

Cycle A
Good News A24
Feast of the Ascension

Matthew 28:16-20 New American Bible
Matthew 28:16-20 Bible Gateway New International Version

“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

Jesus said all the power in heaven and on earth had been given to him. Jesus definitely had more power than all of the superheroes man has created for comic books. He commanded his 11 Apostles to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. When you read this Gospel, Jesus is talking to you as one of his modern day disciples. Jesus wants you to be a good example to other people. He wants you to use all the power he gives you to create goodness and mercy. He wants you to invite your neighbors to be baptized.

He wants you to be a good example for your fellow classmates, so that they will want to be like you. If children in your class are making fun of another student, show you are a Christian by treating that student with kindness and acceptance. You can tell others about the Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses. If you are with a friend who steals, you can tell your friend that stealing is against God’s commandments. It is also against the law in the state where you live. You should not go the store with this person. If you are with someone when they steal, you will be charged with stealing because you are with him.

You can invite your neighbors and friends to come to Church with you, so that they can hear the Word of the Lord. Then perhaps they will want to be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

You can tell your brothers and sisters about the Greatest Commandment of all, “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Jesus wants us to follow the Golden Rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Choose a family member or a neighbor to shower your favor on today. Do something special for them. Make them a card saying you are glad God made them. Ask them if you can help them with anything. Say a special prayer asking God to bless the person you chose with love and peace. When others see how you act, they

will know that you are following in the footsteps of Jesus. They will know you are truly one of his disciples. And if they follow you, and you are following Jesus, then all of you will be in a parade that ends up at Heaven's gate. God will welcome all of you with open arms. He will be so excited to see you and to see how many people that came along with you because you were a good example for them.

Say the "Our Father" and ask God to give you strength to do what is right even if everyone around you is doing wrong. Right is right if nobody does it. Wrong is wrong if every one does it.

**"Our Father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen."**

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