



Jesus Goes Up to Heaven

Lesson Aim: To know where Jesus is.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as Lord

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 24:50-53

What He Has Done: Jesus told blessed His disciples and was lifted up to heaven.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37a

Unit 3: Jesus as Lord

	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
11	Jesus and the Children, Mark 10:13-16	Jesus told the disciples to let the children come to Him.	To know children are important to Jesus. He wants them to come to Him.
12	Jesus Cares for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44	Jesus wept when He saw their sorrow.	To see when we are sad, Jesus is sad for us.
13	Riding into Jerusalem, Mark 11:1-10	Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.	To praise Jesus as they did when He rode into Jerusalem.
14	The Miracle of Easter, Matthew 28:1-7	God raised Lord Jesus to life after He died for us.	To learn God raised Jesus to life and Jesus lives forever.
15	Appearing on the Shore, John 21:1-14	Jesus appeared on the shore to His followers.	To show Jesus proved He was alive after God raised Him to life.
16	Jesus Goes Up to Heaven, Luke 24:50-53	Jesus blessed His disciples and was lifted up to heaven.	To know where Jesus is.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Revelation 5:1-14. Please join us in praying, "Lord Jesus, affirm in the children's hearts that You are indeed on Your throne now in heaven, hearing their prayers and watching over them. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Before class, pray for the children, your helpers, and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME		Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a cloud
		Coloring Center: Jesus Goes Up to Heaven	Coloring pages of Jesus going up to heaven, crayons
		Play-Dough Center: Land, Water, and Sky	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools, landscape play mat (laminated picture of land, water, and sky)
		Activity Center: Clouds in the Sky	Cotton balls, cups, spoons
		Block Center: Jesus Is with Us	Blocks
		Preparing for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love" Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 16
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 24:50-53	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 24:51 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, inflated balloon (preferably filled with helium) on a string or ribbon
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: I See Jesus	Small paper plate, yarn, sturdy white and red paper, cotton balls, glue, tape, crayons or markers
		Game: Two Ways to Praise	One ball for rolling, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		Game: Where Is Jesus?	None
		Snack: Marshmallow Clouds	Marshmallow Snack
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 16
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Luke 24:50-53	None
	Up to 10	Game: Memory Verse Circle	None
	Up to 10	Game: I See Someone Jesus Loves	Binoculars (toy or real) or spy glass (paper rolled into a tube)
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about Jesus in heaven

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as Lord

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a cloud. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a cloud remind you that Jesus was lifted up through the clouds to heaven.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: JESUS GOES UP TO HEAVEN

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Jesus going up to heaven, crayons

DO

Children color while talking about the story.

TALK ABOUT

Where does Jesus live? (Heaven.) After God raised Jesus to life, Jesus spent time with His friends. Then, one day, it was time for Him to return to heaven. The Bible tells us Jesus was lifted up to heaven. What do you think it was like to see that happen? (Children respond.) The Bible tells us Jesus' friends were filled with great joy. They worshiped and praised Him.

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: LAND, WATER, AND SKY

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools, landscape play mat (laminated picture of land, water, and sky)

DO

Children identify whether cookie cutter shapes are found on land, in the water, or in the sky and make play-dough shapes to put on the landscape play mat while discussing the lesson aim.

TALK ABOUT

God created a world for us to live in with land, water, and sky. Let's see if we can find some of the other things God created that belong on the land, in the water, or in the sky. Choose a cookie cutter of an animal or object that can be found on land, in the water, or in the sky.

- **What is this animal (or object)?** (Children respond.)
- **Do you find a name of animal or object on the land, in the water, or in the sky?** (Children respond.)
- **Let's use our play mat to place the name of animal or object where it belongs.** Show children how to place the cookie cutter on the play mat where it belongs.

Repeat with several cookie cutters or for as long as children remain interested.

THE WELCOME *continued...*

ACTIVITY CENTER: CLOUDS IN THE SKY

SUPPLIES

Cotton balls, cups, spoons

DO

Use the cotton balls in a variety of activities:

- **Count:** Grab several cotton balls and have the children count the cotton balls with you.
- **Cotton Explosion:** Give children 3-4 cotton balls. Show children how to stuff their cotton balls in a tight fist, then open the fist to watch the cotton balls “explode.”
- **Pull-Apart:** Give children 1-2 cotton balls and show them how to pull the cotton balls apart.
- **Free Play:** Place several cotton balls on the table and allow children to scoop up the cotton balls with the cups and spoons.

TALK ABOUT

If there is a window in the room, look outside with the children and see if there are any clouds in the sky.

