

The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

MAIN IDEAS

- **Jesus is holy and righteous—He did everything required to gain eternal life.**
- **The gospel is the good news that there is salvation in Jesus.**
- **The gospel commands sinners to repent and believe in Jesus.**

MEMORY VERSES

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”—John 3:16-17

SCRIPTURE

- 1) John 3:16-17
- 2) Luke 19:10
- 3) Romans 5:19b
- 4) Matthew 20:28
- 5) Ephesians 1:7a
- 6) Romans 5:10a
- 7) John 11:25b
- 8) Mark 1:15
- 9) (Luke 15:17-18; 18:10-14)
- 10) (Acts 4:12)
- 11) (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- 12) (1 Peter 3:15)

TEACHER INTRODUCTION

“Gospel” is one of those words that, over the course of history and in various settings, has been reinvented and reinterpreted in a variety of ways. The church has not been immune to this reality. Sadly, this has yielded a gospel very different from the one presented in Scripture. But any lesser gospel is a dangerous one! Therefore, we must take great care in getting the gospel right. The gospel of Jesus is defined and shaped by essential truths that cannot be changed or improved upon. The gospel of Jesus is the one and only means of salvation. Embracing the gospel is also the one and only means by which we can glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

In this lesson we will stress and summarize the core truths of Jesus’ gospel. Although not entirely comprehensive in scope or depth, acquainting students with these core truths will provide a foundational framework for future lessons.

Pray that there will be renewed and deeper appreciation for the gospel. Pray that God will be at work in the hearts and minds of unbelieving students so that they might consider the truth of the gospel and repent and believe in Jesus for salvation.

CURRICULUM RESOURCES

- Salvation Sign (see Visuals Preparation):
 - › Gospel: Salvation (5A)
 - › Cross (5B)
- See Visuals Preparation:
 - › Good News 1-6 (5C-5H)
 - › The Gospel (5I)
- Growing in Faith Together Page for Lesson 5 (for each student)

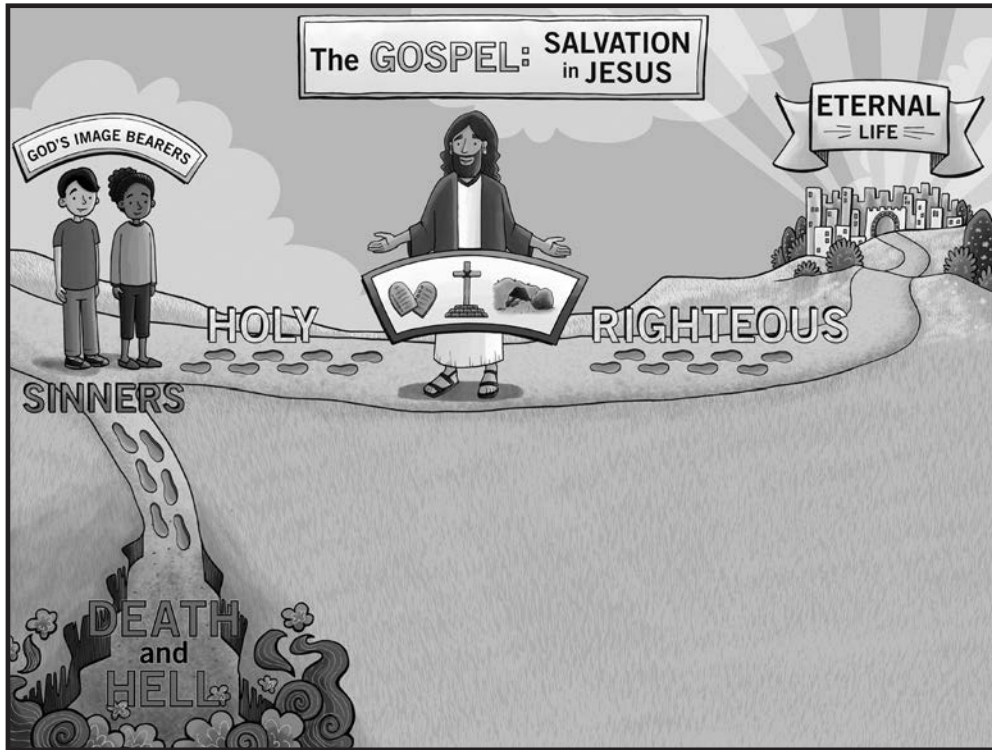
OTHER SUPPLIES

- Bible (English Standard Version)
- Small prize (e.g. candy, snack, etc.)
- Adult with driver’s license (make sure he or she is prepared for the beginning illustration)
- Whiteboard and markers
- Tape or mounting putty

The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

VISUALS PREPARATION

- **Good News 1-6 and The Gospel**—Cut out and tape each of the six **Good News 1-6** cards to **The Gospel** sign, making sure that the words “The Gospel” are still visible.
- The **Gospel: Salvation** and **Cross** pieces are added to the Salvation Sign during this lesson. They both need to be cut out, and the Gospel:Salvation piece comes in two parts that need to be taped together. The diagram below shows the Salvation Sign with the pieces added during this lesson.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Gospel Song

- › Words and music to lead the class in a gospel song (See Optional Activities section for suggestions.)

2. Bible Memory Activity

- › Choose a game or activity from the Appendix to help the students memorize John 3:16-17.

Large Group Lesson

Illustration.....

PRIZE, ADULT WITH
DRIVER'S LICENSE

(Choose a student to come to the front of the class. Display the **prize** and tell the student that he can receive it by showing you his driver's license. Then, ask the student...)

Why don't you have a driver's license? [He is too young to drive.] So that means that you can't receive the prize. Getting the prize is beyond your ability.

(Have the **adult** quickly stand up with his **driver's license** in hand and say the following.)

Wait a minute. I have a driver's license. What if I give [student's name] my license? Will you accept that?

- Take the driver's license from the adult.
- Look at it briefly and state that you will accept this license on the student's behalf.
- Apart from the adult stepping in and offering his license, the student would not have been able to receive the prize.

SALVATION SIGN

(Give the student the **prize** and have him return to his seat. Then, display the **Salvation Sign** from Lesson 4.)

- Sinners have a problem somewhat similar to this student.
- We do not have what is required for receiving eternal life—the greatest prize of all!
- We lack the holiness and righteousness God requires. This is millions of times more important than having a driver's license.
- Therefore, through our own efforts, eternal life is out of reach.

