



Date: _____
Series: Resurrection
Spring, Year 2, Lesson 50

Ascension

Take Home Point: *Jesus is with us always.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: Acts 1:1-11

We will help children know:

- Jesus ascended into heaven.
- Jesus is with us, even if we cannot see him.

We will help children feel:

- Happy to know that Jesus is alive.
- Secure in knowing Jesus is always with us

We will help children do:

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that reminds them of Jesus ascending into heaven.
- Make a craft of Jesus ascending into the clouds.
- Play games called "*Is Jesus With You?*" and "*Up to the Clouds.*"
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce learning today's Take Home Point: *Jesus is with us always.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 50 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

| DESTINATION | PAGE # | DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY | SUPPLIES NEEDED |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Warm-Up (5-10 minutes) | 3 | Transition Time | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toys of your choice |
| Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)  | 3 3 4 | Sing (Optional) Puppet Presentation Bible Reading | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • songs of your choice • Judy puppet with pink pony • option: balloon on a string • children's picture Bible |
| Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity)  | 6 8 10 11 | Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Craft Activity 4: Learning Game & Movement Game | <p><i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children's picture Bible <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins • cups of water • graham crackers • teddy bear crackers • tub of whipped topping • spoon <p><i>Activity 3: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of Appendix A on cardstock • crayons or markers • cotton balls • glue <p><i>Activity 4: Learning Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none <p><i>Movement Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • beach balls (or light-weight ball) • hula hoop |
| Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)  | 13 13 14 | Review Lesson and Take Home Point Pray Sing (Optional) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • songs of your choice |

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: You may use singing as a large group activity and to gather attention. The opening puppet presentation is a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the “joke” but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Singing: Use music of your choice.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: children’s picture Bible, small stuffed pink pony

OPTION: balloon on a string

Jesus is Closer Than a Pink Pony

Presenter: Boys and girls, let’s call for Judy.

Kids call for Judy. **Judy...Judy...Judy.** Judy comes out with her pink pony.

Presenter: Hi, Judy.

Judy: Hi, boys and girls. I brought my pink pony today.

Presenter: I know. You love your pink pony.

Judy: I think I’m going to take her with me everywhere! She’s not going to run away from me like my silly balloon did yesterday.

Presenter: Oh, my, Judy. What happened?

If you have a helium balloon, bring it out and ask, **“You mean a balloon like this?”**

Judy: I had a balloon and was holding on to the string. I accidentally let go and it floated right up into the sky... and I never saw it again.

Option with balloon: Presenter: You mean like this? Let the balloon go and watch it rise. Eventually pull it back down.)

Presenter: Were you sad?

Judy: Yes, it made me sad to see it float away.

Presenter: Judy, did you know that when Jesus left his earth, he floated up to the sky like that balloon?

Judy: He did?

Presenter: Yes, we will read about it today.

Judy: You mean he is gone and isn't with us anymore?

Presenter: No, he isn't gone. He is still with us... even when we can't see him. It is true that he floated up into the sky so that he could live in heaven. But he lives with us, too, even if we can't see him. He can be with us everywhere—as close as you are to your pink pony. Would you like for me to read it from the Bible?

Judy: Yes.

Presenter: See what I am holding? This is the Bible. It is God's word. Everything in the Bible is true. Now I am going to read about our lesson from the Bible. Let's put on our listening ears.

Read the Bible Event from a children's picture Bible.

Presenter: Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Judy will you help us sing our song of the week?

Judy: Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE sus IS with US aWAYS,
US aWAYS, US aWAYS.
JE sus IS with US aWAYS.
He's HERE with US right NOW.**

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

You are with us. You are with us.

We love you. We love you.

You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.

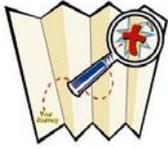
He is with us always. He is with us always.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for three-year-olds should be one to six or fewer. Divide into groups of six with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of up to twelve. The ratio will be maintained at one to six.

Activity 1: Acting Out the Bible Event

Supplies:

- Children's picture Bible

The Ascension

Acts 1

Introduction

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them, too.

Jesus is alive.

- **Jesus died on the cross to take away the bad things we do. He came to life again three days later. Let's hold up three fingers and count to three. One, two, three.**
- **This happened just like the Bible said it would.** Hold up a children's picture Bible.
- **Many people saw Jesus after he became alive again.** Hand above eyes with searching motion.
- **People were surprised and very happy that Jesus was alive.** Put hands on cheeks with mouth open.
- **Jesus was alive.** Raise arms up!

Jesus visits people for 40 days.

- **While Jesus was alive again, he visited his friends and taught them.** Point finger to head.
- **Jesus taught them more about God's love. He did this for forty days. He told his friends to stay in the city of Jerusalem.** Hands on hips.

- **God would tell them when they should leave. God would give them the special gift of the Holy Spirit.** Hands cupped around mouth. Blow lightly over the children.

Jesus ascends into heaven.

