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The Ascension , Jesus Goes to Prepare a Place

Scripture: Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:1-11

Theme: Jesus went to heaven but promised to come back

Nursery (Ages 0-2)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

This Sunday school lesson teaches little ones about Jesus' special trip to heaven after He lived and taught on Earth. In Luke 24:50-53, we see Jesus taking His disciples to a hill called Mount Olivet, where He blessed them with food, just like He did before His death. The disciples watched as Jesus was taken up in a bright cloud, and then they saw angels tell them He would return one day. Acts 1:1-11 tells us the same message: Jesus left them to prepare a place for them in heaven, and then He rose up into the sky in the same way He came. The lesson helps children understand that even though Jesus is away, He loves them and will come back to be with them again, just like a big brother or guardian who leaves to take care of something important. The key verse, Acts 1:11, tells us that Jesus will Optional reflection: children can draw a picture of Jesus helping their friends, then share one way they can help someone else this week. This extra activity supports the lesson's theme and gives teachers a simple, lowprep option for extending the discussion.

Bible Story

After Jesus rose from the dead, He spent three days with His friends. He sat with them at the table and ate with them, just like before. His hands and side were still full of the marks from the nails and the spear, proof that He was alive!",

One day, Jesus said to His followers, 'You are going to see me leave this place, but before you do, let's take one last look at all the things I have done for you.' So they climbed into the upper room where He was staying with them.",

While they were there, He gave them a special gift. He told them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for something amazing, the Holy Spirit would come to help them, just like He had promised.",

Then, Jesus took them outside to the Mount of Olives. He sat with them again, and they watched as He blessed the disciples and kissed them good-bye. 'I will not return with you until the time you see me again in glory,' He said before leaving.",

After Jesus left, the two men who had been walking with Him from Galilee, Cleopas and another, asked, 'Are You the only one who doesn't know what's happening?' They explained how Jesus had to die and then rise again, but He didn't stay in their town.",

Jesus joined them as they walked, but they didn't recognize Him at first. 'Why are you so sad?' He asked. 'Because we lost hope that He would come back,' they said. Then Jesus told them, 'How foolish you are! What's so hard to understand about being raised from the dead?'"",

Key Verse

Acts 1:11 , 'This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.'

The key verse (Acts 1:11 , 'This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.') calls us to respond to God's truth.

Discussion Questions

- "Where did Jesus go up high?"
- "Did you see Jesus make a nice place?"
- "What does Jesus do with a smile?"
- "Where do you feel safe to sit?"
- "Can you come find Jesus?"

>> Missions Spotlight

In the Middle East, where Jesus physically ascended from the Mount of Olives, believers face intense pressure. Pray for Christians in Israel, Palestine, and Jordan who live in the very land where Jesus walked, died, rose, and ascended.

-> To the Cross

Jesus ascended to heaven, but He promised to return. The cross and resurrection made it possible for us to be with God forever. Jesus said, 'I go to prepare a place for you.' Because of the cross, we have a home in heaven waiting for us.