❓ *But what did we learn about Jesus in the last lesson?* [Jesus is holy and righteous. He perfectly obeyed God and was without sin. He did everything required by God to receive eternal life.] *That is good news for Jesus, but what about us?*

(Have a Sword Drill with John 3:16-17. Choose a student to read verse 16 and another to read verse 17.)

John 3:16—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

❓ *According to this verse, what did God give to the world so that we could receive eternal life?* [His Son, Jesus] *Why did God do this?* [because He loved the world—He loves His sinful people]

The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

John 3:17—For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

❓ *What does the word “condemn” mean? [to pronounce someone guilty and then punish them] God would be right to condemn every one of us to death and hell. But God loves us and desires to save sinners.*

- We lack the holiness and righteousness required to receive eternal life—that is our greatest need.
- We deserve God’s condemnation—that is our greatest problem.
- Jesus came into the world to provide for our greatest need and solve our greatest problem.

This is the greatest news of all! It is the good news of the gospel. The gospel is the good news that there is salvation for sinners in Jesus!

TAPE, GOSPEL:
SALVATION VISUAL
(WITH THE GOOD
NEWS 1-6 CARDS
ATTACHED), AND
THE SALVATION SIGN

(Tape the **Gospel: Salvation** visual at the top and center of the **Salvation Sign**.)

How does Jesus save sinners? What has Jesus done?

(Tape **The Gospel** visual—with the **Good News 1-6** cards attached—to the wall. Then, choose students to come one at a time and remove the Good News 1-6 cards from The Gospel visual. The cards should be read in order from 1-6.)

Good News 1: “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
—Luke 19:10

- Jesus did not come and hide out to try to avoid sinful people. He came and purposely sought out sinners in order to save them.

WHITEBOARD AND
MARKERS

(On the **whiteboard**, begin making a list of short summary statements after each verse is read.)

The Gospel = Jesus came to...
Seek sinners

Good News 2: “...by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.”
—Romans 5:19b

- Jesus came to live a life of perfect obedience so that God’s people could be made righteous. [Make us righteous on board]

Good News 3: “...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many.”—Matthew 20:28

- Jesus came to serve sinners by giving up His life—receiving the condemnation we deserve. [Give up His life]

Good News 4: “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses...”—Ephesians 1:7a

- Jesus came to die on the cross so that our sins would be forgiven. [Forgive sinners]

Good News 5 “...while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son...”—Romans 5:10a

- “Reconciled” means to bring about a peaceful, happy relationship where there wasn’t one before.
- Sinners are enemies to God. Sinful people are fighting against God and His ways.
- Jesus came to die so that sinners could be reconciled to God—becoming His beloved people instead of His enemies. [Reconcile to God]

Good News 6: “...I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,”—John 11:25b

- After Jesus’ death for sinners, He rose from the dead. That’s what “resurrection” means.
- Jesus came so that His people might also be resurrected.
- Jesus came so that His people can enjoy eternal life with God. [Give eternal life]

WHITEBOARD AND
MARKERS

(The summary on the **whiteboard** should look as follows.)

The Gospel = Jesus came to...

Seek sinners

Make us righteous

Give up His life

Forgive sinners

Reconcile us to God

Give eternal life

(Point to the three pictures now revealed on **The Gospel** visual. Explain that the three pictures represent three keys to understanding the gospel, showing what Jesus did in order to save sinners.)

Commandments—

Jesus perfectly obeyed God in everything He thought, felt, and did. He was holy and righteous. Jesus accomplished what His people could not.

Cross—

Jesus died on the cross in place of His sinful people, so that we could be forgiven.

Empty tomb—

Jesus rose from the dead, so that His people will receive eternal life also.

The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

CROSS VISUAL, TAPE,
AND SALVATION SIGN(Tape the **Cross** visual across Jesus' chest on the **Salvation Sign**.

So, how does a sinner receive this good news? Does everybody in the world get saved by what Jesus has done? Or do you have to do something special?

Here is what Jesus said,

(Read Mark 1:15 to the students.)

Mark 1:15—...“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

- Jesus commands a special response to the gospel: repent and believe in the gospel.
- A person must repent and believe in the gospel in order to be saved.

(Explain that the students will learn more about what it means to truly repent and believe in their small group discussion time and in future lessons.)

Small Group Application

Choose one or more of the following suggestions for interacting with the students during this time.

Workbook

Have the students imagine the following scenario:

You are goofing around with a friend in a store and you knock over and break a very expensive object. It is clearly your fault. The cost of the object is beyond anything you could pay for. An angry looking store manager begins walking toward you. What would you expect him to say and do? What would you desperately hope and want to happen instead? How is our sin toward a holy and righteous God immeasurably worse than breaking an expensive object? Can we possibly “pay for” our sin and make things right with God? Why not?

Instruct the students to complete “The Bad News” portion of their workbook page using the Scripture references. (The answers are: sinned, death, wrath.)

How should this bad news make us feel about ourselves? Is it something you can ignore? If you pretend it's not for you, will that change God's truth?

Recall the story of the broken object again and ask:

What would you desperately hope to happen when the angry store manager approaches you? What would you consider to be “good news” in this situation? How is the good news of the gospel immeasurably better than being forgiven for a broken object?

Have the students use the letter key to complete “The Good News” portion of the workbook page. Do you believe that this good news is for you? (The answers are: seek, life, forgive, righteous, eternal, God.)

Jesus Commands Us to Believe in Him

Review today’s memory verse from John 3:16-17. Point out that verse 16 is a verse that is often used to summarize and explain the gospel.

If someone asked you what this verse means, what would you tell them? How would you explain verse 17? What is the bad news referred to in these verses? What is the good news? What does verse 16 say we must do in order to have eternal life? What does it mean to “believe” in Jesus? Does it mean to simply know true things about Him? (Give an example of the difference: People who know true things about the ability of airplanes but will not travel in one because they don’t really trust it.) “Believe in” includes trusting, depending on, being confident in who Jesus is, what He has done, and all that He has promised to do. What might true belief in Jesus look like in someone’s life? Can you give any examples of people in the Bible who believed in Jesus? How did belief in Jesus change them?

Jesus Commands Us to Repent

Review Mark 1:15.

What does it mean to “repent”? (Give an example by reading one or both of the following: Luke 15:17-18 and Luke 18:10-14.) True repentance involves humbly recognizing your sin against God, hating it and wanting to have nothing more to do with it, knowing that you desperately need forgiveness, and then turning to Jesus for help. Sometimes people don’t like the “repent” part of salvation. Why do you think Jesus’ call to repent may seem harder than His command for us to believe in Him? What do we have to turn away from in order to turn to Christ in genuine faith? What do we have to admit about ourselves? Why don’t we like to admit this?

