Sunday School Questions For The Great Commission

Sunday School Questions for the Great Commission: Engaging Children with Global Missions

The Great Commission, found in Matthew 28:18-20, is a cornerstone of Christian faith, calling believers to make disciples of all nations. Teaching children about this vital mission can seem daunting, but crafting engaging Sunday school questions for the Great Commission can unlock their understanding and passion for global outreach. This article provides a variety of questions, categorized for different age groups and learning styles, along with practical tips for implementation and discussion. We'll explore how to make the Great Commission relevant and exciting for young learners, fostering a lifelong commitment to sharing the Gospel.

Understanding the Great Commission for Sunday School

Before diving into specific questions, let's revisit the core message of the Great Commission. It's not just about spreading a message; it's about making disciples – individuals who follow Jesus and share His love. This requires teaching, baptizing, and nurturing new believers. Using age-appropriate language, emphasizing the "go" and the "teach" aspects of the commission, is crucial for effective Sunday school lessons. The "Great Commission Sunday school lesson" itself should aim to inspire action and instill a sense of responsibility in young hearts.

Key Aspects for Children:

- **Go:** This isn't necessarily about physical travel to distant lands, though it can be. For children, "going" might mean sharing their faith with friends and family, being kind to others, and showing Christ's love in their everyday lives.
- **Teach:** This means sharing the story of Jesus, explaining His teachings, and modeling Christian behavior. Children can "teach" through their actions, words, and the example they set.
- **Baptize:** While children might not perform baptisms, explaining the significance of this sacrament – a public declaration of faith – helps them understand the commitment involved.
- **Disciples:** Making disciples is about nurturing faith in others, showing them how to live a Christian life, and helping them grow in their relationship with God.

Sunday School Questions: Age-Appropriate Approaches

Crafting effective Sunday school questions for the Great Commission requires tailoring them to the age group. Here are some examples, categorized by age range:

Younger Children (Preschool – Early Elementary):

- What is something kind you did for someone today? How did that make you feel? (Connects to "going" and showing love).
- Who is your favorite Bible character? Why do you like them? (Introduces the idea of following Jesus' example).
- Can you tell me the story of Jesus? (Encourages narrative understanding of the Gospel).
- How can we show people that Jesus loves them? (Focuses on practical application).
- If you could tell your friend about Jesus, what would you say? (Simple introduction to sharing faith).

Older Children (Late Elementary – Middle School):

- What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus? (Encourages deeper theological reflection).
- How can we share the good news of Jesus in our school or community? (Practical application in their daily life).
- What are some challenges people might face when they try to follow Jesus? (Discusses potential obstacles to faith).
- How does prayer help us in sharing our faith? (Highlights the importance of spiritual support).
- What are some ways technology can be used to spread the Gospel? (Relates to modern methods of communication).

Interactive Activities and Lesson Planning

Beyond simple question-and-answer sessions, incorporating interactive activities significantly enhances the learning experience. Consider these options:

- **Role-playing:** Simulate scenarios where children encounter opportunities to share their faith.
- **Storytelling:** Share inspiring stories of missionaries and those who have shared their faith effectively.
- **Arts & Crafts:** Create projects related to different cultures or mission work.
- **Games:** Design games that reinforce key concepts from the Great Commission.
- **Guest Speakers:** Invite missionaries or those involved in missions to share their experiences. This provides a powerful "real-world" connection to the Great Commission Sunday school lesson.

Addressing Potential Challenges and Concerns

Children may have questions or concerns about the Great Commission, such as:

- **Fear of sharing their faith:** Address this by emphasizing that sharing faith is about love and kindness, not judgment or pressure.
- **Concerns about different cultures:** Encourage curiosity and respect for other cultures, highlighting the unity of the human family under God.
- **Perceived difficulties of mission work:** Explain that missions involve various roles and contributions, not just physically traveling abroad. Even supporting missionaries financially or through prayer is a vital contribution.

Conclusion: Cultivating a Heart for Missions

Teaching children about the Great Commission is an investment in the future of the church. By using engaging Sunday school questions for the Great Commission, creative activities, and age-appropriate approaches, we can empower young hearts to embrace their role in spreading the Gospel and making disciples for Jesus Christ. Remember to emphasize the joy and fulfillment that comes from sharing God's love with the world.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q1: How can I make the Great Commission relevant to children today?

A1: Connect the Great Commission to their everyday lives. Discuss how acts of kindness, sharing toys, or helping others are small ways of showing God's love, mirroring the spirit of the Great Commission. Use modern examples and stories of people sharing their faith in creative ways.

Q2: What if my students don't understand the concept of "making disciples"?

A2: Simplify the concept. Making disciples is about helping others learn about Jesus and grow closer to Him. Use relatable examples, such as helping a friend learn a new game or skill. Focus on the act of sharing and nurturing faith, not necessarily the formal definition.

Q3: My students are from diverse backgrounds. How can I approach the Great Commission inclusively?

A3: Celebrate the diversity! Showcase stories of missions from different cultures and highlight the global aspect of the Great Commission. Ensure your teaching materials represent a variety of ethnicities and backgrounds. Emphasize that God's love extends to everyone, regardless of their background.

