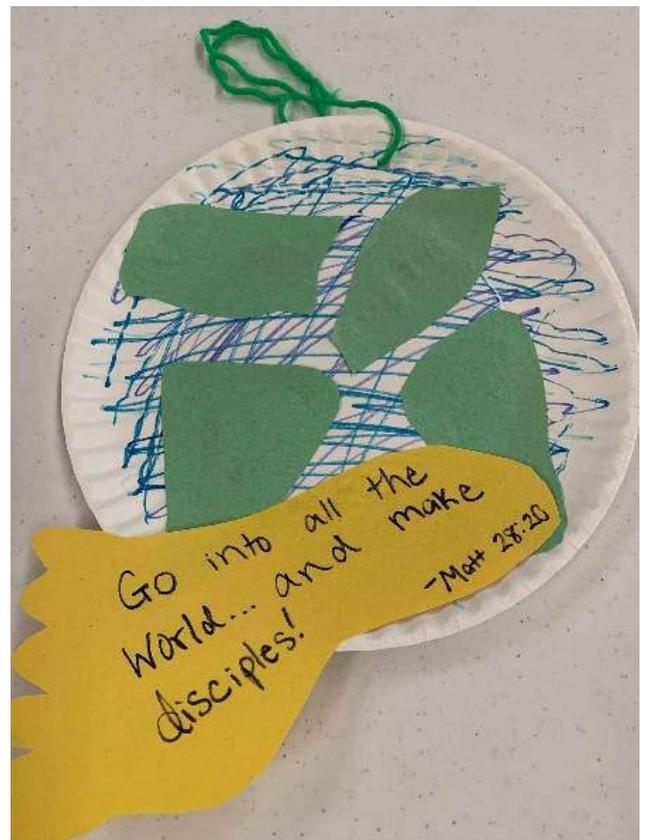
## You will need:

- Construction paper or card stock
- Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials
- Tape, glue, or staples
- Scissors
- Paper plates
- Yarn or pipe cleaners



## Procedure:

1. Decorate the plate to look like a globe, beginning with blue marker, crayon, or paint.
2. Add green "land" with cut paper or additional paint. Sprinkle stickers or glitter for additional decoration, if desired.
3. Trace a foot on a sheet of paper. Cut and add a verse caption.
4. Attach the foot to the globe with tape, glue, string, or staple.
5. Place a string or pipe cleaner through the plate, if hanging is desired.



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# Craft Two: “Gospel Megaphone”

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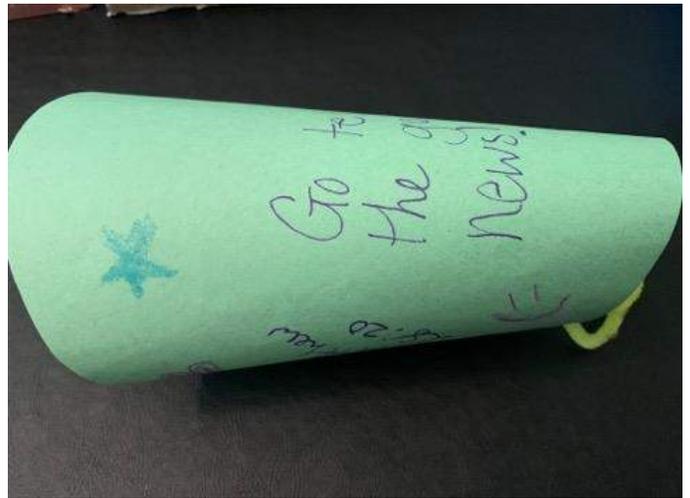
## You will need:

- Cups (foam or plastic)
- Paper (construction)
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or decorative supplies
- Staples, glue, or tape



## Procedure:

1. If using a cup for extra support and volume (recommended but not required), cut the bottom out of the cup to provide a space to speak through.
2. Cut construction paper somewhat, creating a slight arc and almost triangular shape on one end.
3. Decorate the paper, adding stickers if desired, and a verse.
4. Carefully roll the paper around the cup, attaching with glue, tape, or staples.
5. Attach a handle with a stick, pipe cleaner, or paper edges. Shout the good news for all to hear!