Salvation is in Jesus Alone

Point out that many people in the world think there are different ways to a right relationship with God.

Some religions teach that you must do more good things than bad things. Some say you must perform a list of certain things. Some say you must trust in someone other than Jesus. Some even say that salvation is through Jesus, plus doing good works. Are any of these true?

Read and talk about Acts 4:12—“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name [Jesus] under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” and Ephesians 2:8-9—“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

What is the only way to be saved? Are you trusting in Jesus alone for salvation, or are you trusting in something/someone else?

Jesus Wants Us to Tell Others About the Gospel

Did something really special happen to any of you this past week? Did you share that good news with anyone else?

Point out that when something really good happens to us, we like to share it with others by telling them about it.

What news is the best news of all? Why is the gospel the best news that anyone could hear? Do you know of someone who needs to hear this good news? What is the main way in which God spreads the gospel throughout the world? [through local churches; Christians talking with friends and neighbors; missionaries going to other countries; etc.] Has God given you opportunities to share the gospel in some way?

Read and talk about a verse such as 1 Peter 3:15—“...in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

Why can sharing this good news sometimes feel scary to us? What could help us overcome this? Have a time of prayer with the students.

Optional Activities**1. Gospel Song**

Lead the students in singing a gospel song. On a whiteboard or large sheets of paper write out the words (preferably do this before class). Before singing it, carefully read through the words and see if the students can identify specific gospel truths. Recommended songs to choose from: *The Power of the Cross* (Keith Getty and Stuart Townend); *All I Have Is Christ* (Jordan Kauflin); *I Will Glory in My Redeemer* (Steve and Vikki Cook); *To God Be the Glory* (Fanny Crosby); *Hallelujah, What a Savior* (Philip Bliss).

2. Bible Memory Activity

Choose a game or activity from the Appendix to help the students memorize John 3:16-17.

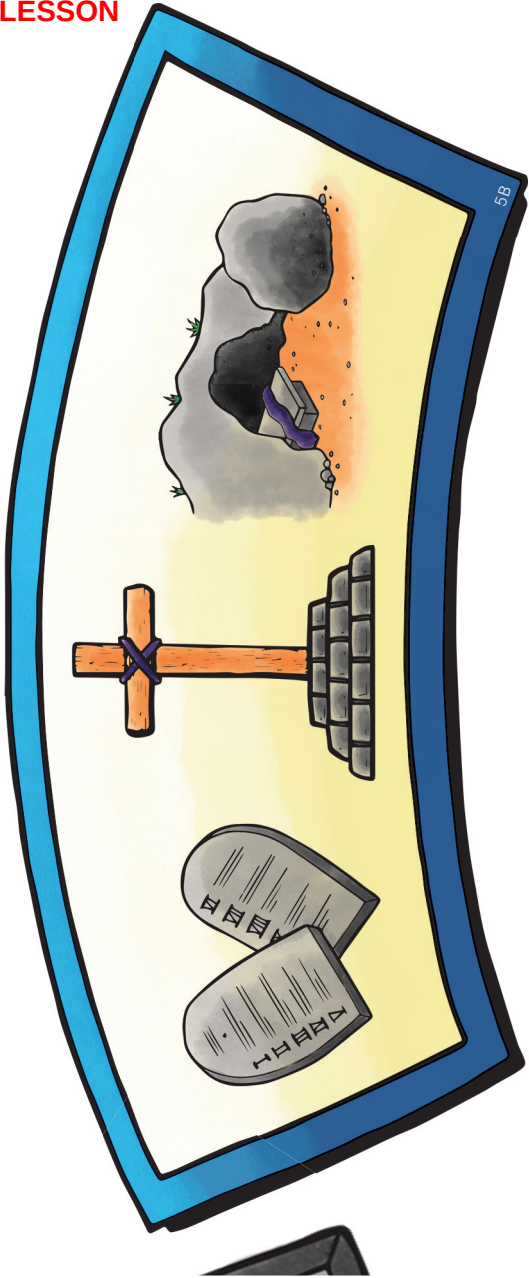
Send Home

- Growing in Faith Together Page for Lesson 5 (one per student)

The GOSPEL: SALVATION in JESU



SAMPLE LESSON



LUKE 19:10

For the Son
of Man came to
seek and to
save the lost.

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 1

5C

ROMANS 5:19B

...by the one
man's obedience
the many will be
made righteous.

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 2

5D

MATTHEW 20:28A

...the Son of Man
came not to be served
but to serve and
to give his life as a
ransom for many.

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 3

5E

EPHESIANS 1:7A

In him we have
redemption through
his blood, the
forgiveness of our
trespasses...

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 4

5F

ROMANS 5:10B

...while we were
enemies we
were reconciled to
God by the death
of his Son...

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 5

5G

JOHN 11:25B

..."I am the resurrection
and the life.
Whoever believes in
me, though he die,
yet shall he live,"

LESSON 5 // GOOD NEWS 6

5H

THE GOSPEL



Lesson 5

TO BE LIKE JESUS



The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

Main Ideas

- Jesus is holy and righteous—He did everything required to gain eternal life.
- The Gospel is the good news that there is salvation in Jesus.
- The Gospel commands sinners to repent and believe in Jesus.

Memory Verses

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”—*John 3:16-17*

Scripture

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Matthew 20:28 | 4) Luke 18:10-14 | 7) John 11:25b | 10) Ephesians 1:7a |
| 2) Mark 1:15 | 5) Luke 19:10 | 8) Acts 4:12 | 11) Ephesians 2:8-9 |
| 3) Luke 15:17-18 | 6) John 3:16-17 | 9) Romans 5:10a, 19b | 12) 1 Peter 3:15 |

Apply What You’ve Learned

Look at the newspaper headlines on the next page. Using the Scripture references, fill in the missing words to find out more about “The Bad News.” Is this something you can ignore? If you pretend it’s not for you, will that change God’s truth? Why not?

Use the letter key below to fill in the letters to reveal “The Good News.” Do you believe that this good news is for you?

A	D	E	F	G	H	I	K
L	N	O	R	S	T	U	V

What does John 3:16 say you must do in order to receive eternal life? What does it mean to “believe” in Jesus? Does it mean to simply know true things about Him? “Believe in” includes trusting, depending on, being confident in who Jesus is, what He has done, and all that He has promised to do. What might true belief in Jesus look like in someone’s life? Can you give examples of people in the Bible who believed in Jesus? How did belief in Jesus change them?

THE BAD NEWS...



