BAPTIST YOUTH WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
Resource Guide 2018
Greetings from the President

Every year we, The Youth Department of the Baptist World Alliance, unite together to pray for our brothers and sisters around the world. As we grow in faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ, we learn that prayer is a very powerful weapon. God has given us the ability to bring our petitions to him and cast all of our cares on Him for He cares of us. (1 Peter 5:7) Our prayers to God can make a difference, not only in our lives, but also in the lives of other young people around the world.

The BWA Youth Department is encouraging you to rally up your Christian brothers and sisters in unity to intercede on behalf of your brothers and sisters around the world, to celebrate the union we are as the body of Christ, and to contribute to help the success of mission projects involving young people around the world.

For the past five years, we have been committed to live out our Singapore Declaration. As young disciples, we desire to go beyond the church walls and express to all the life that we live in Jesus Christ. Our theme for this year is “Evangelism!” God’s Mission continues with us. With God’s direction, we can do great things locally and globally. During this time of prayer and study as a Baptist youth body, we hope that you experience God in a wonderful way and become empowered to do God’s mission with great impact.

We have materials available for you to follow, which can be found on our website.

(Click Youth World Day of Prayer link) http://www.bwanet.org/programs/youth

Since we left Singapore, our Youth World Day of Prayer has been very successful. We anticipate once again great results from your participation in the BWA Youth World Day of Prayer on June 10th 2018. Remember, we are a chosen generation seeking to be GOSPEL people.

Giving
Open to God’s Mission
Speaking Out
Prophetic Action
Evangelism
Living

We look forward to hearing about your spiritual experiences and know our prayers are always with you.

We also have Our Prayer Wall on the BWA Youth Department page on Facebook. You are always welcome to share your prayers and prayer requests all year round.

Blessings,

Amanda Haines,
BWA Youth Department President
The Baptist Youth World Day of Prayer is an annual event held on the second Sunday in June. This year, that day is June 10, 2018. Young people around the world are encouraged to plan services that reflect upon the importance of prayer and to intercede on behalf of others.

It is a time to celebrate the unity we share as believers in Jesus Christ and to seek a deeper relationship with Christ.

It is also a time to contribute to our Annual Prayer Offering. This offering is used to assist with mission projects involving young people around the world and leadership development training.

This year's theme is “Evangelism and Discipleship” and is based on the Singapore Declaration that calls Baptist young people to commit themselves to live as “GOSPEL” people.

Included in this resource guide are five Bible studies developed from the text of Matthew 28:18-20 and other related text. It is intended that you will plan to use these, not only for the Day of Prayer, but at other times during the course of the year.

**Ways to promote the Youth World Day of Prayer:**
- posting to your churches’ website
- printing/posting to your church bulletin board
- sharing on your youth group/organization/personal social media platforms/website.

**Youth World Day of Prayer On Social Media**

We invite you to follow us on Twitter: @BWAYouth and join our Facebook page. There, we encourage people to post prayer requests, memories/pictures from the Youth World Day of Prayer gatherings, and also to be connected and know what the global Baptist family is doing.

To promote the Youth World Day of Prayer on Twitter or Facebook please use the BWA Handle @BWAYouth and the Day of Prayer hashtag (#YouthPrayer18). We also encourage you to share/retweet posts that the BWA Youth shares!

**Youth World Day of Prayer Offering:**

You can make an ONLINE DONATION now:
1. Select: “BWA General Ministry” on the drop down menu
2. Complete the donation form
3. Write on the Comments: 2018 Youth World Day of Prayer

Or send your offering to:
BWA Youth Department
405 North Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046 - USA
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9 NIV

Call to Worship (1 minute)

Praise Celebration (15 minutes)
(Music leader should lead within the context of the audience.)

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20 or Acts 1:9

Prayer Session I – Intercession (15 minutes)
(Ask the audience for prayer points focusing on their own needs as well as the needs of others. Have two persons offer prayers on behalf of all.)

Musical Offering (10 minutes)
(Music leader should lead in prayer choruses.)

Bible Study/Sermon (30 minutes)
(The leader is encouraged to use the text of Matthew 28:18-20 or Acts 1:9)

Musical Offering (10 minutes)

Prayer Session II – Intercession (15 minutes)
(Invite six different youth to use the 2018 Baptist Youth Prayer Guide to address world concerns.)

Time alone with God (3-5 Minutes)
(This is an opportunity for silent meditation.)

