



# 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.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "Jesus is in heaven."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

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 and 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."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a cloud
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Jesus is in heaven."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Am with You" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love"
		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	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Luke 24:50-53	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 24:51 Visual: Toy binoculars (or create paper binoculars)
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> I See Jesus	Small paper plate, yarn, sturdy white and red paper, cotton balls, glue, tape, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Two Ways to Praise	One ball for rolling, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		<b>Game:</b> Where is Jesus?	None
		<b>Snack:</b> Marshmallow Clouds	Marshmallow Snack
	<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 16 Color This Story: "Jesus Goes Up to Heaven"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Luke 24:50-53	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Heart Hop	Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Lots of Love Tango	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about Jesus in heaven

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus is in heaven

## THE 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. Share this good news with everyone as they arrive. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus is in heaven."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

**SIGN LANGUAGE: "Jesus is in heaven."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:**

- "Jesus"**                      The middle finger of one hand touches the middle of the palm of the other hand, then the action is repeated with the other hand, indicating the wounds in Jesus' hands after He was nailed to the cross.
- "(is in) heaven."**        The hands move up towards the heavens as if making a cloud over head.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song":    Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "Jesus is in heaven," 1 Peter 3:21b-22. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as Lord

## THE WORSHIP

**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.

**It's Praise Time! That's our time to sing praise to Jesus as Lord. He is watching over us and listening to us as we praise Him right now. Do you know where Jesus is right now?** (Jesus is in heaven.) **That is today's Whisper Verse. Let's try it together.** Review the Whisper Verse together: "Jesus is in heaven." Include sign language.



**In today's story, we will learn that 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" and "Let Everything That Has Breath."

**The last thing Jesus did before He went up to heaven was to bless His followers. He blesses us, too. Blessings are good gifts from God. Let's thank Jesus for our many blessings by giving our offering to His church. Let's ask Him to use this money to bless others.** Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord" 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: "I Am with You."



Jesus went up the heaven

## THE WORD

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.

Last time, we learned that after God raised Jesus to life, Jesus appeared on the shore and performed a miracle by filling the nets with fish. He made breakfast for His friends. Today, we will see where Jesus went after that. Let's open our Bible to today's story in the book of Luke. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 24:51.

### **WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 24:50-53**

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, use toy binoculars (or create paper binoculars). Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- 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.)

Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Luke 24:51 from the teacher's Bible.

**Where is Jesus now?** (Jesus is in heaven.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us where He is. Let's say our Whisper Verse together: "Jesus is in heaven."** Include sign language or hand motions.



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 our Whisper Verse: “Jesus is in heaven.”** While the children are working, ask each child, **“Where is Jesus?”** With the child, the teacher then says and signs the answer, **“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 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."**
- 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:** All sing Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

## **GAME: WHERE IS JESUS?**

**Purpose:** For children to realize the location of our living Lord, using repetition to underscore His location, while affirming personal mastery of the Bible fact.

**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. Review sign language for Whisper Verse, "Jesus is in heaven."
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 signing the Whisper Verse as the child answers:  
**Jesus is in heaven! Jesus is in heaven!  
This I know! This I know!**
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 snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other 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. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Where is Jesus now?** (Jesus is in heaven.)
  - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("Jesus is in heaven.") **Let's celebrate by saying it together.**
  - **How did Jesus get to heaven?** (He was lifted up to heaven in front of His followers.)
  - **Imagine you had been one of Jesus' first followers. 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.)

## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "I See Jesus" craft. Tell someone about Jesus going up to heaven.

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Think about ways you can praise Him with great joy as the followers did when they saw Jesus taken up to heaven.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Jesus Goes Up to Heaven." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God," as children color.





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 acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **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 and with all your soul  
and with all your mind.” Matthew 22:37

### **GAME: HEART HOP**

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

**Supplies:** Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape

**Directions:**

1. Tape the paper heart shapes in a large circle on the floor.
2. Children stand on every other heart.
3. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse. Have children repeat each word after you.
4. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse again. This time, children turn to their right and hop from one heart to the next heart on each word.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: LOTS OF LOVE TANGO**

**Purpose:** To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

**Do you love Jesus, the Lord?** (Children respond.) **Jesus wants you to love Him with every part of your body—from the top of your head to the tips of your toes! Look at everyone around you. They are your neighbors! Wave to your neighbors! God wants you to love everyone around you, too!**

### **Directions:**

1. Help children find partners. Partners stand together.
2. Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song and lead the following motions:
  - "You shall love the Lord your God,** (Point up to God in heaven.)  
**With all your heart and with all your soul** (Pat sides of body from head to toes.)  
**and with all your mind.**
  - Love your neighbor as yourself—** (Hug partner.)  
**the best commandments you'll find!"**
  - Praise Time chorus. (Hop, clap, or dance to the rhythm of the music.)



## **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!** Read Luke 24:50-53. What did Jesus do right before He went to heaven? What did His friends do right after Jesus went to heaven? How has the Lord Jesus blessed your family this week? What is your family's favorite way to praise Him?

**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 Lord 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 or sing your Bible Memory Verse together. Imagine Jesus smiling at you from His throne in heaven.

**Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse:** Matthew 22:37

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."