- for all have _____ and fall short of the glory of God,
—Romans 3:23
- For the wages of sin is _____,
—Romans 6:23a
- ... the _____ of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.
—Ephesians 5:6b

THE GOOD NEWS!

The Gospel is the news that Jesus came to...

_____ sinners. (Luke 19:10)

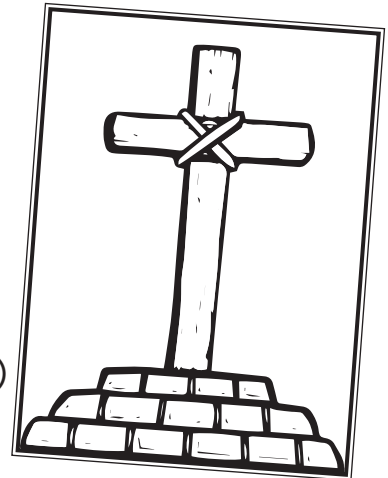
Give up His _____ . (Matthew 20:28)

_____ sinners. (Ephesians 1:7a)

Make sinners _____ . (Romans 5:19b)

Give His people _____ life. (John 11:25b)

Reconcile us to _____ . (Romans 5:10a)





The Gospel: Salvation in Jesus

SAMPLE LESSON

MAIN IDEAS

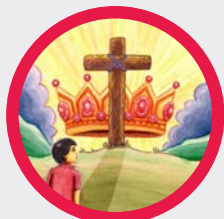
- **Jesus is holy and righteous—He did everything required to gain eternal life.**
- **The gospel is the good news that there is salvation in Jesus.**
- **The gospel commands sinners to repent and believe in Jesus.**

MEMORY VERSES

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved."—John 3:16-17

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Matthew 20:28
- 2) Mark 1:15
- 3) Luke 15:17-18
- 4) Luke 18:10-14
- 5) Luke 19:10
- 6) John 3:16-17
- 7) John 11:25b
- 8) Acts 4:12
- 9) Romans 5:10a, 19b
- 10) Ephesians 1:7a
- 11) Ephesians 2:8-9
- 12) 1 Peter 3:15



LESSON SUMMARY

"Gospel" is one of those words that, over the course of history and in various settings, has been reinvented and reinterpreted in a variety of ways. The church has not been immune to this reality. Sadly, this has yielded a gospel very different from the one presented in Scripture. But any lesser gospel is a dangerous one! Therefore, we must take great care in getting the gospel right. The gospel of Jesus is defined and shaped by essential truths that cannot be changed or improved upon. The gospel of Jesus is the one and only means of salvation. Embracing the gospel is also the one and only means by which we can glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

In this lesson we summarized the core truths of Jesus' gospel. Although not entirely comprehensive in scope or depth, acquainting students with these core truths will provide a foundational framework for future lessons.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...

- *that there will be a renewed and deeper appreciation for the gospel.*
- *that God will be at work in the heart and mind of your child so that he or she will fully embrace the gospel, demonstrated through genuine repentance and faith.*



AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Recall (or imagine a scenario) when your child broke an expensive object. **What was the consequence? What did he or she desire as an outcome?**

How is our sin toward a holy and righteous God immeasurably worse than breaking an expensive object? Can we possibly "pay for" our sin and make things right with God? Why not? How should this bad news make us feel about ourselves? Is it something you can ignore? If you pretend it's not for you, will that change God's truth? Review: Romans 6:23a; Ephesians 5:6b; and 2 Thessalonians 1:9.

- Read John 3:16-17. **If someone asked you what this verse means, what would you tell them? How would you explain verse 17? What is the bad news referred to in these verses? What is the good news? What does verse 16 say we must do in order to have eternal**

life? What does it mean to “believe” in Jesus? What might true belief in Jesus look like in someone’s life?

- Talk about Mark 1:15. Point out that true repentance involves humbly recognizing your sin against God, hating it and wanting to have nothing more to do with it, knowing that you desperately need forgiveness, and then turning to Jesus for help. Sometimes people don’t like the “repent” part of salvation. **Why do you think Jesus’ call to repent may seem harder than His command for us to believe in Him?**

- Point out that many people in the world think there are different ways to a right relationship with God. Some religions teach that you must do more good things than bad things. Some say you must perform a list of certain things. Some say you must trust in someone other than Jesus. Some even say that salvation is through Jesus, plus doing good works. **Are any of these true?** Read and talk about Acts 4:12 and Ephesians 2:8-9. **What is the only way to be saved? Are you trusting in Jesus alone for salvation, or are you trusting in something else?**

ACTION STEPS

Look up the following verses and fill in the missing words. Then use the words you found to complete the matching gospel summary statement. This week, share a summary of the gospel with your parents and siblings. Make sure to explain why the gospel is such good news.

1. “For the Son of Man came to _____ and to save the lost.”—*Luke 19:10*
2. ...by the one man’s obedience the many will be made _____.
—*Romans 5:19b*
3. “...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give _____ as a ransom for many.”
—*Matthew 20:28b*
4. In him we have redemption through his blood, the _____ness of our trespasses,—*Ephesians 1:7a*
5. ...while we were enemies we were _____d to God by the death of his Son,—*Romans 5:10a*
6. “I am the resurrection and the _____. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,”—*John 11:25b*

GOSPEL SUMMARY: Jesus came to...

1. _____ sinners.
2. Make us _____.
3. Give up _____.
4. _____ sinners.
5. _____ us to God.
6. Give eternal _____.

Go into All the World

MAIN IDEAS

- **Jesus commands His disciples to spread the message of the gospel throughout the world.**
- **All Christians are to participate in this mission—either by going or sending.**

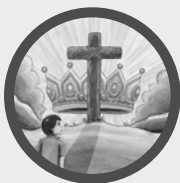
MEMORY VERSES

...“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

—Matthew 28:18-20a

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Matthew 28:18-20
- 2) Acts 1:8-9
- 3) Revelation 5:9-10



TEACHER INTRODUCTION

Often, when we hear the word “missions,” we immediately think of going out to other nations, cultures, and peoples with the gospel. What we are less likely to think about and ponder is that we are *all* the beneficiaries of missionaries. We have the Bible in our own language because others heeded Jesus’ command to go into all the world and make disciples. We have a local church to attend, and pastors and elders because faithful disciples before us heeded Jesus’ command. From the time of Jesus’ command until now, the gospel has increasingly gone out to every corner of the globe. So there is an important lesson for our students to learn in first looking back through history to see the purpose and faithfulness of Jesus building His church through the ongoing mission of His disciples.