Who made the clouds? (God.) These cotton balls remind me of the fluffy clouds in the sky. When Jesus was ready to return to heaven, He was lifted up into the sky. Jesus is in heaven now. He sees and hears all things and we know He watches over us. He loves each one of you very much.

BLOCK CENTER: JESUS IS WITH US

SUPPLIES

Blocks

DO

As children build, talk about all the places they go where Jesus is with them.

TALK ABOUT

Where are some of the places you go with your family? (Children respond.) Is Jesus with you when you're at name of place? (Children respond.) Repeat question with several of the places the children have mentioned or make up your own. Is there anywhere you go that Jesus is not with you? (No.) Jesus is always with us. Can you build some of those places Jesus is with you using the blocks?

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

"Love	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the Lord your God	(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
with all your heart."	The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart.
Matthew 22:37a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as Lord

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." When we pray, we show God we love Him. Let's pray right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for loving us. Help us to love You with all our heart. Help us love our neighbors, too. Amen.**



In today's story, we will learn Jesus' friends watched Him go up to heaven. Then, they praised Him with great joy. Joy is the greatest kind of happiness. Let's praise Him with great joy right now! Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God."



What's our Bible Memory Verse? Let individual children respond or say the verse together. **Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together with the motions.** Practice a few times with the sign language.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart."	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
Matthew 22:37a	(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
	The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart.
	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



The last thing Jesus did before He went up to heaven was to bless His followers. He blesses us, too. Blessings are good gifts which Jesus gives us because He loves us. Let's thank Jesus for our many blessings by giving our offering to His church. Let's remember that He loves everyone. Sing: "Jesus Loves the Little Children" or "I Will Remember" while collecting the offering.



I wonder if Delbert and Lello know Jesus is in heaven. Let's see! Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 16.



Jesus is living in heaven today. He sees and hears all things and we know He watches over us. He loves each one of you very much. Sing: "We Love."



Jesus went up the heaven

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 24:51, picture of the Bible story, inflated balloon (preferably filled with helium) on a string or ribbon

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Show children the balloon. **Who can tell me what I brought today?** (A balloon.) **I love balloons. They come in so many fun shapes and colors. What's your favorite color?** (Children respond.)

If your balloon is filled with air, add this line: **This balloon is filled with air. If I let go of it, it falls.** Let go of the balloon and let it fall. Pick it back up and hold it again.

When a balloon is filled with helium, we have to hold onto it because it will float. If we are outside, it will go up, up, up into the air, higher and higher into the heavens until it disappears. After Jesus was raised to life and spent some time with His friends, it was time for Him to return to heaven. He was raised up, up, up into the air, higher and higher until He was taken up into heaven.

Next time you see a balloon floating in the air, you can remember the story of Jesus being taken up into heaven. Let's listen to our story. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 24:51.



WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 24:50-53

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Jesus went to a special place;**
- **He brought along His friends.**
- **Then He stopped to bless them,**
- **And He lifted up His hands.**

- **While Jesus was blessing them,**
- **To heaven He was raised.**
- **They worshiped Him and went to stay**
- **In the temple where God was praised.**

What happened while Jesus was blessing His friends? (He was lifted up into heaven.) **Where is Jesus now?** (Heaven.)



Jesus is in heaven today

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: I SEE JESUS

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Jesus being taken up to heaven.

Supplies: Small paper plate, yarn, sturdy white and red paper, cotton balls, glue, tape, crayons or markers

Prepare: On sturdy white paper, draw a picture of Jesus in the clouds. On the clouds, print:

“Jesus was taken up into heaven.” Luke 24:51

Cut a piece of yarn twice the length of the paper plate. Punch a hole in the center of the small paper plate and thread the yarn through the hole. Cut a small heart shape from sturdy red paper.

As we make our “I See Jesus” craft, I will ask each of you a very important question: “Where is Jesus?” When I ask you, answer by saying, “Jesus is in heaven.” While the children are working, ask each child, **“Where is Jesus?”** With the child say, **“Jesus is in heaven.”**

Directions:

1. Color the picture of Jesus in the clouds.
2. Pull apart some cotton balls and glue them to the front of the paper plate. Leave the piece of yarn free to move.
3. Hang the plate so the cotton balls are facing down. Tape the cutout of Jesus in the clouds on the piece of yarn hanging down.
4. On the end of the yarn above the plate, tape the paper heart.

Craft Discussion:

- Show children how to hold the plate and pull the string so Jesus is lifted up into the clouds. **Where is Jesus?** (In heaven.)
- **The heart reminds us that Jesus loves us and is always watching over us.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: TWO WAYS TO PRAISE

Purpose: To understand and participate in sharing of individual praises to God.

