

JESUS RETURNED TO HEAVEN



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the kids to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Call a child to follow you as you walk around the room. Allow that child to call another child to follow, and so on, until everyone is following you to group time.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

JESUS RETURNED TO HEAVEN—BASED ON ACTS 1:4-11

- Say: “The Bible story tells about the last things Jesus did when He was on earth.”

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- After Jesus died on the cross and came back to life, He spent 40 days with the disciples, talking with them and teaching them. Jesus told His disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait for God to send His Spirit to them.
- Jesus said the Spirit would help the disciples do what Jesus said. He told them to tell all people about Him.
- After Jesus finished talking, He rose up into heaven. The disciples watched until they could no longer see Jesus because of a cloud.
- Two men in white clothes stood with the disciples. The men said Jesus had been taken to heaven and that one day He would return to earth in the same way.
- The disciples went back to Jerusalem to do what Jesus had told them to do.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- What did Jesus tell the disciples to do?
- Who did Jesus say that God would send to help the disciples?
- What did the men in white clothes say about Jesus?
- Think: How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus being taken to heaven?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Tell the kids that Jesus is in heaven

| |
|------------------------|
| ROOM |
| YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS |
| DATE OF USE |

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus: Jesus is in heaven with God.

LIFE POINT

Jesus is in heaven.

UNIT VERSE

God loved us and sent His Son. 1 John 4:10

WEEKLY VERSE

Jesus went up into heaven. Acts 1:9

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”:

*Jesus is in heaven,
Jesus is in heaven,
Jesus is in heaven,
And He will come again.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open the Bible to Acts 1:9 and read the verse. Lead the kids to pat their knees in a steady beat. After you have the beat going, say the verse to the beat. Repeat the verse several times. As time permits, repeat with the Unit Verse (1 John 4:10).

PRAY

Thank God that the kindergartners and others in your church can learn about Jesus and the Bible. Ask God to help your church tell others everywhere about Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: Jesus is in heaven.

- 1. Make a Bible story mobile.** Cut a rectangle of colored cardstock for each child. Punch four holes along one of the long sides (the bottom) and one hole at each of the top two corners. Provide smaller pieces of white paper (4 pieces per child), child-size safety scissors, yarn, hole punch, and crayons. Lead kids to draw pictures about the Bible story or write words of the Life Point on the white paper. Suggest kids cut the white paper into cloud shapes or other shapes. Help the kids punch a hole in the top of each of their papers. Assist the kids in stringing yarn through each picture and tying the pictures to the bottom of their rectangles. Kids can also use the yarn to make hangers at the top of their rectangles. Encourage the kids to talk about the pictures and words on their mobiles.
- 2. Spell Jesus’ name.** On paper squares, write the letters of Jesus’ name. Make several sets of letters. Place the paper squares in a gift bag. Display a piece of paper with Jesus’ name (for reference). Guide kindergartners to take turns pulling letters from the bag (one letter each turn) to spell Jesus’ name. If a child pulls a letter

he already has (except for “s” since he will need two), he should return that letter to the bag.

When all the players have spelled Jesus’ name, the game is over. Mix the letters and put them in the bag to play again. As kids play the game, recall the Bible story.

- 3. Toss rings.** Cut the middle from paper plates to make rings. Set plastic cups upside down on the floor. Tell kids to take turns standing a few feet from the cups and tossing the rings, trying to ring a cup. When a child gets a ring around a cup, he can say the Life Point or tell something from the Bible story. Help kids turn the pages of the Bible to find the location of the Bible story in Acts 1.
- 4. Build Jerusalem.** Offer a variety of building materials, such as wooden blocks, interlocking bricks, boxes, and cardboard tubes. Encourage kids to build a city. Provide any available books or pictures that show Bible times buildings or ancient Jerusalem. As kids work, comment that Jesus and His disciples went outside the city of Jerusalem. Tell more about the Bible story. Mention that Jesus went up into heaven.

CLEAN UP

Encourage all the kids to help in picking up toys, putting away materials, and cleaning the room. Thank the kids for their hard work.

PLAY A BIBLE STORY RECALL GAME

Guide the kids to sit in chairs. Tell them that you will ask a question about the Bible story. If they know the answer they are to pop up to their feet. You will call on a child to answer. Practice popping up and standing quickly to their feet. After practice, guide kids to sit and settle. Ask: “Where were Jesus and His disciples?” Wait for kids to pop up. Call on one of the standing kids to answer the question. If he needs help, he can ask another standing child. After the answer, tell kids to sit down. Ask another question and wait for kids to pop up. Continue the game until parents arrive.

DISMISS

Give a child a fist bump as she gathers her belongings. Thank the family for coming to church.