We also want to challenge our students to see the role Jesus’ disciples now have to participate in this ongoing mission as those who go, or as those who help others go. No Christian is exempt from this awesome privilege and responsibility. Our desire should be to fan the flames of the worldwide mission of Christ in a way that our students are encouraged to be actively engaged in this endeavor, even now.

Pray that the students would be truly amazed by the wonderful faithfulness of God and His people throughout history. Pray that God would be stirring in the students a lifelong desire to be active participants in Jesus’ great commission.

CURRICULUM RESOURCES

- Love God Most Heart/Salvation Sign:
 - › World Heart (33A, cut out)
- Footprint Clue (33B)
- Globe Clue (33C)
- People Clue (33D)
- Bible Clue (33E)
- First Church 1-3 (33F-33H, see Visuals Preparation)
- Missionary 1-6 (33I-33N, cut out)
- See Visuals Preparation:
 - › Country 1-6—Front (33O-33T)
 - › Country 1-6—Back (33U-33Z)
- Growing in Faith Together Page for Lesson 33 (for each student)

OTHER SUPPLIES

- Bible (English Standard Version)
- Unfrosted cake
- Frosting
- Spatula or butter knife
- Large world map (see Visuals Preparation)
- Tape or mounting putty
- Whiteboard and markers
- For Application:
 - › Optional photos of missionaries and tape (for each student)

Go into All the World

VISUALS PREPARATION

- **First Church 1-3**—Cut out the **First Church 1-3** visuals, and tape First Church 1 over Jerusalem on the world map. (Note: There two extra church symbols, which you could add along the Mediterranean Coast and over Rome, as indicated during the lesson. Or, you could use them later in the lesson to indicate where some of the missionaries from your church are serving.) **Note:** If you are planning to tape these visuals to a small world map, you will want to print the visuals smaller than the original size.
- **Country 1-6**—Print the **Country 1-6—Front & Back** visuals double-sided. Countries are on the front, and church symbols are on the back. Cut out and hide the cards in the classroom before the students arrive. During the lesson, you will attach them to the world map (which the other church symbols are attached to) over the country indicated on the card, with the church symbol facing out. **Note:** If you are planning to tape these visuals to a small world map, you will want to print the visuals smaller than the original size.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Missionary Testimony

- › Arrange for a missionary from your church to come and share with the class.

2. Missionary Stories

- › Read from a child's missionary resource, such as: *Window on the World: When We Pray God Works* (Spraggett, Johnstone) and *Hero Tales: A Family Treasury of True Stories from the Lives of Christian Heroes* (Jackson).

Large Group Lesson

Illustration.....

UNFROSTED CAKE,
SPATULA, AND
CONTAINER OF
FROSTING

(Display the **unfrosted cake**. Choose a student to come and add frosting to the cake. Hand him the **spatula** and **container of frosting**, and instruct him to only put the frosting in a very small area on the cake—an area about 2 inches in diameter. Encourage him to add more frosting to that same small area, trying to stack additional frosting upward. Keep reminding him to not let the frosting spread beyond this area. After he has stacked as much as he can in this small area, have him stop and return to his seat. Make sure that the class can see the final results.)

Do you think that it would work to try and stack all of the frosting only in the center of the cake? Why not? Is this the way you are supposed to frost a cake? Why not?



(Point out that things like frosting are meant to be spread out over the entire cake. Frosting is not meant to be stacked in just one area. This illustration can help us understand a very important command that Jesus has given His disciples.)



(Display the **Footprint Clue**, **Globe Clue**, **People Clue**, and **Bible Clue** visuals. Explain that these represent four clues regarding this command. Based on these clues, ask the students if they can guess the command you are referencing.)



(Have a Sword Drill, dividing the class into two groups and assigning each group one of the following: Matthew 28:18-20 or Acts 1:8-9. Choose a student from each group to read the Scriptures.)



Matthew 28:18-20—And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:8-9—“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

(Choose four students to come to the front and give each of them one of the **clues visuals** to hold.)

❓ *What words in these verses do you think that these footprints represent? [go]*

Go into All the World

? *What words in these verses do you think this globe represents?* [Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the end of the earth (all nations, too)]

? *What words in these verses do you think this picture of people represents?* [all nations—people from every nation on earth (make disciples, too)]

? *What words in these verses do you think this Bible represents?* [teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, be my witnesses (make disciples, too)]

(Have the students return to their seats.)

- Jesus spoke these words to His disciples before He ascended into heaven about 2,000 years ago.
- Jesus wants to spread the good news of His gospel throughout the world—just like frosting is meant to be spread over the entire cake.
- Jesus commanded His disciples to do this spreading—taking His words, the Bible, in order to make disciples in every nation on earth. That includes every country, every race, every language, and every tribe or ethnic group.

LARGE WORLD MAP,
TAPE, AND FIRST
CHURCH VISUALS

(Display the **large world map**, point to Jerusalem, and **tape** the **First Church 1** visual over it. Explain that the very first disciples established the very first church in this tiny area of the world, just as Jesus had commanded. They preached the message of the gospel and many Jews came to salvation in Jesus. The disciples continued to teach these new Christians about what it means to be a disciple and follow Jesus' commands. But this church was made up of only one kind of people: Jewish people.)

Did the very first church and the very first disciples simply stay in Jerusalem? No. How do we know this?

(Explain that the book of Acts tells about the travels of the early disciples like Paul and Barnabas as they went out from Jerusalem spreading the gospel and establishing churches. **Tape** the **First Church 2** and **First Church 3** visuals on the map, going along the Mediterranean coast from Jerusalem to Rome.)

? *But in Rome, Paul was killed. And all the other disciples that had been with Jesus also died in this area of the world. Is there any proof that the gospel kept spreading—even to places far, far away?* (Allow students to respond.)

Activity.....

MISSIONARY 1-6
AND COUNTRY 1-6
CARDS

(Divide the students into groups of 3–6 students. Explain that each group will be given one of the color-coded **Missionary 1-6** cards. They are to read the card, which tells of a missionary who went to spread the gospel to a certain place in the world. Hidden in the

room are **Country 1-6** cards that correspond to the country of each specific Missionary card. After each group reads its Missionary card, have them search for the corresponding Country card—they must find only their group’s color. Give the students the signal to begin. The activity should not take more than 4-5 minutes. Note: If you have a small class, you could divide the cards differently, so long as they are all distributed.)

What is some proof that the spread of the gospel did not end with those first disciples? These men and women, and thousands more in each new generation of Christians, went out to new nations and places all around the world. They are called missionaries because they are on a mission—a mission to spread the gospel.

