



Date: _____
Series: We Are God's Church
Spring Year 2, Lesson 50

Jesus Ascends to Heaven

Take Home Point: *JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN
...*We work for Jesus.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Acts 1:1-11

We will help children know:

- The Bible Event of Jesus' ascension into heaven.
- While we wait for Jesus to return, we will tell others about him.

We will help the children feel:




- Excited to learn that they can work for Jesus.
- Happy that God loves them.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event
- Participate in the Bible event and watch a short video.
- Craft: make an Ascension Cup showing Jesus going to heaven.
- Snack: paint and eat heavenly clouds.
- Game: Balloon Bop Relay.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN...We work for Jesus.
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 50 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 4	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubba puppet • Bible • \$20 bill real or play money • VCR & television • Video: Animated Stories New Testament "He is Risen" (Nest Family Entertainment)—order from www.nestfamily.com
Small Group Application 	6 7 8 8	Activity 1: Craft Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<p><i>Activity 1: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A, 1 per 6 children on card stock • crayons or markers • label with take home point or take home point written on masking tape, one per child • 7 or 9 ounce paper cups-that have had holes punched in the bottom • Cotton balls • Tape • String cut into 12" lengths • Glue <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins • cups • water or juice • whipped topping tinted blue • one graham cracker square per child • stick pretzels • mini marshmallows • spoon <p><i>Activity 3: Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two blown up balloons and an extra if one pops
Large Group Wrap-up 	10 10	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • Albie puppet • Example of craft • Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Bubba puppet, \$20 bill, real or play money

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: Hi everyone. Look what I have! (Bubba holds up the money.)

Presenter: Wow, Bubba. That's a lot of money. Where did you get it?

Bubba: My daddy gave it to me before he left town for a business trip.

Presenter: What are you going to do with it?

Bubba: I have work to do for my daddy. It is an important job.

Presenter: What is the important job, Bubba?

Bubba: I am going to take my mother and sister Judy out to dinner and pay for the food all by myself.

Presenter: That sounds like important work, Bubba.

Bubba: I am so excited about it. But I miss my daddy and I can't wait until he gets home.

Presenter: Bubba, this reminds me of today's Bible event.

Bubba: Someone in the Bible is taking their mother and sister out to dinner?

Presenter: No. It reminds me that Jesus was leaving his disciples. He was ascending, which means going up, to heaven. Jesus was going on a business trip too. His business is to prepare a place in heaven for people who love him and believe in him.

Bubba: Did he tell his friends to do work for him?

Presenter: Yes. He told his friends that they have an important job to do.

Bubba: What were they supposed to do?

Presenter: It is the same job that we are doing. It is to tell others about Jesus so that they can go to heaven too.

Bubba: I can do that work!

Presenter: I know you can Bubba.

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about that Bible event?

Bubba: Yes.

Presenter: Let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

Presenter: *Jesus went to heaven... now you say, "We work for Jesus." Jesus went to heaven.

Bubba: We work for Jesus.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: Ok everybody, *Jesus went to heaven...

Bubba: (and everyone): We work for Jesus.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Video and Explanation

Cue your video to where Jesus is ascending into heaven, at 28:20 (Jesus is taking his followers to the top of a hill). Dim the lights if possible.

Presenter holds the Bible

Boys and girls, I want you to close your eyes and imagine. Imagine seeing Jesus dying on the cross. You are so sad that tears are running down your cheeks. Then you see Jesus bow his head and die.

Continue to imagine. Now it is Easter morning and you have just heard that Jesus is alive! He has risen from the dead. You are filled with joy!

Imagine one more scene. Forty days have gone by. You have seen Jesus several times. You now know that Jesus had to die and rise again to take away our sins. Today Jesus takes you and many of his followers to a hill. He gives you an important job. Then he ascends up into heaven. You are sad to see Jesus go. You will not see him again until you are with him in heaven. But you have an important job to do. You must tell others about Jesus. You must tell them that Jesus loves them and died for them. If they believe in Jesus, someday they will be with him in heaven.

Now we are going to watch a short video that shows what happened the day Jesus returned to heaven. (Start the video "He is Risen" and play for two minutes to the end of the video.)

