

## THE THREAD | The Gospel At Work

### Lesson 1: Jesus Appears & Ascends

Dear Parents,

Hello! I wanted to remind you about the study we're doing that focuses on teaching students the big-picture story of the Bible. This Bible study is called *The Thread: Discovering The Thread of the Gospel Through the Big-Picture Story of the Bible*. This week was the first of 13 lessons of *The Gospel At Work*, which looks at the spread of the Gospel and Christianity in a post-crucifixion/resurrection world. In this first week, entitled "Jesus Appears and Ascends," we focused on the Great Commission that Jesus gave the disciples when He appeared to them after the resurrection. Students looked at Jesus' call to share the Gospel with the world and the promise that the Holy Spirit empowers them to be Christ's messengers of the Gospel. These were some of the last words that Jesus spoke before He ascended into Heaven. Together, we looked at the fact that this command was given not only to the disciples but to us as well. Jesus made it clear that even His followers who did not see Him in the flesh would share in the blessing of carrying His good news to a lost and dying world. The best part? He also promised that we would not do it alone! The Holy Spirit empowers and equips believers to continue the work of Christ until He returns.

**Lesson Overview:** This lesson starts a new section in our journey through the big-picture study of the Bible. In this section of 13 lessons of *The Thread*, we'll look at the spread of the Gospel and Christianity in a post-crucifixion/resurrection world. As we do, we will focus on helping students transition into seeing the Gospel at work in the world. We'll begin doing this by looking at Jesus' ascension. This lesson will help students continue to grasp the nature of their call to share the Gospel with those around them.

**What We Want Your Teenager To Learn:** Understand that after Jesus arose, He appeared to His disciples before ultimately rejoining God the Father in Heaven and also better understand Jesus' call to share the Gospel with the world.

**What We Want Your Teenager To Do With What They've Learned:** Grasp that the Holy Spirit empowers them to be messengers of the Gospel.

**Scripture Passages We Studied:** John 20:19-29; Acts 1:1-11; Matthew 28:18-20

*Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.*

#### **Next Steps. . .**

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your teenager, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- What would it look like if our family were a Great Commission family?
- How can we do a better job of making disciples and teaching God's commands in our circle of influence?

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I'm praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don't hesitate to let me know.