(**Tape** the **Country 1-6** cards to the appropriate country on the world map with the church side facing out. Explain that since the time Jesus returned to heaven, He has given this same command to each new generation of Christians: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” Hold the set of **Missionary** cards and point out that all of these missionaries are now dead, too, and have gone to be with the Lord in heaven.)

Do you think that the mission is finished yet? No, it isn’t. There are still places all around the world where millions of people have never heard the gospel. There are places where no missionary has gone. And even when missionaries go to some of these places, they need to translate the Bible into the language that the people speak so they can read God’s Word for themselves. There are more than 1,800 languages spoken that have no Bible translated in that language.

Illustration.....

(Have the students imagine that the entire class represents all the different languages in the world—there are almost 7,000 languages worldwide. Less than half of the class would receive the entire Bible in their own language. The other students would be left out.)

? *Why is it so important that the peoples of the world have a Bible in their own language?* (Allow the students to respond.)

- The Bible is God’s truth and is necessary for knowing and understanding the message of the gospel and how we must be saved (Romans 10:17).
- The Bible is necessary for instructing Christians on how to live righteous and holy lives, growing in obedience to Jesus and His commands (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

BIBLE

(Hold up your **Bible**. Point out that the Bible was not originally in our own language, nor was the first church established near where most of the people of the world live today. Yet, because Jesus’ disciples long ago obeyed His command to “go and make disciples

Go into All the World

of all nations,” we have heard the gospel message and have God’s Word in our own language.)

CAKE, FROSTING,
SPATULA, AND
WHITEBOARD AND
MARKERS

(Display the **cake and frosting** again. Begin frosting the entire cake.)

- Jesus wants the gospel to be spread out over the entire world.
- There are two main ways to obey Jesus’ command to go into all the world with the gospel.

(On the **whiteboard**, write the following.)

Go somewhere

Send someone

“Go” means being a missionary who actually goes somewhere to share the message of the gospel to people of a different culture, and maybe even of a different language.

❓ *What do you think “send someone” means?* (Allow students to respond.)

- Missionaries who “go” need special things in order to go. Jesus wants other Christians to provide those things.
- Missionaries need prayers, encouragement, and money to do the work of spreading the gospel.

WORLD HEART
VISUAL, LOVE GOD
MOST HEART,
AND TAPE

(Remove the **World Heart** from the pocket of the **Love God Most Heart**. **Tape** this smaller heart to the larger one.)

In the book of Revelation—the last book of the Bible—God gave the apostle John a glimpse of a song that is sung in heaven about Jesus...

Revelation 5:9-10—...“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Small Group Application

Choose one or more of the following suggestions for interacting with the students during this time.

Workbook

Help the student follow the directions on the workbook page, providing them with a photo of the missionaries to glue or tape on the page, if possible. Help them complete the About section. Talk about the challenges they may face living in this particular country and culture. Next, talk about ways you could pray for them, encourage them in some way, and even support them financially if applicable. (Or, you could communicate how the church uses some of the offerings to support their missionaries.) Have a time of prayer together.

Being Obedient to Jesus' Command to Go Somewhere or Send Someone

Suppose every single person in our church decided that the only way to obey Jesus' command to go into all the world was to go to a faraway place and share the gospel. What would happen to our church? Who would support all of us and provide the money we need for travel, a new place to live, food and clothes, and everything else? Why is it good and wise that Jesus' design is that some go and some stay and send? For right now, how could you show an openness to being a "goer" someday in the future? Do you take an interest in what God is doing around the world? Do you seek to learn about other countries and cultures? How can this be helpful? How could you be more involved in being a good sender? What is one thing you could do this week that would serve as an encouragement to a missionary family from our church?

Some Peoples and Countries Are Hostile to the Gospel

Point out that some places where missionaries go are very dangerous. There are places that outlaw the gospel and places where you can be killed for being a Christian, or even for having a Bible. Recall the **Missionary** card for Nate Saint. Ask the students if any of them know more of his story. Explain that Nate and four of his fellow missionaries were killed by the very people they were trying to reach with the gospel. The missionaries and their families knew ahead of time that the Auca people were very hostile to outsiders. They had killed others in the past—the missionaries knew that it might happen to them, too.

Do you think these missionaries were foolish to try to reach the Auca people with the gospel? Should Christians only go to "safe" places?

Read Jesus' words again from Matthew 28:18-20. Why is verse 18 important? Was the killing of the missionaries by the Aucas outside of Jesus' authority and control? No. Explain that after the death of the missionaries, one of their wives went back with her young daughter in order to try and reach the Aucas with the gospel (Elisabeth Elliot). This time, some of the Aucas responded to the gospel in repentance and belief in Jesus!

Optional Activities

1. Missionary Testimony

Arrange for a missionary from your church to come and share with the class.

2. Missionary Stories

Read from a child's resource such as *Window on the World: When We Pray God Works* (Spraggett, Johnstone) or *Hero Tales: A Family Treasury of True Stories from the Lives of Christian Heroes* (Jackson).

Send Home

- Growing in Faith Together Page for Lesson 33 (for each student)



