

## Family Worship Guide – Week 43

### READ

This week we are studying our vision, mission, and goal as The Church at Brook Hills. In other words, what has God commanded us to do and why has He commanded us to do it?

Read Matthew 28:16-20. In this passage, Jesus appears to His disciples after He has been raised from the dead. We can see our vision mission and goal in these verses of Scripture. As The Church at Brook Hills “We glorify God by making disciples of all nations”.

**Our Vision: “We Glorify God”**—Jesus begins by telling His disciples, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given unto me.” (Mt. 28:18) Jesus is saying, “I am the King. I deserve the worship and obedience of every person in the world and every being in the universe.” This is why we do everything we do here at The Church at Brook Hill – because God has declared that Jesus is the King of the Universe and that all people everywhere should worship Him.

**Our Mission: “By Making Disciples”**—Jesus then tell His disciples to go and make more disciples. A disciple is someone who follows Jesus wherever Jesus commands. A disciple recognizes that Jesus is the King, that he has all authority, and then they commit to living under the rule of King Jesus. So, here at Brook Hills, we glorify God by making disciples. We call men and women, boys and girls to stop living as if they are their own authority and to start living under the authority of King Jesus.

**Our Goal: “Of All Nations”**—Jesus does not simply command us to make disciples of people who are just like us. Rather, he commands us to make disciples of “all nations.” Because God has given **all** authority to Jesus, he is worthy to be worshiped by **all** nations. We take the gospel to every people group on earth because Jesus is their rightful King and he deserves their worship.

Finally, Jesus promises to be with us until the end of the age (28:20). We are not able to make disciples of all nations in our own strength. This is something that only Jesus can do. But because he has all authority, because he is the great King who has conquered death, because he has promised to build his church (Mt. 16:18), we know that he will accomplish his mission through his people.

#### Questions:

Are you a disciple? Are you ruling your life or is King Jesus ruling your life?

How can your family join in the mission that Jesus has given us to glorify God by making disciples of al nations?

**Bottom Line:** We glorify God by making disciples of all nations.

### PRAY

The United Kingdom of Great Britain is predominantly a Christian nation and has been for centuries. London’s diverse population offers many opportunities to reach multiple people groups living in one area. The Church is growing among many ethnic minorities. Part of this is through widespread immigration from strongly Christian nations such as Nigeria and Brazil, whose Christians bring with them much needed confidence and vitality in the gospel. Immigration has also brought many unevangelized peoples right onto the doorsteps of gospel-oriented churches and the opportunity to reach these people groups is wide open.

The growing ethnic-minority populations form a significant part of the United Kingdom’s urban life. In some areas specific minority-groups make up the largest single group. Some of these groups are mostly Christians among peoples such as African Carribeans and East Asians. Others though are from countries where the gospel is little known and entry of missionaries is restricted. These include South Asians, North Africans, Middle Eastern and The Chinese.

Grace T., a Brook Hills’ Long-Term missionary, serves with the IMB in London as part of their communications team for many of these unreached people groups. She has the responsibility of interacting with the unreached in order to tell their stories and help churches around the world be educated and motivated to go and make disciples of all nations. By using her gifts of journalism and communication she is able to engage cultures and build relationships to share the

gospel. Let us remember to pray for Grace this week as she works diligently to make disciples of all nations.

## SING

We have a wonderfully good and glorious God who loves and restores us. This is why we go into the world and share Christ with others – because he is good, because his glory demands it, because he is gracious enough to redeem us. These are the reasons we chose ‘Awesome Is The Lord Most High’ for this week’s song. Rejoice as you sing about God’s greatness and faithfulness to you as you take his truth to the nations.

## MEMORIZE

Matthew 28:18-20—“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given unto me. 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.”

## SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship Him together.

### Preschool

- Before you begin: Gather photos of your extended family and print photos from the internet of different children and families from other people groups around the world.
- Read Matthew 28:18-20 with your preschooler.
- While you show your preschooler the photos, explain that the Bible tells us about God’s love for his people. He loved us so much that he sent his only son, Jesus, to save us from our sins. God wants everyone to know him because God loves us.
- Tell your preschooler that not everyone has a Bible in his or her home that they can read, and many places in this world do not have Bibles written in their languages. Ask your child how they think these people and children will hear about Jesus. Who should tell them? Explain to your child that God wants all of us who know Jesus to tell others who live all over the world about him. God wants all nations to hear about his love. When we tell others about Jesus, we are doing what God wants us to do.
- Conclude by reading Matthew 28:18-20 again. Pray with your preschooler and ask God to help us tell others about him and his love for us.

### Children

- Materials: kids dress-up crowns or cards with royal titles (prince or princess) for each child.
- Tell the child(ren) that you have decided to make each of them a prince or princess. Give each a crown or card with new title on it. Tell them that from now on, each of them will sit on a throne, dress in royal clothes, and have servants to wait on them. Then ask your child if you have the authority to actually make him or her into a real prince or princess. Tell them that you cannot do this because you do not have the authority or permission to change them from an ordinary son or daughter into a royal son or daughter. Tell them that they could be royalty if you were already a King (or Queen if mom is leading the activity).
- Remind them that the memory verse commands those who followed Christ to make disciples of all nations. The verse says that all authority in heaven and earth was given to Jesus Christ by God which means Jesus had permission from God to give us this command. Jesus had permission because he is the son of God Most High and King of Kings. As King, Jesus should be able to make disciples, but Jesus is not saying that he will go make disciples of all nations – he is giving authority or permission for his disciples to do this because they are now part of the royal family of God. By obeying Jesus and making disciples in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, they are showing God’s glory to others and bringing Him more glory.
- Tell children that if you were a king, it would bring glory to you whenever your children were obedient because it would show others how much you were loved. Tell them that we glorify God this way when we obey Him and make disciples of all nations.