Closing Song (3 minutes)

Closing Prayer (1 Minute)

Note: Time should also be set aside to raise the BWA Youth World Day of Prayer Offering.
Outline adopted in part from “The Praying Youth” produced by the Youth Ministries Division of the Nigerian Baptist Convention.
Singapore Declaration

We the participants of the 16th Baptist World Alliance Youth World Conference 2013 meeting in Singapore are a generation declaring as followers of Jesus that we are to be part of the change we desire to see in this world.

It is evident that things on this Earth are not as our God created them to be.

As we pray “Your Kingdom Come,” we recognize that this broken world cries out for justice, freedom, peace, hope, and love.

We have heard the call of God through the Scripture, life stories, and spoken word. This call is to give our lives afresh to be the transforming presence of Christ, taking faith-based risks, denying ourselves, and taking up the cross of Christ in our daily living to make a difference for God’s glory.

We covenant today to seek to be G.O.S.P.E.L. people.

**G: Giving**

We offer our whole lives to God as living sacrifices (Romans 12:1), into the service of God wherever He may call us to go in a broken and hurting world, that we may use our very lives, our skills, our talents, and our resources for God and His mission. They are not for our purposes, but that we strive to take hold of that for which Christ took hold of us (Philippians 3:12).

**O: Open to God’s Mission (Missio Dei)**

We are a generation committed to linking arms with our brothers and sisters of the larger family of God, while celebrating our being Baptist as part of the family of God. We realize that we are not called to be comfortable, but disturbed into godly action in response to the heartbeat of God for a broken world. Our passion for Christ and the call of the Gospel drives us all to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we live day by day. As authentic disciples, we commit to serve in the work of the Gospel in our everyday lives.
S: Speaking Out

We will not be content with simply following religious motions, but instead will be a people who are a living reflection of Jesus, giving voice to those on the margins, offering hope to the oppressed, the rejected, and the victims of evil in our world. We repent that too often, and for too long, we have remained silent when we should have made ourselves heard. Our commitment is to stand shoulder to shoulder with those in need. We will seek justice, bring peace, and lead with grace.

P: Prophetic Action

In our dialogue and service, we are also called to make the Gospel of Christ known through both word and action. We seek to join with God in His work, not merely asking God to bless what we want. In this just, we will be seeking transformation in our own lives, being agents of reconciliation, and actively engaging as peacemakers.

E: Evangelization

As we acknowledge that we were first loved by God, we will be a generation known by our love for all people. So being rooted in love and committed to Christ, we will bring the message of salvation and redemption through word and deed. In doing this, we seek to make disciples of all people, reaching our neighbor, and those who are far away (Acts 1:9). We encourage all youth of the BWA to first be disciples of Jesus, and to be committed to the calling to make Him known to all.

L: Living

We want to be living, breathing expressions of the Gospel as free samples of Jesus wherever we may find ourselves. Together and dispersed, we will live this out; this is our desire personally, locally, nationally, and globally. Even in trials and trauma, God gives us opportunities to display His love. As we practice hospitality and love for all humankind in the name of Christ, God will give opportunities for Christ to be glorified.

We undertake to pray for one another, upholding one another in the body—as this is a tough calling. We invite all young people of the world to join us to seek to walk the way of Christ in all things. Ultimately, we are to be a generation of followers of Jesus who will live simply, give generously, and love abundantly as G.O.S.P.E.L. people.
Today’s Lesson Objective: Participants will learn that the Great Commission is a command of Jesus given post-resurrection. Participants will understand that the power and authority that has been given by Jesus is an everlasting dominion. Participants will also learn that if God’s people want to love as God loves, then that love must include evangelism.

Materials or Advance Preparation: Pen, pencil, Bible, dry erase board, marker.