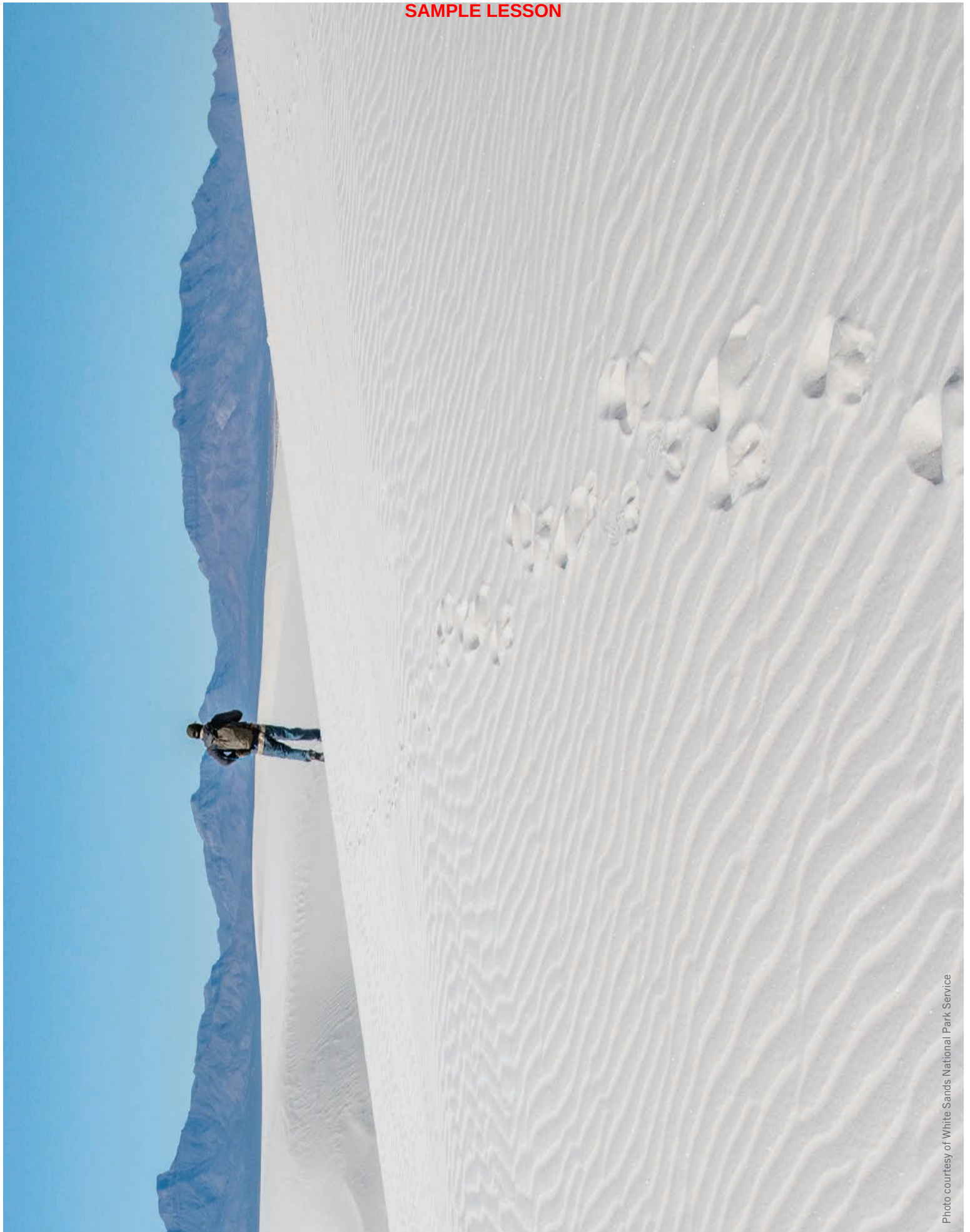


Photo courtesy of White Sands National Park Service









33F



33G



33H

My name is David Brainerd. I was born in the northeastern part of the United States in 1718. Not far from my home lived Native American peoples who had never heard the gospel. Though I was young, God called me to bring the gospel to them. In the short time that I was a missionary, Jesus saved many Native Americans.

MISSIONARY: DAVID BRAINERD

33J

My name is Gladys Aylward. I was born in 1902. I went to be a missionary in Yangcheng, China. I opened an inn called, "The Inn of Eight Happinesses." At the inn, I offered people food and a bed to sleep in. But better yet, I offered to tell them a new story that they had never heard before—the story of Jesus!

MISSIONARY: GLADYS AYLWARD

33I

My name is Nate Saint. I was born in 1923 and became a missionary pilot to unreached people groups deep in the jungle of Ecuador, South America. My friends and I wanted to preach the gospel to the Auca people. Although I was killed trying to reach the Aucas, after I died they did hear and respond to the gospel.

MISSIONARY: NATE SAINT

33M

My name is Amy Charmichael. I was born in 1867. I went to India and was a missionary there for 55 years. I worked to rescue abandoned and abused children. Many came to live with me and I shared with them the love and hope of Jesus. The people called me “Amma” which in their language means “Mother.”

MISSIONARY: AMY CHARMICHAEL

33N

My name is David Livingstone. I was born in 1813. I became a missionary doctor and traveled through many miles of jungle and deserts in central Africa. I wanted to take the gospel where it had never been before on this large continent. Life was very hard. We were often sick with malaria and other diseases. There was danger from wild lions and cruel slave traders also.

MISSIONARY: DAVID LIVINGSTONE

33E

My name is John Wycliffe. I was born in 1324. I was a teacher at Oxford University. I did not “go out” to preach the gospel, but I did send the gospel out. How? I translated the Bible into the common language of my country—English. Ordinary people could now read the Bible! I also helped send missionaries out to spread the gospel.

MISSIONARY: JOHN WYCLIFFE

33L

CHINA

33Q

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

33P

**CENTRAL
AFRICA**

33Q

ENGLAND

33R

ECUADOR

33S

INDIA

33T



33U



33V



33W



33X



33Y



33Z

Lesson 33

TO BE LIKE JESUS



Go into All the World

Main Ideas

- Jesus commands His disciples to spread the message of the Gospel throughout the World.
- All Christians are to participate in this mission—either by going or sending.

Memory Verses

...“All authority in heaven and on the earth has been given to me.