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# Craft Three: “GO Make Disciples Signal”

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## You will need:

- Toilet paper or paper towel tubes
- Construction paper (red, yellow, green, and black)
- Scissors
- Markers or decorative supplies
- Glue, stapler, and/or tape
- String or pipe cleaner (if hanging is desired)



## Procedure:

1. Staple or tape three toilet paper tubes together, stacking one on top of the other.
2. Cut circles out of red, green, and yellow paper. Write on these, if desired.
3. Tape the paper circles over the holes of the tubes, creating a signal light appearance.
4. Cover the tubes with black paper if desired, to create a more “stoplight”-like effect.
5. Attach a string or pipe cleaner to hang. Additionally, this craft could be made into a coin collection bank of sorts, by cutting slits in the side or top of the signal light.





These craft ideas were prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#), who serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO.

She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May

2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

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## *Help you tell kids about Jesus!*

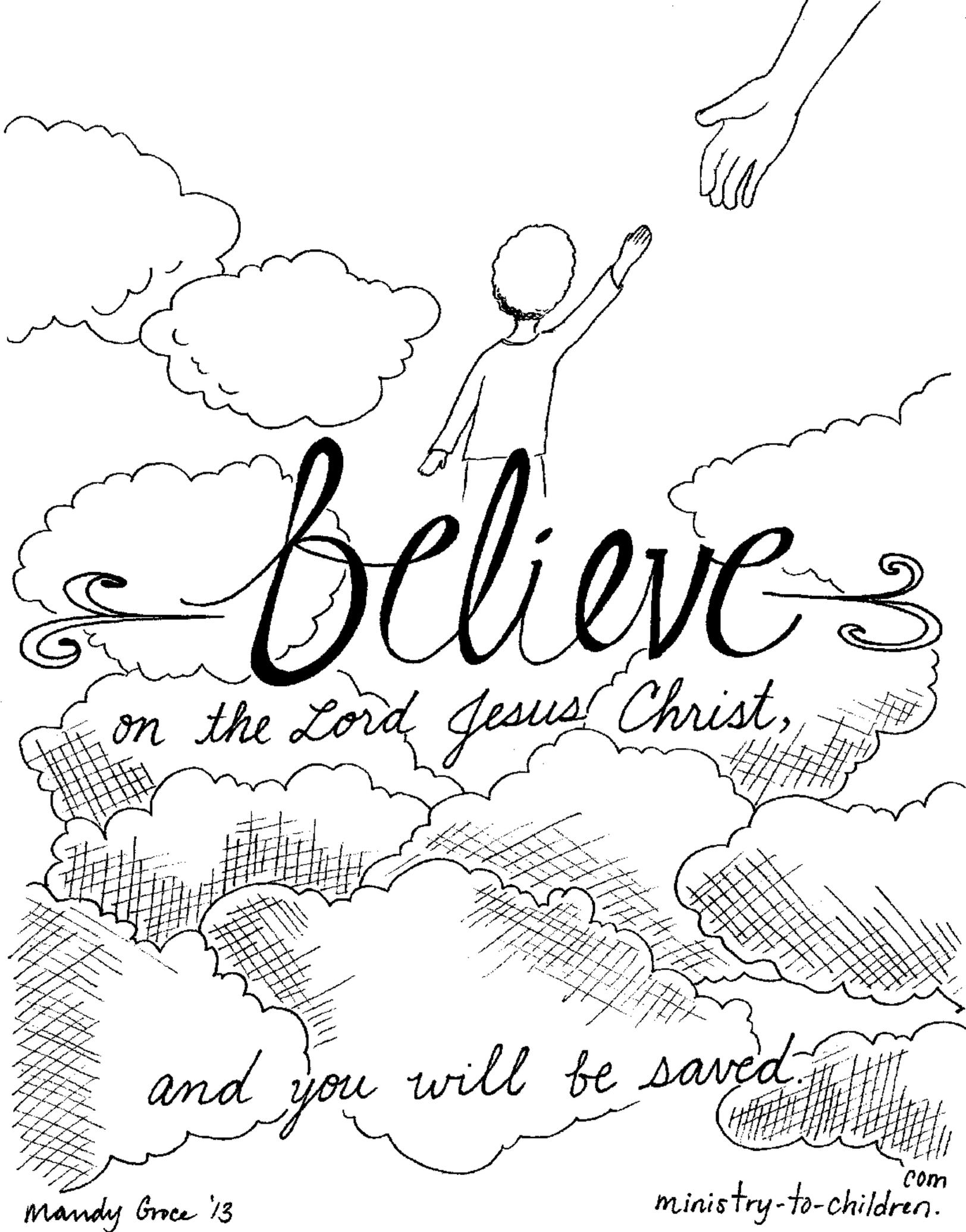
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Our team is honored that you choose our material. Thank you for ... serving where God has placed you - telling children about Jesus – and allowing us to be a part of your mission.