Bible Study Title: Rooted in Love and Committed to Christ

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20

NIV
18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 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,
20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

KJV
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Bible Exposition
The four books called the Gospels are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Gospels provide a historical background on the life and ministry of Jesus and were all composed sometime during the latter part of the first century A.D. The purpose of the Gospels is to present the Gospel message. Jesus traveled from town to town evangelizing, or “preaching the gospel” (Matthew 4:23). Evangelizing is spreading the Gospel message. This can be done by public preaching or sharing one’s personal testimony. Because of Jesus’ love for us, He wants everyone to know the Good News of salvation. Thus, to love is to evangelize. Evangelizing allows us to share the love-based salvation that we received and to tell others that love is available to everyone who believes in Jesus. It is our commitment to Christ that drives us to share the Good News! After Jesus’ resurrection, Jesus met with the eleven disciples. At this point, Judas had already hanged himself (see Matthew 27:3-10). Speaking to those gathered on that Galilean mountain, Jesus announced His authority and power “over the material world, over angels, over devils, over wicked men, and over His own people” (Barnes Notes on the Bible). Jesus’ Great Commission was a victory proclamation! ALL POWER was now in the hands of Jesus! The power and authority of Jesus was given to Him because of His…
Incarnation
The act of grace where Christ took our human nature into union with His Divine Person and became a man. Christ is both God and man (see Galatians 4:4).

Death
The death of Christ is the procuring cause of the actual salvation of all His people, together with all the means that lead thereto. It does not make their salvation merely possible, but certain (see Matthew 18:11).

Passion
Refers to the suffering of our Lord (see Acts 1:3).

Definitions Provided by Easton’s Bible Dictionary
Jesus’ coming to conquer Satan, the authority vested in Him by God over everything, and the everlasting dominion of Jesus are all foretold by Daniel (see Daniel 7:13-14). Jesus’ power and authority will continue until Jesus has placed death under His feet (see 1 Corinthians 15:24-27). Also, Jesus’ power and authority extends over the Church. Jesus “controls hearts and opinions, but the forces of heaven also are at His command, the Holy Spirit is bestowed by Him; the angels are in His employ as ministering to the members of His body” (Pulpit Commentary by Bible-Soft, Inc.).

Personal Daily Prayer Devotional Guidance
As you reflect on the Bible lesson during your time with God, finish the following statements:

Evangelism is rooted in love, because __________________________________________________________.

To me, commitment to Christ means __________________________________________________________.

I feel one mark of a committed Christian is ____________________________________________________.

The Great Commission commits every believer to ________________________________________________.

Meditate for a few minutes on your personal priorities. How much time and energy do you give to bringing people to Christ? Write a prayer to God asking for more opportunities to love as God loves by sharing God’s Word, God’s love, and the Good News with others.

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________
Today’s Small Group Prayer Guide/Activity – Committed to Christ!
Use the word committed to make an acrostic to explain its meaning.

C ______________________________________________________
O ______________________________________________________
M ______________________________________________________
M ______________________________________________________
I _______________________________________________________ 
T ______________________________________________________
T ______________________________________________________
E ______________________________________________________
D ______________________________________________________

Living As “G.O.S.P.E.L.” People Service Focus: Living the Prophetic Gospel Through Word and Action!

Adopt-a-Family
Show your love by Adopting a Family. Select a family from the congregation or by referral. Fill a medium-sized box with small items, such as books, socks, and other inexpensive items the family can use. Be sure to place a Bible or Gospel Bible tract in the box.

Suggested Prayer
Dear God, thank You for the power and authority of our Lord. Since Christ gave His life for us because of His love for us, may we show our love for You by devoting our efforts to sharing Your love with others. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
Today’s Lesson Objective: Participants will learn what discipleship is and that the church's responsibility is to make disciples through evangelism and discipleship. Participants will also realize that every believer is called to share the message of salvation with others, using the Word of God.

Materials or Advance Preparation: Pen, pencil, Bible

Bible Study Title: Bringing the Message of Salvation to the World with the Word
Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

NIV
18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 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,
20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

KJV
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Bible Exposition
After Jesus makes the declaration that He has been given all power and authority in heaven and in earth, Jesus moves to the Great Commission, which will be the focus of the remainder of this series. Jesus begins with the verb go. This word, go, when translated, is the Greek word poreūō (pronounced “po-ryü'-ō”), which means “to pursue the journey on which one has entered, to continue on one's journey” (Lexicon: Strong's). By using the verb go, Jesus’ statement suggests His command is a command to get moving. Jesus did not intend for His followers to be stationary, but rather, they are to be out actively taking the message of salvation to the world. Jesus continues with the phrase “and teach all nations” (verse 19). What is Jesus commanding here? It is that the message of the Gospel must be taught to everyone—Jews and Gentiles, male and female, whatever age, color, or location. The ministry of the church must be first and foremost a teaching ministry. We must be concerned with teaching to every person the truths found in the Word of God.