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”—*Matthew 28:18-20a*

Scripture

1) Matthew 28:18-20

2) Acts 1:8-9

3) Revelation 5:9-10

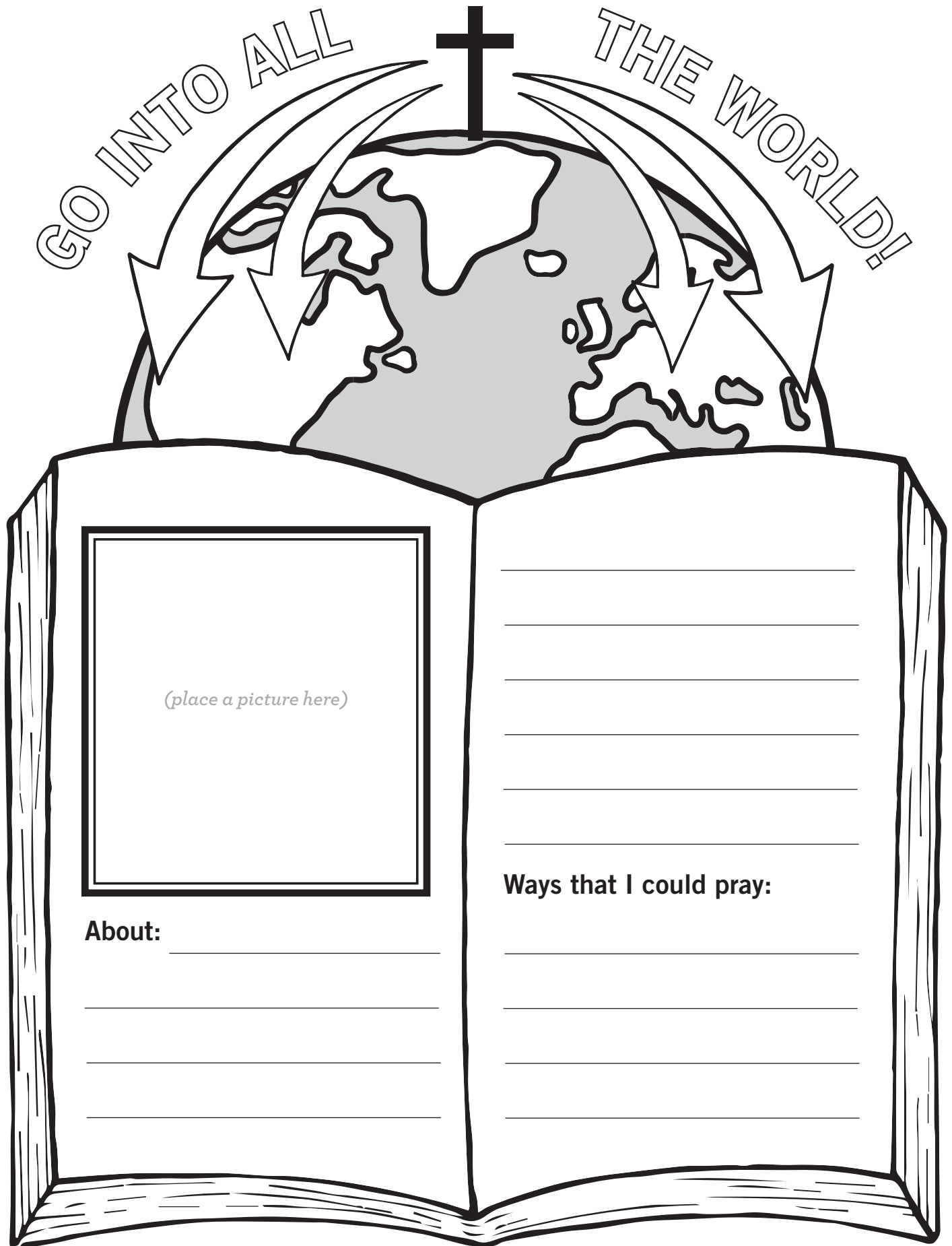
Apply What You’ve Learned

Have your teacher or parents help you do the following: Find out information about a missionary from your church. Use your workbook page to write some important facts about the country or people group the missionary serves. For example, you might want to write how many people live there, what language they speak, and a few things that describe the daily life of the people there. If available, you could glue a picture of the missionary onto the page.

Think about the challenges they may face living in this particular country and culture. Next, think about ways you could pray for them, encourage them in some way, and even support them.

Suppose every single person in our church decided that the only way to obey Jesus’ command to go into all the world was to go to a faraway place and share the Gospel. What would happen to our church? Who would support all of us and provide the money we need for travel, a new place to live, food and clothes, and everything else? Why is it good and wise that Jesus has designed that some go and some stay to send?

For right now, how could you show an openness to being a “goer” someday in the future? Do you take an interest in what God is doing around the world? Do you seek to learn about other countries and cultures? How can this be helpful? How could you be more involved in being a good sender? What is one thing you could do this week that would serve as an encouragement to a missionary family from our church?





Go into All the World

SAMPLE LESSON

MAIN IDEA

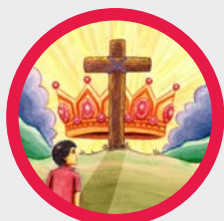
- **Jesus commands His disciples to spread the message of the gospel throughout the world.**
- **All Christians are to participate in this mission—either by going or sending.**

MEMORY VERSES

...“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
¹⁹ 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, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”
—Matthew 28:18-20a

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Matthew 28:18-20
- 2) Acts 1:8-9
- 3) Revelation 5:9-10



LESSON SUMMARY

Often when we hear the word “missions,” we immediately think of going out to other nations, cultures, and peoples with the gospel. What we are less likely to think of and ponder is that we are all the beneficiaries of missionaries. We have the Bible in our own language because others heeded Jesus’ command to go into all the world and make disciples. We have a local church to attend, and pastors and elders, because faithful disciples before us heeded Jesus’ command. From the time of Jesus’ command until now, the gospel has increasingly gone out to every corner of the globe. So, in this lesson, we first looked back through history, recalling several missionaries, to see the purpose and faithfulness of Jesus in building His church through the ongoing mission of His disciples.

We also challenged the students to see the role that Jesus’ disciples now have to participate in this ongoing mission, either as those who will go, or those who will help others to go. No Christian is exempt from this awesome privilege and responsibility. Our desire should be to fan the flames of the worldwide mission of Christ in such a way that our children are encouraged to be actively engaged in this endeavor, even now.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...

- *that your child would be truly amazed by the wonderful faithfulness of God and His people throughout history.*
- *that God would be stirring a lifelong desire in your child to be an active participant in Jesus’ great commission.*



AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Read and talk about the following: Matthew 28:18-20; Revelation 5:9-10; and Romans 10:13-17.
- Suppose every single person in our church decided that the only way to obey Jesus’ command to go into all the world was to go to a faraway place and share the gospel. What would happen to our church? Who would support all of us and provide the money we need for travel, a new place to live, food, clothes, and everything else? Why is it good and wise that Jesus has designed it so that some go, and some stay and send? For right now, how could you show an openness to being a “goer” someday in the future? Do you take an interest in what God is doing around the world?

Do you seek to learn about other countries and cultures? How can this be helpful? How could you be more involved in being a good sender? What is one thing you could do this week that would serve as an encouragement to a missionary family from our church?

- Point out that some places that missionaries go to are very dangerous. There are places that “outlaw” the gospel, and places where

you can be killed for being a Christian, or even for having a Bible. **Should Christians only go to safe places?** Read Jesus’ words again from Matthew 28:18-20. In what way does verse 18 offer encouragement, even in these hard places? Can you think of other verses that would offer encouragement? (i.e., Philippians 3:8; Romans 8:31-39; and 2 Timothy 4:5-8)

ACTION STEPS

This week, with your parents’ help, focus on a missionary from your church. Talk about the challenges this person may face living in this particular country and culture. Next, talk about ways you could pray for this missionary, encourage him or her, and even support this missionary financially.

MISSIONARY

COUNTRY THEY SERVE IN

FACTS ABOUT THE COUNTRY

WHAT THE MISSIONARY DOES IN THIS COUNTRY

WAYS WE CAN ENCOURAGE THIS MISSIONARY

1

2

3

4