



# Jesus Returned to Heaven

Matthew 28; Acts 1 | Kindergarten-3rd grade  
Unit 27 - Session 4

SEP  
12

## STORY POINT:

Jesus gave his disciples a mission!

## KEY PASSAGE:

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me,  
though he die, shall he live."

**John 11:25**

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## AS KIDS ARRIVE:

As kids arrive let them color and work on their activity pages. There are also some floor games they can play with like LEGOS, blocks, Go Fish, etc.

## WELCOME KIDS AND GO OVER UP RULES:

"We are so glad you are here today! My name is \_\_\_\_\_. We always love hanging out with you and opening up the Bible together. We have a lot of fun things planned for today and I'm going to need your help to make it happen. Do you remember any of our UP Rules?"

Rules will always be on the wall in each room so you can refer back to them.

(Let the kids respond and remind them if they get off track)

1. Listen Up
2. Look Up
3. Sit Up
4. Hand Up
5. Zip Up
6. Mask Up
7. Clean Up

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## OPENING QUESTION:

Invite kids to come to the floor and sit on a log cushion. Ask them the following question to help start the conversation for the day.

**SAY:** "Before we get started I have a quick question for you. Would you rather be able to do something impossible or be able to do something possible better than any one else?"

(Give the children time to respond.)

**SAY:** In today's story, it may seem like Jesus was giving the disciples impossible instructions. Sometimes things seem really impossible, but we often forget that if God wants us to do something, he will be right there with us. We'll find out more in our story.

### **OPENING ACTIVITY: Instructions**

**Supplies:** *no supplies needed*

*Call on a child to give step by step instructions on how to make or do some of the tasks below. Remind them to be as detailed as possible. Give a few kids a chance to stand up in front and give clear instructions for one of the following tasks.*

*Let them choose between the following:*

- 1. Make a hotdog*
- 2. Build a house*
- 3. Brush teeth*
- 4. Make your bed*
- 5. Plant a flower*

*For example on how to make a sandwich; Put the bread on the plate. Unwrap the cheese or meat. Put the mayonnaise or ketchup on the bread, pick up the whole bottle or jar and put it on the bread. Make it obvious anywhere the instructions were not specific.*

**SAY:** Most of us have done some of these things before, so we should have understood the instructions. But how important is it to have specific instructions if you are doing something for the first time? Jesus knew His disciples would need special instructions for the task ahead of them. Let's learn today what Jesus told them to do.

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## **BIBLE STORY: Jesus Returned to Heaven**

**Matthew 28; Acts 1 - Unit 27 - Session 4**

**Supplies:** dry erase board, dry erase markers, eraser

**(Tell the Bible story using the story below and then show the Bible story video)**

**Go over Key Passage: John 11:25**

**SAY:** "Jesus spoke these words right before He raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus died but then came back to life and is with God in heaven now. Because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, we can be certain we will live forever with God too, if we have faith in Jesus."

(See if any children can say the verse without help. Encourage kids to repeat after you)

"I am the resurrection and the life."

“Whoever believes in me”  
“Though he die, shall he live.”

**SAY:** Alright, if you’re ready to hear our story, touch your ears!

**SAY:** No other book is like the Bible. The Bible is God’s one big story. God’s words are right. Today’s Bible story is found in the books of Matthew and Acts.

**STORYTELLER TIP:** As you tell the story, choose a few children to help tell the story. Cue the child with ideas of what to draw using the thoughts in parentheses.

**SAY:** Today we are going to tell our story by drawing pictures on the dry erase board. But I’m going to need some help. Can you all help me? *(Choose a few children to help draw the words or phrases in bold throughout the story)*

After **Jesus died on the cross (cross)** and was raised from the dead, He **spent time with His disciples over 40 days (number 40)**. During that time, Jesus told them even more about God’s kingdom. Then **Jesus told His disciples to go to a mountain in Galilee (mountain)**. They saw Jesus there, and they worshiped Him.

**Jesus gave His disciples important instructions (a list)**. Jesus said, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.” Jesus gave the disciples—and everyone who follows Him—a job to do. He said, “**Go into all the world (a globe or the world)** and preach the gospel. **Make disciples of people from every nation (12 disciples stick people).**”

Jesus also said, “**Baptize them (water)** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teach them to obey everything I have commanded you (a teacher or an apple).**” Then Jesus said, “Remember this: **I am always with you (a dove or hand)**, until the very end of the age.”

Jesus told His disciples to wait in the city of Jerusalem until God kept His promise to give them the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, “But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you (lightning or strong arm)**. You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

After Jesus said these things, **He went up into heaven. The disciples watched Jesus until a cloud hid Him from their sight (clouds with feet hanging down)**. All of a sudden, **two angels appeared (two angels)**. They were wearing white clothes. These angels asked, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come again. He will return in the same way that you have seen Him going into heaven.”

**Here is how this points us to Jesus:** Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with us and help us do God's work—to teach people everywhere about Jesus so they will trust in Him as their Lord and Savior. One day, Jesus will return to make all things new and to rule as Lord over all.

***(Feel free to show the Bible Story video if you have time to help reinforce the story.)***

Our Big Picture Question helps us think about how our story points us to Jesus.

**Big Picture Question:**

**Where is Jesus now?** *Jesus is in heaven.*

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**PRAYER:**

(You can take prayer requests from kids before you pray if you want to pray for the kids. You can also ask a child if they would like to pray.)

"God, thank You that Jesus did not leave us alone. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to help us obey Jesus and live on mission. Give us wisdom and courage to be a part of fulfilling the Great Commission. Amen."

**CRAFT: Paper Airplane**

**Supplies:** paper, crayons, markers, stickers

**Instructions:**

*Give each child a piece of paper. Allow the kids time to make a paper airplane or jet. If kids need help, show them how. Give them time to decorate their paper airplanes. Write "Go into the all the world" on the outside of the paper airplane.*

**SAY •** Jesus gave His disciples the Great Commission. Jesus told those who followed Him to share the gospel with everyone they met until people from all over the world have heard. We are still working on that mission today! We don't have to get on an airplane to share the gospel with people, but we could.

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**GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. **Where did Jesus tell His disciples to go?** *(a mountain)*
2. **What did Jesus give His disciples?** **(Jesus gave His disciples a mission.)**
3. **What was the mission Jesus gave His disciples?** *(to make followers of him in every place on earth)*
4. **How long did Jesus say that the disciples should stay in Jerusalem?** *(until God sent the Holy Spirit)*

5. **What would the Holy Spirit give the disciples power to do?** *(to tell people all over the world about Jesus)*
6. **Where is Jesus now?** *Jesus is in heaven.*

**If you finish early, allow children to play on the floor with games or color while they wait for their parents.**