

Jesus Returned to Heaven

IDC Kids Preschool

Bible Passage: Matthew 28; Acts 1

Story Point: Jesus gave His disciples a mission.

Key Passage: John 11:25 *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live.*

Big Picture Question: Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.

Christ Connection: Christ Connection: Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth—telling people about Jesus so they can follow Him—while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new..

Watch this week's [IDC Kids Online Video](#)

Review Questions

Where did Jesus give His disciples their mission, on a mountain or at a lake? (*on a mountain*)

What did Jesus give His disciples? (**Jesus gave His disciples a mission.**)

Where are Jesus' disciples supposed to make followers of Him? (*in every place on earth*)

Who did Jesus say would come to give the disciples power to do their mission? (*The Holy Spirit would come and give the disciples power.*)

Where did Jesus go? (*Jesus went up into the sky and then into heaven.*)

Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.

Say • **Jesus gave His disciples a mission** to share His good news with all people, everywhere. All people, including us, are sinners and need to be forgiven. The only way to be forgiven is to believe that Jesus lived a perfect life for us, died in our place for our sins, and rose again. We complete the mission Jesus gave us when we tell others this good news.

Learn the big picture question

Let's answer the big picture question. **Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.** Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth—telling people about Jesus so they can follow Him—while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new.

Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at John 11:25. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Invite preschoolers to take turns saying the key passage from memory. Encourage them to use the motions learned in the first session.

Say • Jesus, the resurrection and the life, is still alive today! When we turn from our sin and follow Jesus, He gives us life—life forever with God. **Jesus gave His disciples a mission** and gives us that same mission. He wants us to tell all people about Him so they can follow Him and have life forever with Him too.

Activity Page (if you didn't order them, you still can [download and print HERE](#))

Invite preschoolers to connect the dots in alphabetical order to reveal what took Jesus out of the disciples' sight.

Say • Do you remember the answer to our big picture question? **Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.** In today's Bible story, Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father. Jesus' disciples saw Jesus go up into the sky, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. Before Jesus left, He gave His disciples a mission, but Jesus promised Someone would come to help them complete their mission. Listen to the story.

Pray

Say • God, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for us. We know He is alive and in heaven with You now. Help us understand Your great love for us. Help us to serve and honor You in how we live. Amen.

Activities

Create mountainous scenes

Before the session, cut 9-inch, 7-inch, and 5-inch high triangles in varying widths from brown, gray, and green construction paper. Give each preschooler a sheet of blue construction paper. Explain that the blue paper is the sky and the triangles are mountains. Encourage a preschooler to choose several triangles to glue to their paper to create a mountain range. Suggest children overlap and layer triangles to add depth to their mountain ranges. Write the story point on each child's artwork.

Say • After Jesus died and came back to life, Jesus spent time with His disciples and taught them even more about God's kingdom. One day, Jesus told His disciples to go to a mountain in Galilee. When they were on the mountain, **Jesus gave His disciples a mission**, a very important job to do. Listen to the Bible story find out what their mission was.

List promises

On a large sheet of paper or dry erase board, make a list of promises that people make. Explain that a *promise* is when one person says to another that he will do what he said he will do. Encourage preschoolers to think of promises people make to them and promises they make to other people. Comment that people do not always keep their promises. Remind children that God always keeps His promises. Use some of the verses in the margin to make another list of promises that God has made.

Say • **Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.** Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. Next time, we will hear how Jesus kept His promise. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth—telling people about Jesus so they can follow Him—while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new. Jesus promised that if we believe in Him, we will live with Him forever. I am glad that God keeps His promises!

Draw where and who you can tell

Give each preschooler a sheet of paper. Ask preschoolers to think of places they go where they can tell people about Jesus. Be ready to offer suggestions such as at the playground, a friend's house, daycare, preschool, grocery store, restaurant, and so forth. Suggest they choose one place to draw. Then ask children to think of people they know that they can tell about Jesus. Encourage them to add the person they named to their drawing. Use the gospel plan poster for preschool to review the gospel message with children as they draw.

Say • **Jesus gave His disciples a mission.** He told them to go and make followers of Him in every place on earth. That is still our mission today as people who love and follow Jesus. We can tell everyone everywhere we go the good news that Jesus died and came back to life to save people from sin.

Form clouds

Put on smocks and roll up sleeves. Invite preschoolers to sit at a table. Squirt a mound of shaving cream in front of each preschooler. Invite children to form clouds with the topping.

Say • Jesus went up into the sky and a cloud took Him out of the disciples' sight. *Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven*, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth—telling people about Jesus so they can follow Him—while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new.

Find the people

Hide as many people figures and dolls as possible around the room in places preschoolers will be able to find them. Encourage preschoolers to find all the "people" and bring them to you.

Say • Good job bringing all the people to me. **Jesus gave His disciples a mission.** He wants us to find people who do not yet know about the good news of His life, death, and resurrection to tell them. It's kind of like we are bringing them to Jesus.

Count and sort clouds

Set out muffin tins along with a large bag of cotton balls. Invite children to sort the “clouds” into the muffin cups. Guide children to count how many clouds are in each cup.

Say • A real cloud took Jesus out of the disciples sight. ***Where is Jesus now? Jesus is in heaven.*** When Jesus left, He promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth—telling people about Jesus—while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new.