## Students

- After reading through Matthew 28:16-20, ask your student(s) if they observed any words that seem to be repeated in the passage. *They should notice two words that are repeated: Jesus and disciples.* You will want to draw attention to the fact that Jesus was very committed to the concept of and people who were disciples. Ask your student(s) if they can remember who the first disciples were who later became apostles. (A concise listing of these is in Acts 1:12-14). Ask them what were some of the things they did and how they would describe the lives of these individuals.
- Illustration: Now would be a great time to use an illustration using PH paper. You can purchase PH paper in the plumbing section of a hardware store, or you can search Youtube for a PH paper experiment that fits well. After having your student(s) demonstrate what PH paper does, talk with them about what happened and what the purpose of the PH paper is. (Answer: it is a litmus test that shows whether something is an acid or a base in its chemical composition.)
- You will notice that one of the questions we face is whether or not we are in fact disciples of Christ. In Matthew 28, Jesus is giving us a bit of a litmus (or PH) test for our lives in regard to being disciples with two statements in this passage. Jesus gave us a command to make disciples and promised that he would be with us. So, if we are disciples of Christ, we should be making disciples. (You may want to incorporate I John 2:1-6 here). The second “test” is that Jesus said that he would be “with you always, to the end of the age.” So, would your life have looked any different in the last week if Jesus were not with you? Is there an obvious direction, passion, and drive to see the Great Commission accomplished that requires God working in and through your life? Are you living your life in such a way that you are desperately dependent on the presence of Christ in it? This would be a great time to pray for each other individually and out loud.

## Prayer

### Lives/Church

Spend some time this week adoring God for who he is. Praise him for his holy character and his mighty acts. Thank him especially that he has given all authority in heaven and on earth to his Son Jesus Christ. Acknowledge that since Jesus has all authority, he deserves your total and unreserved allegiance. Search your heart for areas where you are not submitting to him, confess your rebellion, and accept the forgiveness that he offers through his death and resurrection. Finally, pray that God would give you individually and us as a church, a steadfast, unwavering commitment to seek his glory by making disciples of all nations.

### Local

**Local Church:** First Baptist Alabaster – Steve Andrews

**Focus:** Pathways – a United Way agency that serves homeless women and children. They provide short-term and long-term transitional housing, plus permanent housing for homeless women with mental illness. Their goal is to provide a safe place to stay and training that helps each woman resume her place as a productive member of the community.

**Monday:** Pray for the staff at Pathways for wisdom and focus as they serve the needs of so many women in our community.

**Tuesday:** Pray that more Brook Hills' small groups, families and individuals will serve at Pathways and share the gospel with the women involved in their programs (Janis Evans at Janis@pathwayshome.org)

**Wednesday:** Pray for the residents to be open to building relationships with staff and volunteers.

**Thursday:** Pray for opportunities for gospel-centered conversations to take place with volunteers.

**Friday:** Pray for ladies to be open for longer term one-on-one or small group disciple-making relationships.

**Saturday:** Pray for the residents to experience healing mentally, socially, emotionally, and most importantly spiritually through a new identity in Christ.

## Scripture Memory

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given unto me. 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."  
Matthew 28:18-20

## Week 43

### Global

**Short Term Teams:** There are no short term teams this week.

**Partner:** Brook Hills' Long-Term Missionary, Grace T., serving among unreached peoples in London.

**Monday:** Grace has been co-leading a small group in her community. They are growing and ready to multiply. Pray for wisdom as Grace leads her group during this transition.

**Tuesday:** Grace travels often as a journalist to difficult areas where she engages unreached peoples. Pray for safety as she travels and for times of rest when she returns home.

**Wednesday:** Pray for Grace to have discernment as she has strategic conversations with friends needing Christ. Pray for her friends to be open and receptive to the gospel.

**Thursday:** Pray for Grace to be disciplined in her time in the Word and to make prayer a priority.

**Friday:** Grace is discipling a few women from her house church. Pray for spiritual fruit as she pours her life into others.

**Saturday:** Pray that the people Grace encounters will hear the gospel and know Christ.

## Awesome Is The Lord Most High

by Jesse Reeves, Cary Pierce, Chris Tomlin and Jon Abel

Great are You Lord mighty in strength  
You are faithful and You will ever be  
We will praise You all of our days  
It's for Your glory we offer everything

Raise your hands all you nations  
Shout to God all creation  
How awesome is the Lord most high

Where You send us God we will go  
You're the answer we want the world to know  
We will trust You when You call our name  
Where You lead us we'll follow all the way

We will praise You together for now and forever  
How awesome is the Lord most high

Hallelujah hallelujah  
How awesome is the Lord most high

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