

Unit 2

GROUP TIME WITH

BONUS TEACHING IDEAS

SESSION 4

TRANSITION TO GROUP

TIME. Give each child or pair of kindergartners one of the letters from “Race Letters.” Tell kids to walk to group time with their letters. Lay the two words on the floor and guide kids to take turns placing letters in the correct order. Help kids read the two words.

TALK ABOUT JESUS. Play and sing “Let’s All Celebrate Jesus.” Say: “We have been learning about Jesus and what happened after He died on a cross and was alive again.” Point to the “Unit 2 Banner” and encourage kids to recall what they have learned. (Read the sticky notes.)

DISCUSS AND PRACTICE

CONCEPT OF “UP.” Lead kindergartners to follow your actions and ask them to raise their hands up and lower them several times. Then lead them to stand up and sit down a few times. Guide them to point up a few times. Ask the kids to name things that go up. (*airplanes, birds, kites, mountain climbers, and so forth*)

TELL THE BIBLE STORY. Show the *ascend* word card and talk about the word. Tell kids they will hear a story about the last things Jesus did while on earth. Open the Bible to Acts 1 and tell the Bible story.

Jesus Returned to Heaven Acts 1:4-11

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 was with His disciples one last time. He told them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for God to send His Spirit to help them.

Jesus said that the Spirit would give the disciples power to do what Jesus wanted them to do. Jesus told them to tell people what He had done. Jesus told the disciples to start in Jerusalem and tell people all over Judea and Samaria and even all over the world.

After Jesus finished telling the disciples what to do, He rose up (ascended) into heaven. The disciples watched until they could not see Jesus anymore because of a cloud.

Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood next to the disciples. The men said that 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.

RECALL THE BIBLE STORY. Display the timeline. Add cards 10–12, one at a time, and talk about what happened in the Bible story. Show the teaching picture. Ask: “What did Jesus say? What happened to Jesus? Where did Jesus go?” Encourage the kindergartners to talk about other things they remember from the Bible story.

SAY THE WEEKLY VERSE. Open the Bible to Acts 1:9 and read the verse. Clap a steady beat with the kids. Repeat the verse a few times as you clap the beat.

MAKE A CHRIST CONNECTION.

Point to the Life Point and read it. Say: “Jesus appeared to people after He rose from the dead. God’s Spirit helps people tell about Jesus and do God’s work until Jesus returns to earth.”

SING TOGETHER. Play and sing “We Love to Learn About Jesus.” Do the actions mentioned in the song or play rhythm instruments as you sing.

PRAY. Thank God for the Bible that helps people learn about Jesus. Thank God that Jesus is alive in heaven.

READ A BOOK. Read “Jesus Is Alive” (Pack Item 21) to recall the last days of Jesus on earth.

WRAP IT UP. Show “Jesus Returned to Heaven” video.