Supplies: Ball for rolling, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

There are many ways to praise God. Let's try two of them now: **speaking praises and singing praises.**

Directions:

1. **Speaking Praise:**

- Children sit in a circle.
- Child 1 holds ball and says: "**I praise You God for blessing or answer to prayer.**"
Teacher's Note: You may need to make suggestions to children such as Mom, Dad, pets, flowers, sunshine, food, healing, lost pet found, etc.
- Child 1 rolls ball across circle to child 2.
- Child 2 receives, holds ball, and says: "**I praise You God for blessing or answer to prayer.**"
- Pattern repeats until each child has held the ball and praised God.

2. **Singing Praise:** Sing the Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

GAME: WHERE IS JESUS?

Purpose: For children to remember Jesus is in heaven.

Supplies: None

Teacher Tip: This game uses a question/answer poem which can be chanted or sung to the tune "Frere Jacques" used in our Blessing Song (See Snack Time.).

Our Bible story shows us where Jesus is now. Let's see if you each can answer the question when I ask you, "Where is Jesus?"

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. Before starting, demonstrate steps 3-5 with a helper.
3. Choose a child to stand in the middle of the circle.
4. Sing or say:
Where is Jesus? Where is Jesus?
Tell us, child's name! Tell us, child's name!
5. Have class join in as the child answers:
Jesus is in heaven! (Point up.) **Jesus is in heaven!** (Point up.)
This I know! (Point to self.) **This I know!** (Point to self.)
6. Repeat with each child in the circle.
7. Close with the children asking the teacher the question.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: MARSHMALLOW CLOUDS

Purpose: Children will eat a marshmallow snack to remember Jesus was lifted up into the clouds.

Snack Suggestion: Marshmallow snack

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Where is Jesus now?** (Jesus is in heaven.)
 - **How did Jesus get to heaven?** (He was lifted up to heaven in front of His friends.)
 - **Imagine you had been there. How do you think it felt to watch Him be lifted up to heaven?** (Children respond.) **Afterward, they praised Jesus with great joy. Would you have praised Him, too?** (Children respond.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Love	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the Lord your God	(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
with all your heart."	The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart.
Matthew 22:37a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: LUKE 24:50-53

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Jesus went to a special place;** (Walk in place.)
- **He brought along His friends.** (Beckoning motion.)
- **Then He stopped to bless them,** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **And He lifted up His hands.** (Lift hands.)

- **While Jesus was blessing them,** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **To heaven He was raised.** (Point to heaven.)
- **They worshiped Him and went to stay** (Walk in place.)
- **In the temple where God was praised.** (Raise palms to praise God.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37a

GAME: MEMORY VERSE CIRCLE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

You are important to Jesus and He loves you very much. He wants you to love Him with all your heart (your feelings), **and with all your soul** (the part of you that will live forever), **and with all your mind** (your thoughts).

Directions:

1. Stand in a circle with the children and hold hands.
2. Walk in a circle as you say the verse together, taking one step with each word.
"Love the Lord your God with all your heart."
3. Play again, but walk in the opposite direction.
4. Play several times, doing different motions each time. Motions may include: jumping in place, clapping, hopping, etc.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: I SEE SOMEONE JESUS LOVES

Purpose: To see Jesus loves everyone.

Supplies: Binoculars (toy or real) or spy glass (paper rolled into a tube)

You are important to Jesus; He loves each and every one of you. I'm going to use my binoculars (or spy glass) to see who Jesus loves. Let's see if you can guess who I see.

Directions:

1. Scan the room with the binoculars. In your mind, choose one of the children without revealing who you have chosen to the children.
2. Say, "**I spy with my little eye someone Jesus loves. It's a girl wearing a pink dress. Do you know who it is?** Allow the children guess until they guess correctly. You may choose to give a second hint, if needed.
3. **That's right! Jesus loves child's name.**
4. Play several times.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about Jesus in heaven.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 3, Lesson 16: Jesus Goes Up to Heaven

PONDER! Imagine you were there when it was time for Jesus to return to heaven (Luke 24:50-53). How do you think it felt to watch Him be lifted up to heaven?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, thank You for blessing Your followers before going to heaven. Thank You for blessing us and showing us that You are in heaven. Amen."

PLAY! The Bible says angels, believers, and creatures praise Jesus as He sits on His throne in heaven. Invite your family outside, lie down on the ground, and look up at the sky. Say your Bible Memory Verse and sing a song of Praise together. Imagine Jesus smiling at you from heaven.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Love	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the Lord your God	(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
with all your heart."	The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart.
Matthew 22:37a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.