Reaching all nations requires discipleship. Discipleship requires first a conversion, then baptism, followed by teaching and training. Discipleship requires a personal commitment and an allegiance to Jesus. Jesus said the Holy Spirit will provide the power to His followers to be His witnesses, taking the Gospel message to “Jerusalem, and in
all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). The global ministry of Jesus thus extends even to the remotest parts of the world. Many believe, however, the local church need not to be involved in worldwide discipleship. But the church’s mission is to reach all peoples, making disciples by way of evangelism and discipleship. The church cannot erase “mission” from the command of the Great Commission. To do so would obliterate the purpose of the church.

When it comes to evangelizing, the Bible is your greatest resource. While some Christians say they do not know the Bible enough to share it with others, know that sharing God’s Word comes easier as you read and study it. We are encouraged to study so we can rightly handle God’s Word (see 2 Timothy 2:15). In the meantime, don’t walk away from an opportunity to witness; share your Christian testimony of how you came to know Jesus and how God has been working in your life.

**Personal Daily Prayer Devotional Guidance: Using the Bible to Share the Good News**

**ABCs of Salvation**

_A = All Have Sinned_, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” —Romans 3:23

_B = Believe_, “He then brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They replied, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.’” —Acts 16:30-31a

_C = Confess_, “If you declare with your mouth “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” —Romans 10:9

Cut out the **“ABCs of Salvation”** and place it into your Bible. When sharing, encourage the person to read the Bible verses themselves. When the person accepts Christ in their heart, lead them in a prayer of salvation:

Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I believe in You, and I believe Jesus died for my sins, and I want to be saved. Thank You for saving me. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

**Today’s Small Group Prayer Guide/Role-Play**

Scenario #1 – Your group is asked by a fellow student, who plays the role of Jesus.

Scenario #2 – Your group is asked by a stranger to tell him about Jesus.

Scenario #3 – Your group, while on a mission outing, is asked to explain salvation to a group of young people.

**Living As “G.O.S.P.E.L.” People Service Focus: Living the Prophetic Gospel Through Word and Action!**

**Distributing Bibles around the World**

Collect gently-used Bibles for distribution to Christian organizations around the world that need Bibles to prepare the people for the Great Commission. Where to start:

- Your Local Church — They may have names of organizations.
- Bible Foundation — a Scripture distribution ministry (http://www.bf.org/index.htm)

**Suggested Prayer**

Thank you, Jesus, for the awesome privilege to share the Good News with others. As we focus on evangelism, grant us opportunities to share Your plan of salvation with others and the power to boldly share Your Word. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
Today’s Lesson Objective: Participants will learn that sometimes people are uncomfortable with verbally sharing the Good News of Jesus. Therefore, participants will learn ways of sharing their faith through their deeds and actions. Participants will learn that shining their light can be done without even saying a word.

Materials or Advance Preparation: Pen, pencil, Bible, candles, matches, or flashlight.

Bible Study Title: Bringing the Message of Salvation to the World through Deeds

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20

NIV
18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 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,
20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

KJV
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Bible Exposition
The Great Commission is the command that Jesus gave after His resurrection. In Jesus’ announcement of the Great Commission, Jesus sets forth that the Good News is to be preached globally. The responsibility of taking the message to all people rests upon the church. Jesus said the mission task of the church is to make disciples. How are we to do this? Christians must:

1. Engage in an intensive and extensive proclamation of the Gospel among the nations of the world, meaningfully communicating the Gospel of God.
2. Lead people to experience the grace of God made available through the death and resurrection of Jesus, offering forgiveness of sin to those who believe the Gospel.
3. Separate people from their old sinful relationships and build them into the new congregation of God through the practice of baptism.
4. Teach them the percepts of the Master, and thus by the renewal of their minds, mold them into true Christian discipleship (Wycliffe Bible Dictionary).
As Christians share the Good News, we can express it without even saying a word. Many people say that because they often cannot find the right words to say or can’t get their words out, they should be excused from evangelizing. Some people are understandably introverted. Did you know your deeds and actions can speak volumes? Through our deeds, we can show others that we believe in Jesus. Jesus says in Matthew 5:16, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” We can shine our light for Jesus by being respectful to others, loving, and kind, as well as by helping those in need and standing up for righteousness in this world. Other ways to shine your light in a dark world include praying before meals in public, wearing T-shirts or hats with Bible quotes, and talking about Jesus and what Jesus means to you—or you can use social media or blogs to share Jesus with others. The primary duty of the church is to share the Good News. Since we are the ekklesia (Greek word for church), we are to be the light of the world. Jesus expects His people to spread the message of salvation, not to sit in our religious circles and entertain one another, but we should instead take the message to all peoples by any means necessary.