Our website now has over 4,000 free resources for your children's ministry. Each month we're adding even more! Here are a few popular sections:

- Over 300 Coloring Pages [Bible Coloring Pages](#).
- Over 700 [Bible Lessons](#) and Complete [Sunday School Curriculum](#)
- We post new [Children's Sermons Object Lessons](#) every week.
- [Sunday School Games](#), [Bible Crafts](#), and [Worship Songs for Kids](#)
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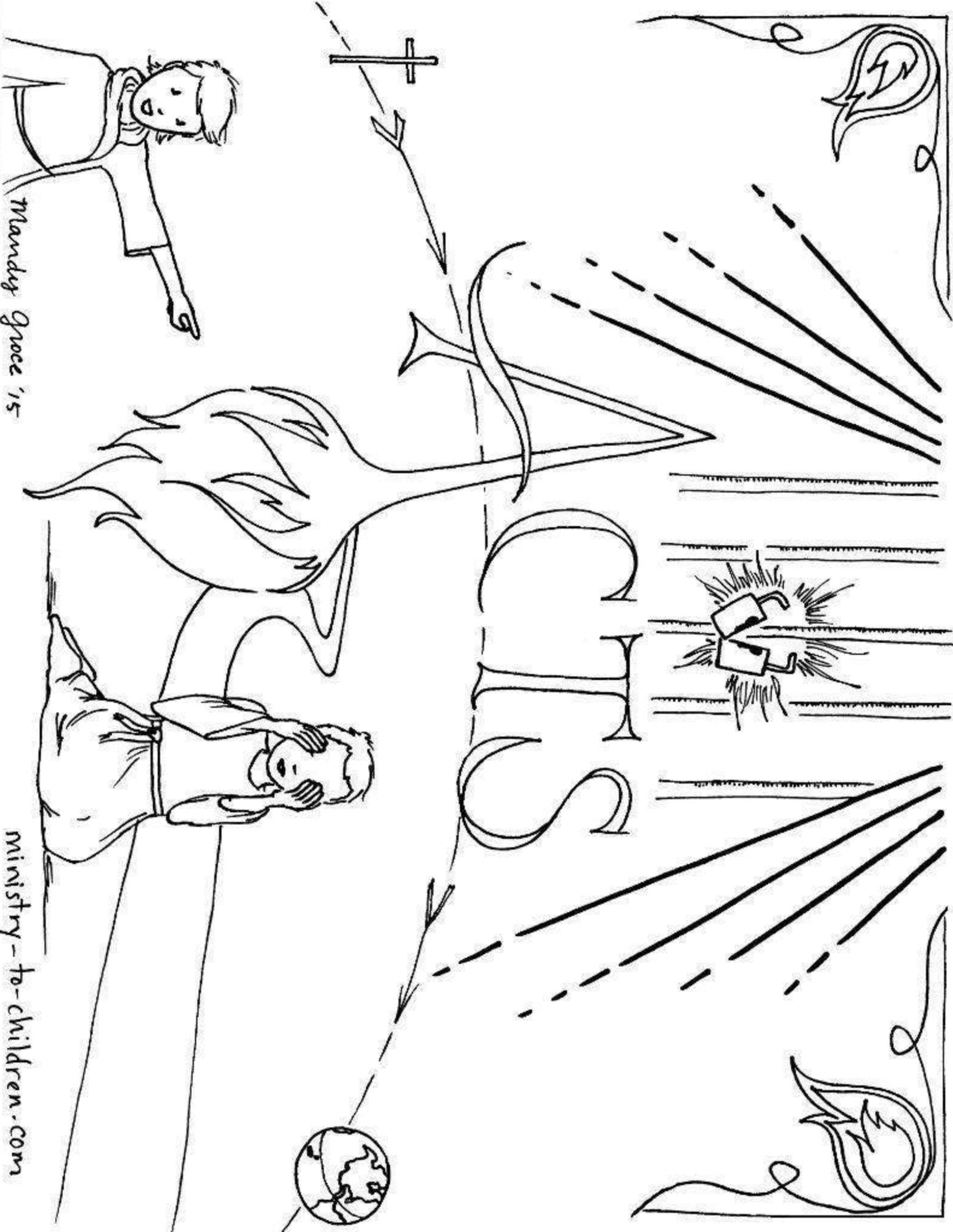




*Believe*

*on the Lord Jesus Christ,*

*and you will be saved.*



Mandy Grace '15

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