- **After Jesus taught his friends, the disciples, for forty days, Jesus went on a walk with his disciples. As he was talking to them, he began to rise up.** Use your hands to indicate the rising, going from below the waist to as high as you can reach.
- **Jesus rose so high in the sky that the clouds hid him from the disciples' sight.** Hand over brow gazing skyward.
- **The disciples were looking to the sky, but they couldn't see Jesus anymore.** Shake head "no."
- **All of a sudden, two angels appeared beside them.** Hand to cheeks, surprised look.
- **The angels asked, "Why are you standing here looking into the sky?"** Look up into the sky.
- **"Jesus has been taken from you into heaven."**

The disciples go out and teach.

- **Then the angels left. The disciples remembered what Jesus said.** Point your finger to head.
- **Jesus promised that he would be with us always even if we can't see him.** Arms outstretched—palms up.
- **God gave the disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit just like Jesus said he would. The disciples went out into the world (move arms in the shape of circle) and told everyone they could about Jesus.** Cup hands to mouth.
- **The disciples loved Jesus very much (both hands to your heart) and wanted others to love him, too.** Hug yourself.

Jesus is still with us.

- **Today Jesus is still with us.** Hands over heart.
- **We cannot see him (hands above eyes in searching motion) but Jesus is with us always.**
- **Jesus loves everyone and wants us to tell others about him.** Hands cupped to the mouth.
- **Jesus is with us always.** Hands outstretched.

Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

You are with us. You are with us.

We love you. We love you.

You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.

He is with us always. He is with us always.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

JE sus IS with US aWAYS,

US aWAYS, US aWAYS.

JE sus IS with US aWAYS.

He's HERE with US right NOW.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies:

- *Napkins*
- *Cups and water*
- *Graham crackers*
- *Teddy bear crackers*
- *Tub of whipped topping*
- *Spoon*

BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM ANY FOOD TO EAT.

Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of Jesus floating up to heaven. Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.
He is with us always. He is with us always.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

We have been learning that Jesus died and rose from the dead. For 40 days he taught people about God's love and performed miracles. Then Jesus was taken up into heaven until the clouds covered him.

Put whipped topping on half of the graham cracker square.

This whipped topping looks like clouds doesn't it? Now watch what happens to this bear cracker.

Starting opposite from the topping, push it up into the 'clouds.'

The bear went into the clouds, just like Jesus did. I will give each of you a cracker with some whipped topping and you can push your own bear into the clouds.

Pass out graham crackers with topping and one teddy bear cracker for each child.

Go ahead and eat your crackers after your bear rises into the clouds.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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He's HERE with US right NOW.**

Activity 3: Craft

Children take pride in making something themselves. Resist trying to do too much for children so that they can say, "I did it myself."

Supplies:

- copies of Appendix A on cardstock
- crayons or markers
- cotton balls
- glue

Before class, pull the cotton balls so they are wisper and not clumped together.

Boys and girls, today our craft will remind us of Jesus ascending into heaven and being covered with clouds. First you can color the picture of Jesus.

Pass out Appendix A and crayons.

When you are finished coloring, I want you to glue the clouds (cotton) to the page. Please do not glue right on top of Jesus.

If glued all around Jesus, the cotton can be pulled on top of him and then opened up to see Jesus.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE sus IS with US aWAYS,
US aWAYS, US aWAYS.
JE sus IS with US aWAYS.
He's HERE with US right NOW.**

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

**Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.
He is with us always. He is with us always.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.**

Activity 4: Games

Choose one or both games to play. Children with lots of wiggles should play the Movement Game first.

Learning Game

Supplies:

- none

Today we learned that Jesus' body floated up to heaven but he is still with us even if we can't see him. He is with us always. We are going to play a game called, "Is Jesus with you?" When I ask you the questions, you can answer and then do the action.

1. Is Jesus with you when you go to sleep at night? (Yes.) Let's all snore.
2. Is Jesus with you when you wake up in the morning? (Yes.) Let's all yawn.
3. Is Jesus with you when you play with a puppy? (Yes.) Let's all bark.
4. Is Jesus with you when you eat your food? (Yes.) Let's pretend to eat.
5. Is Jesus with you when you read the Bible? (Yes.) Let's pretend to read.
6. Is Jesus with you when you watch television? (Yes.) Let's laugh at the pretend show on TV.
7. Is Jesus with you when you ride in the car? (Yes.) Let's rev up our engines.
8. Is Jesus with you when you make faces at your baby brother or sister? (Yes.) Let's make a funny face.
9. Is Jesus with you when you share your toys with a friend? (Yes.) Pretend to give some blocks to the person next to you.
10. Is Jesus with you when you are naughty? (Yes.) Let's say 'sorry' for being naughty.

Movement Game

Supplies:

- Hula hoop (option: paper grocery bag with bottom cut out)
- beach ball (option: light weight ball)

Today we learned that Jesus ascended into heaven. We are going to play a game called "Up to the Clouds." I will hold the hula hoop above your head. You will take turns throwing the ball up into the pretend cloud (hula hoop).

If children have a hard time getting the ball into the hoop, lower it or have the children move closer.

