



3rd - 5th

April 6-7, 2013

DATE

Luke 24 (Pg.1161), John 20 (Pg.1193),
Acts 1 (Pg.1198)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension

LESSON TITLE

One day, Jesus will come back in the same way he left. Until then, we have a job to do!

MAIN POINT

schedule

Hang out with kids (10 minutes): Ask kids about their week. Get kids into groups and play games together.

Large Group (30 minutes): Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group. And don't be afraid to redirect kids who aren't!

Small Group (20-30 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Have kids gather back in front of the teaching area and watch the video from the lesson and do the songs together at the end of small group.

When parents come to pick kids up, they will get a quick review of the lesson along with the kids.

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents about the special job Jesus gave us and how they plan to do that job this week.

large group heads up

Today, we're learning about the story of Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension. Watch the video ahead of time and read Matthew 28:18-20, John 1:12, 14:2 and 20, and Acts 1:1-10, so you're prepared to discuss it with kids.



instructions

Goal: to retell today's story and help kids to understand the special job Jesus gave his followers

Why? This story is the most exciting part of God's Story so far—and this job is our mission until Jesus returns!

Tip: It's okay to admit to kids that we don't understand all the details, like how Jesus went up to the sky or how he's always with us or how he'll come back and recreate the world. Encourage them to read more about it in the Bible (and point them to the verses on the handout).

small group

CONNECT

1. Tell us your name and one thing that surprised you from today's story. (Kids may say they were surprised that Jesus came back to life, appeared to friends, went into the sky, is always with us, is coming back, gave us a job to do, etc—anything is okay!)

REVIEW

To review today's story, give each kid a **handout with images** (only your key has words beneath the images). Assign each kid an image by asking kids to circle one or two images (or share an image, if the group is really large). Then go around the group and retell the story. Use your version, which has a key beneath each photo! But don't just feed kids the answer—encourage them to help each other remember the story. Or ask leading questions.

REACT/RELATE/PRACTICE

2. Why do you think Jesus gave us a job to do? (Discuss with kids. Lead them to these ideas: he trusts us to tell others about him; he thinks we can do such a good job at following him that other people will be able to learn how; he really wants everybody to join his family by knowing about him)
3. Let's read Matthew 28:18-20, Pg. 1092 (ask a kid to look it up): **Then Jesus came to them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."** Then ask these questions:
 - a. How can Jesus be with us even though he is in Heaven? (This is a tough concept—and it's okay to admit that to kids. But God is everywhere—omnipresent—and Jesus is God. So Jesus is everywhere too!)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE:

- b. Everybody turn over your paper with the pictures. Draw one way you can do this special job Jesus gave his followers. Let's brainstorm together: Maybe you want to draw a person you could tell about Jesus. Or you could draw yourself praying for a person in your school—or another country who doesn't know Jesus. You could draw yourself following Jesus by doing your chores at home. Maybe helping a neighbor to clean his or her house. Etc.
- c. After kids draw, ask them to share what they drew.

****Then pray with the kids, asking Jesus to help them teach others to follow Him!**

Extra time? Grab a group game and bring it to the table. Or, if the whole room is wrapping up, watch the video together again.

special notes

Today we want kids to hear the story of Jesus' Ascension but to understand that before Jesus left, he gave all his followers a very special job to do!

presenter tips

When you talk about the "job" Jesus gave us to do, remember that word can have negative connotations. Really show excitement about the fact that Jesus entrusted us with this responsibility.

script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club! I'm so glad you're here today. Today, we're going to talk about what happened after Jesus died. Remember, Jesus died to rescue us. But he didn't stay dead! He is alive! And when he came back to life, people were pretty surprised to see him! He stayed for a little while, appeared to hundreds of people, and then left again.

INTRO: WE HAVE A JOB TO DO

We'll see how Jesus left in a minute. But before Jesus left, he gave his disciples—and everybody who follows him, which includes us!—an important job to do. We call this job the Great Commission. As we read this verse, stand up if you think you know what our job is.

SLIDE: Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."

So what's our special job? (Let kids say: make disciples of all nations. Baptize them. Teach them to obey what Jesus commands. Tell kids that making disciples means teaching people to follow Jesus.) Yes, we get to show people how to follow Jesus! Let's watch a music video to remind us of Jesus' special job for us. (If you want to do the motions, feel free! Or you can let kids just sit and watch. Either have all kids stand or all kids sit at this point.)

Music Video: Come With Me



script continued

JESUS GOES TO HEAVEN

So after Jesus gave us a special mission to tell ALL people how to follow him, he left earth again. We're going to watch a video of this story. As you watch, see if you can figure out how Jesus left the earth--and where he went.

Video: God's Story / Jesus' Rescue (Resurrection and Ascension)

Wow, so Jesus died...then he came back to life and gave us a special job to do...*then* where did he go? (Let kids respond.) Yes, he went into the sky and then into Heaven!

Think about that for a minute. How do you think Jesus' friends felt when they saw him going into the sky—no airplane, no hot air balloon, nothing except his body? **Turn to a friend and tell them how you think it would have felt to watch Jesus rise into the sky!** (Let kids tell a friend.) That was probably pretty incredible to watch, huh!?

JESUS IS COMING BACK

The best part is, after Jesus was gone, two men dressed in white stood and talked to Jesus' friends, who were just looking up at the sky and the clouds, probably with shocked looks on their faces. The men told Jesus' friends this:

SLIDE: Acts 1:11--They said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go."

Wow, one day Jesus will come back! And guess what he'll do when he comes back? He'll recreate a perfect world for God's WHOLE family to live in (refers to the conclusion of the video). Does that make anybody else really excited?! (Let kids respond.) Me, too!

Now stand up if you remember what special job Jesus wants us to do while we live in this world and wait for him to come back. (Let a kids say: make disciples, baptize, teach, or show people how to follow Jesus.) That's right! He wants us to tell others about him! That way, everybody can join his family! (Instruct all kids to sit down.)

And even though Jesus went to Heaven, remember the verse says he'll be with us always, to the very end! He can be everywhere at once and he'll never leave us. We'll talk about that a little more in small groups. But for now, let's sing one more song together.

WORSHIP

This song reminds us that Jesus LOVES who we are—so much that he asked us to do an important job for him. After all, we are his sons and daughters!

Music Video: Who I Am (kids can just watch and sing along)

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank Jesus that he died and came back to life to rescue us!



script continued

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY



script continued

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

name



THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY



PREP needs



small group supplies

1. Per kid: 1 God's Story: Jesus' Rescue page (PDF in curriculum folder)
2. Per leader: 1 copy of the small group handout key for the leaders (on cardstock)

large group supplies

Bible

a/v needs

1. SLIDE: Matthew 28:18-20--Then Jesus came to them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."
2. Music Video: Come With Me (fast movement version)
3. Video: God's Story: Jesus' Rescue
4. SLIDE: Acts 1:1--They said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go."
5. Music Video: Who I Am

special room set-up

None

connect questions

Tell me what you learned about Jesus today.
What special job did Jesus give his followers?

parent page

Jesus was resurrected; then he ascended into Heaven. But before He left earth, he gave all of his followers a special job to do. We call this the Great Commission. Ask your kid to tell you about it. You can also read about it together in Matthew 28 and Acts 1.