Remember that Jesus gave us an important job to do. Can anyone tell me what it is? (Tell others about Jesus.) Jesus died to forgive our sins and rose again to prepare a place for us in heaven.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. ***JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN... We work for Jesus.**

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

JE sus WENT to HE-A ven.
HEA-a VEN, HEA-a VEN.
JE sus WENT to HE-A ven.
WE WORK for JEsus.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: *Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.*

Activity 1: Craft “Ascension Cup”

Supplies: *Copies of Appendix A, one per every 6 children, glue, cotton balls, 7 or 9 oz. cups, tape, string cut into 12” lengths (one per child), crayons or markers. If possible, print labels with the take home point: JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN-We work for Jesus. If labels are not available, write it on a piece of masking tape and tape to inside of cup.*

Before class, punch a hole in bottom of cups and attach label or tape with take home point to the inside of the cup.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make a craft that shows Jesus ascending or going up, into heaven. First we will glue the cotton to the outside of the cup so it looks like clouds. (Pull and stretch the cotton balls so they are thinner.) Next we will color the picture of Jesus. When you are finished coloring, I will tape a string to Jesus. Tape the end of the string to the back of Jesus’ head. Push the other end through the cup from the inside. Tie a knot (or fold a piece of tape over the end) at the end so the string will not slip back through the cup. Now slowly pull Jesus up into the clouds.

Review the Bible Event.

How do you think the disciples felt as Jesus ascended up into heaven? *(Answers will vary, but may include: surprised, happy, excited, sad.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. *JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN... We work for Jesus.

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

**Dear God,
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Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
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Activity 2: Snack “Heavenly Clouds”

Supplies: Whipped topping tinted light blue, graham crackers, spoon for teacher, mini marshmallows, stick pretzels, napkins, cups, water or juice. Assemble “paintbrushes” for the children by putting a mini marshmallow on the end of a pretzel.

*****CAUTION: Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.**

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Give each child a cup of water or juice and a napkin and the pretzel/marshmallow paintbrush and three or four mini marshmallows.

Boys and girls, today we are going to paint our graham cracker blue like the sky. I am giving you a half of a graham cracker but do not eat it yet. I will put a spoonful of blue topping on your cracker for you to paint it with your pretend paintbrush. You can pretend the little marshmallows are clouds. Now you can eat your heavenly snack.

Review the Bible event.

What important job did Jesus give us to do? (*Tell others about Jesus.*)

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN... We work for Jesus.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
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Activity 3: Game “Balloon Bop Relay”

Supplies: *Two balloons blown up*

1. Divide the children into two teams, standing in two parallel lines, facing each other, several feet apart from the next child in line.
2. Tell the children that you will give a balloon to each team. When you say “GO!”, the children will hit or bop the balloon to the child next in line as they say “We work for Jesus!”
3. The children will bop the balloon down the line and back to the beginning.
4. You can play several times, changing the phrase they say (such as, “Jesus loves you” or “Jesus went to heaven.”)

Review the Bible event.

How can we work for Jesus? Let children give their answers (may include “by inviting a friend to church”, “telling someone about Jesus”, “being nice to people”).

Let’s practice the take home point. *JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN... We work for Jesus.

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
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Prayer Time:

Jesus died on the cross and then rose from the dead. He lived among his disciples and friends for 40 days. What happened after 40 days? (*He ascended into heaven.*) **What does Jesus want us to do?** (*Work for him.*) **How can we work for him?** (*Tell others about him, invite others to church, be helpful and kind, etc.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child’s request.

Let's practice the take home point. ***JESUS WENT TO HEAVEN... We work for Jesus.**

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
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Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.

(If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It shows Jesus ascending into heaven. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.



Presenter: (says to kids): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Kids say: "...We work for Jesus."

Presenter: (says to Albie): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Albie says: "We play with marbles!"

Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like the sky and clouds. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Kids say: "...We work for Jesus."

Presenter: (says to Albie): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Albie says: "We work for pizza!"

Presenter: Albie, today we played a bop the balloon game. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Kids say: "...We work for Jesus."

Presenter: (says to Albie): "Jesus went to Heaven..."

Albie says: "We kiss hippos!"

Presenter says: "Albie, listen one last time.

"Jesus went to Heaven..."

Kid's response: "...We work for Jesus."

Presenter: (says to Albie): **"Jesus went to Heaven..."**

Albie's response: (Warms up his singing voice with "*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*" and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
"Jesus went to Heaven...We work for Jesus."

Presenter says to Albie: **Good job, Albie!**

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

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

**Dear God,
We love you.
Help us do your work.
Help me tell others that Jesus is alive.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)
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Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants us to work for Jesus.