After you throw the ball in the hoop, run to get it and give it to the next person.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE sus IS with US ALWAYS,
US ALWAYS, US ALWAYS.
JE sus IS with US ALWAYS.
He's HERE with US right NOW.**

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

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You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.
He is with us always. He is with us always.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.**

Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter reviews the lesson with questions or by supplying key parts of the lesson with some words left out. Children are to supply the answers as the presenter shares the Bible Event.

See if you know the words I'm thinking of when I tell the Bible Event. If you know it, you may say it out loud without raising your hand.

Jesus died on the cross and after three days, his tomb was empty. What happened to Jesus? Was he still dead or was he alive? (*Alive.*) For 40 days, Jesus showed himself to his friends, the disciples. Did Jesus teach his disciples or try to hide from them? (*Jesus taught his friends, the disciples.*) After 40 days, Jesus knew it was time for him to go to his heavenly Father. How did he get there? Did he float up into the sky or did he take an airplane? (*He floated up into the sky—to heaven.*) Is Jesus still with us today, even though we cannot see him? (*Yes.*)

Lesson Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You gave us Jesus. You gave us Jesus.
He is with us always. He is with us always.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Lesson Song:

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

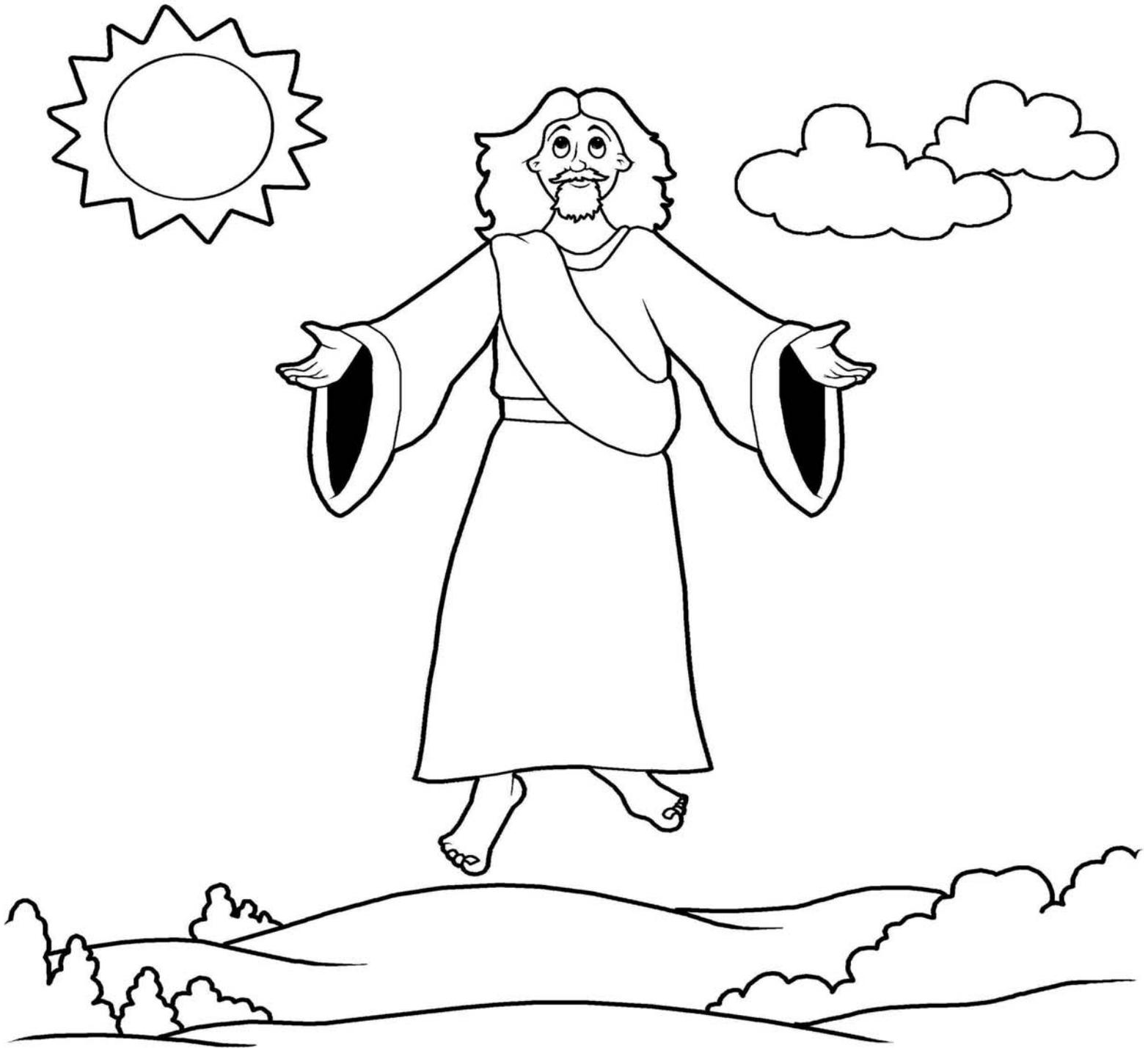
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He's HERE with US right NOW.**

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Jesus is with us always. Jesus is with us always.

Lead the children in singing songs from a CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out God Talk at Home.

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Jesus is With Us Always