Q4: How can I assess if my students understand the Great Commission?

A4: Use a combination of methods. Observe their participation in discussions and activities, ask open-ended questions, and encourage them to reflect on how they can apply the message in their daily lives. Creative projects, such as writing stories or making presentations, can also provide valuable insights.

Q5: What resources are available to help me teach the Great Commission?

A5: Many Christian publishers offer curriculum specifically designed for teaching children about missions. Online resources, such as videos and websites focused on children's missions education, can also be helpful. Consult your church's Sunday school resources or other trusted sources for age-appropriate materials.

Q6: How can I encourage parents to support their children's learning about the Great Commission?

A6: Provide parents with resources and information about the lessons, encouraging them to continue the conversation at home. Suggest family activities, such as reading Bible stories related to missions or supporting a missionary organization together. Communicate the importance of their role in modeling a life of faith and service.

Q7: What if a child expresses a desire to become a missionary?

A7: Encourage their passion and help them explore this calling. Provide opportunities to learn more about missions through books, videos, and guest speakers. Connect them with mentors who can guide them as they discern God's plan for their life.

Q8: How can I ensure that my Sunday School lesson on the Great Commission is engaging and memorable?

A8: Use a variety of teaching methods. Incorporate storytelling, role-playing, games, and interactive activities to keep children engaged and excited about learning. Use visual aids and multimedia resources. Make the lesson relevant and applicable to their daily lives, ensuring they understand the practical implications of the Great Commission. Above all, allow your enthusiasm for the message to shine through.

Sunday School Questions for the Great Commission: Igniting Young Hearts for Global Mission

Engaging youth in the vital task of understanding and embracing the Great Commission requires more than simply reciting Matthew 28:19-20. It demands creative methods that capture their attention and foster a zeal for sharing the Gospel. This article explores a range of Sunday School questions designed to investigate the Great Commission, growing a deep grasp and a lifelong dedication to global mission.

Part 1: Understanding the Mandate

Before diving into active engagement, it's important to ensure students grasp the heart of the Great Commission itself. Here are some questions to help them grasp the context and significance:

- **The Setting:** "Where did Jesus deliver the Great Commission? What was occurring at that time? How might this setting influence the meaning of His words?" This encourages critical thinking by placing the command within its social context.
- **The Command Itself:** "What are the three key elements of the Great Commission (make disciples)? Can you describe each one in your own words?" This clarifies the seemingly complex task into understandable parts. Use visuals like a mind map to reinforce the points.
- **The Promise:** "What promise does Jesus give to those who obey the Great Commission? How does this promise encourage us?" This focuses on the encouragement and assurance offered by God, combating potential feelings of anxiety.

Part 2: Personal Application and Global Perspective

Once the basis is laid, it's moment to move towards personal engagement. These questions bridge the gap between the ancient and the contemporary:

- **My Role:** "How can I, as a child, engage in the Great Commission? Is it only for adults?" This combats the misconception that mission work is only for grown-ups, empowering children to find their own parts.
- **Local Missions:** "What volunteer work are available in our town? How can we support those in need?" This connects the international scope of the Great Commission to local actions, making it more concrete.
- **Global Awareness:** "What are some of the problems facing communities around the world? How can we pray about these challenges?" This expands their understanding beyond their immediate surroundings, cultivating empathy and care.
- **Sharing My Faith:** "How can I explain my testimony with family in a way that is sensitive and engaging?" This addresses the often daunting aspect of sharing one's faith, providing a safe space to explore approaches. Role-playing scenarios can be extremely beneficial here.

Part 3: Creative and Engaging Activities

Improving the questions with practical activities will enhance understanding. Here are some ideas:

- **Prayer Mapping:** Create a world map and mark locations where Christians are serving or where there is a great need. Pray for those areas and the people who live there.

- **Storytelling:** Share stories of missionaries who have obeyed the Great Commission. This can encourage youth and demonstrate the impact of their actions.
- **Service Projects:** Organize a service project within your community. This provides a visible way to show the Great Commission in action.
- **Creative Expression:** Encourage creative projects through writing stories or poems about the Great Commission.

Conclusion:

Teaching young people about the Great Commission is not simply about imparting knowledge; it's about developing a lasting dedication to sharing the Gospel. By using engaging questions and creative activities, we can kindle a enthusiasm within them for global mission, equipping them to be productive witnesses for Christ.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. **Q: How can I adapt these questions for different age groups?**

A: Adjust the language and difficulty of the questions to match the developmental stage of the children. Use simpler language and more concrete examples for younger children.

2. **Q: What if the children don't seem interested?**

A: Make it engaging! Use games, stories, and visual aids to capture their focus. Relate the Great Commission to their lives and experiences.

3. **Q: How can I assess whether the children have understood the Great Commission?**

A: Use a combination of activities to gauge their understanding. Observe their participation in discussions and activities.

4. **Q: What resources are available to help teach the Great Commission?**

A: Many curriculum resources are available to support your teaching. Consult with your church or search online for age-appropriate materials.

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