**Personal Daily Prayer Devotional Guidance**
Reflect on these words often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: “Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.” In the space below, think about a few other ways you can share the Good News without saying a word.

1. ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
2. ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
3. ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

End your quiet time with God by praying that God will use you and your testimony as a follower of Christ to illuminate the world around you and those you may reach locally, regionally, and globally on social media or otherwise.

**Today’s Small Group Prayer Guide/Activity Role-Play**
Let Your Light Shine!
The teacher will give each student a lit candle. You’ll be asked to give one reason why it is important to shine your light for Jesus.

**Living As “G.O.S.P.E.L.” People Service Focus: Living the Prophetic Gospel Through Word and Action!**

**Partnering with a Global Missions Outreach**
Partner with a global missions-outreach organization and find ways your group can support them with tangible items. Support can include non-perishable food, clothing, supplies, water, and monetary donations. There may be local organizations that have a global outreach. For this to be meaningful, commit to at least one year of involvement.

**Suggested Prayer:**
Father, we thank You for reminding us that we have a responsibility to use whatever means necessary to share the Gospel message with others. Help us remember that our Christian lifestyle, the things we do, and our good deeds are powerful evangelistic tools. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
Today’s Lesson Objective: Participants will learn that the main missionary focus of the church is to share God’s Word with all peoples. Participants will also learn that, metaphorically speaking, the field is ready for harvesting, but God needs people to harvest the field. Thus, participants will be encouraged to share the Good News locally.

Materials or Advance Preparation: Pen, pencil, Bible, dark scarf to use as a blindfold

Bible Study Title: Seeking to Make Disciples of All People (Locally)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20, 9:37-38

NIV
18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 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,
20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

KJV
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Bible Exposition
The missionary goal and responsibility of the church to share God’s Word with all peoples is a charge laid at the doors of the church by Jesus in the Great Commission (see Matthew 28:19-20). The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to empower God’s people to be His witnesses and take the message of the Gospel to “the ends of the earth.” The witnessing mission of the Holy Spirit is confirmed by Jesus in John 15:26. So, why aren’t we witnessing? Jesus saw this as an issue over two thousand years ago. Jesus says the harvest is ready, but the laborers are few (see Matthew 9:38). What stirred Jesus to make this statement is that there were many Pharisees and other religious leaders who were teaching the people to maintain strict religious and Jewish traditions, but there were not many who were going out to share the Good News of God with others. There were many people who were congregating to hear Jesus’ message of salvation. Their hearts were ready to receive the message of the Gospel, but laborers were few. What does this mean today? While there are plenty of opportunities for sharing the Gospel, there are just not enough believers who are willing to witness to others. Jesus invites persons to pray the Lord of the harvest to send persons (reapers) into the field to share the Good News. The word translated as send in verse 38 is the Greek word ekballō (pronounced ek-bä’l-lō), meaning to cast out, or to send out. The inference is that God not only does the sending, but God also provides the power and authority to the ones He sends.
There are many people in your local community, city, village, or town who are ready to receive the Gospel. Since God does the sending, pray for God to send you and other faithful believers to tell others about Jesus, who died for our sins and rose again! Witnessing to the Good News of the Gospel is a critical aspect of the church’s missionary charge. We must continue to sound this horn persistently and loudly until the message is heard and every church begins its worldwide reach to all nations. Since all four of the Gospels contain the scope of our mission from the evangelists’ own perspectives (see Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 24:44-49; and John 20:21-22), it shows the importance and urgency of the church’s missionary task.

**Personal Daily Prayer Devotional Guidance**
This activity calls for you to read the biblical text and then next to each, summarize the Great Commission based on each of the evangelists’ viewpoint.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matthew 28:19-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark 16:15-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke 24:44-49;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acts: 1:8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John 20:21-22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

End your quiet time with God with a prayer that God’s work of evangelism will go forth in you and that God will use you to make disciples through evangelism and discipleship locally.

**Today’s Small Group Prayer Guide/Activity**
The teacher will lead the class in an activity that will involve a classroom obstacle course.

**Living As “G.O.S.P.E.L.” People Service Focus: Living the Prophetic Gospel Through Word and Action!**
**Toy Collection Drive**
Collect new toys to donate to children and youth in local hospitals. Announce your drive in the newspaper, on the radio, and via social media. Establish a toy drop-off site and time at the church. Once items are collected, establish a delivery date. Attach to each gift a label identifying the name/address of your church/ministry and an appropriate Scripture verse.

**Suggested Prayer**
Dear God, we pray for opportunities to share the Gospel with those near us—our friends, relatives, neighbors, and even strangers. We pray for faithfulness to labor diligently in the missionary task that You have charged us with. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
Today’s Lesson Objective: Participants will learn that the main missionary focus of the church is to share God’s Word with all peoples. Participants will also learn that, metaphorically speaking, the field is ready for harvesting, but God needs people to harvest the field. Thus, participants will be encouraged to share the Good News locally.

Materials or Advance Preparation: Pen, pencil, Bible, dark scarf to use as a blindfold.

Bible Study Title: Seek to Make Disciples Far Away

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

NIV
18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 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,
20 teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

KJV
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Bible Exposition
Did you know the latest tally of the world’s population by the World Population Clock indicates that there are over 7.6 billion people in the world? Out of that number, it is estimated that about 2 billion people around the world have not heard the Gospel. In the Great Commission, Jesus mandates all of God’s people to share their faith with others. While most people understand that they have a personal responsibility to share their faith, when it comes to putting theory into practice, research by the Barna Group notes in their study “Is Evangelism Going Out of Style?” that “only half of born-again Christians say they actually did share the Gospel at least once … in the hope that they might accept Jesus Christ as their Savior.” Evangelism is the task of the church. To evangelize “is to bring good news to someone, specifically to announce information concerning Christian salvation (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-4)” (Wycliffe Bible Dictionary).

Prior to Jesus’ ascension to heaven, He comforted His disciples with the fact that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them. This power would enable them to take the Gospel message to the “ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). As we know, the Holy Spirit did come (see Acts 2:1-4), and the disciples were filled with the zeal, courage, and power that they needed to accomplish the task of taking the Gospel worldwide. Every believer
receives the Holy Spirit in their heart at the time of conversion, empowering them to witness for Christ. The empowered disciples were obedient, reaching out to the world for Christ (see Romans 10:18). The harvest that's being reaped is pictured in Revelations 7:9-10. John describes how he saw a vision of a great multitude in white robes, a number that no one could count. The multitude not only represents the result of an extensive and expansive missionary reach and growth of the church, but it also represents every nation, tribe, people, and language from every corner of the earth.

It is easy to be content with our local efforts, but there are still many people around the globe who need to hear the Gospel. We cannot lose our zeal or our passion for evangelism. Christ said He will not return until every nation has heard the Good News (see Matthew 24:14). May we introduce to the world a generation of young people who are globally aware and who will be committed to the calling to make God in Christ known to all.

**Personal Daily Prayer Devotional Guidance**

You have been challenged to become globally-minded. Pray over these global prayer requests. Then, write your personal prayer that sums up this Bible study series and how you have been inspired to evangelize.

- Pray for those in your city/state/town/village that still need to be reached with the Gospel.
- Pray for more Christian youth to realize that they were saved in order to shine brightly in a dark world.
- Pray that God's people will not allow themselves to be hindered by geographical and cultural boundaries when fulfilling the Great Commission.

**My Prayer**

Dear God:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

**Today's Small Group Prayer Guide/Activity**

**Prayer for the World**

The teacher will place a television (representing the world) in the center of the room. Write a prayer for a person, group, or situation on a sticky note and place it on the television.

Each group will be assigned a scenario and given a few minutes to collaborate. After collaboration, groups will be asked to act out their scenario, which must include a solution and a reconciliation of the parties.

**Living As “G.O.S.P.E.L.” People Service Focus: Living the Prophetic Gospel Through Word and Action!**

**The Gift of Prayer**

Give the gift of prayer to an outreach organization. A suggestion is World Outreach International, which endeavors to reach the least reached people in the world. Go to: https://world-outreach.com/pray/

The site will invite you to pray for their missionaries. World Outreach also offers an opportunity to receive daily updates through the Prayermate application.

**Suggested Prayer**

Dear God, as You continue to call and commission believers for works of service, may You provide opportunities for us to minister and witness to people not just around us but also all over the world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.