



The King Ascends

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus is in heaven.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Rose

THE WORD

Bible Story: Acts 1:8b-11

What He Has Done: Jesus went to heaven.

THE WAY

Bible Memory Verse: "Lord, You know that I love You." John 21:17

Unit 4: The King Who Rose			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
18	Jesus Is Risen, John 20:1-18	God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.	To know the true meaning of Easter.
19	The Road to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-18, 27-34	Jesus walked and talked with His friends.	To know Jesus showed His friends He was alive.
20	Jesus Talks with Peter, John 21:15-17	Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him.	To show Jesus we love Him by helping others.
21	The Great Commission, Matthew 28:16-20	Jesus sent His followers to tell the world about Him.	To tell other people about Jesus.
22	The King Ascends, Acts 1:8b-11	Jesus went to heaven.	To know Jesus is in heaven.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Philippians 3:17-21. Please join us in praying, "God, we eagerly await Your return and the promise of life forever with You. We worship You as Savior and King. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Add variety to Praise Time by adding motions to the songs. Lead the children in jumping, marching, walking or clapping to the music. Allow the children to take turns leading the class around the room.

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a cloud
		Coloring Center: Jesus Goes to Heaven	Coloring pages of Jesus going to heaven, cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue
		Play-Dough Center: Praising Jesus	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Discovery Center: Up To Heaven	Three balloons
		Activity Center: Jesus Is with You	Chairs
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "This Little Light of Mine"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Do You Love Me?" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "How Wide?" "I Am with You" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "The Lord Is Faithful" "We Love"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 4, Lesson 18
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Acts 1:8b-11	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 1:9 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, binoculars or "Jesus Goes to Heaven" craft sample
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Jesus Goes to Heaven	Blue or white cup, cotton balls, sturdy white paper, label or paper, pipe cleaner (or string), glue, markers and crayons
		Game: Look Up	Pillow or white paper cloud cutout, optional: praise music
		Game: Send Up Love	Lightweight ball, inflatable ball, or balloon (draw on hearts with red permanent marker), large sheet
		Snack: Up in the Sky Sweets	Marshmallows and pretzels
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 4, Lesson 22
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Acts 1:8b-11	None
	Up to 10	Game: "Do You Love Me?" Dance	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do You Love Me?," optional: musical instruments
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about how Jesus went up to heaven

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who rose

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 went up 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 TO HEAVEN

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Jesus going to heaven, cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue

DO

Children add cotton ball clouds and color their picture as they talk about today's story.

TALK ABOUT

Who is in the picture? (Jesus and His friends.) **Where is Jesus?** (In the clouds.) **Jesus is saying goodbye to His friends as He is lifted up through the clouds into heaven. Jesus is in heaven right now. What direction is heaven?** (Up.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: PRAISING JESUS

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while praising Jesus together. Encourage children to make things that would please Jesus with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

Where is Jesus? (Heaven.) **That's right, Jesus is in heaven. Even though we can't see Him, the Bible tells us He loves to hear us praise Him. We can sing our praises, we can pray and tell Jesus our praises, or maybe we could make something with the play-dough that would please Him. What could you make with the play-dough that would please Jesus?** (Bible, church, heart, animals, flowers, etc.)

THE WELCOME *continued...*

DISCOVERY CENTER: UP TO HEAVEN

SUPPLIES

Three balloons

DO

Allow children to play with the balloons while discussing the idea of Jesus going up to heaven.

TALK ABOUT

Can you point up? Where is up? In our story today, Jesus was taken up to heaven. He went up past the clouds until His friends could no longer see Him. What else do we see when we look up? (Birds, planes, balloons, kites, etc.)

ACTIVITY CENTER: JESUS IS WITH YOU

SUPPLIES

Chairs

DO

Place chairs in two rows with one chair at the front to make a bus. Children pretend to ride the bus while discussing places Jesus is with them.

TALK ABOUT

Let's go for a bus ride! Where do you think we should go? Pretend to drive to and arrive at the suggested location. **Is Jesus with you when you are at insert location? Where else can we go?** Pretend to drive to one or more locations. Each time asking, **"Is Jesus with you when you are at insert location?"** After driving to a few places, ask the children: **"Did you know Jesus is always with you?"** (Children respond.) **The Bible tells us that even though we cannot see Him, He is always with us.**

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)

"Lord,	Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You."	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	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 the King who rose

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.

Teacher Tip: When telling the children Jesus "rose to life" or "rose again," raise your palms upwards as you say "rose" to distinguish from the rose flower.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to King Jesus who rose to life. In our story today, Jesus is taken up to heaven. He is in heaven right now. Let's pray to Jesus who is in heaven (point up). Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, we look up to heaven and we praise You. We look forward to the day when You will come back again. Amen.**



Jesus promised while we wait for Him to come back, we would not be alone. He sent His Holy Spirit to be with us. He is here with us now and He loves to hear us pray and sing. Sing: "Sing Praises."

Let's praise Him with our money offering now. Play: "We Love" as background music while collecting the offering.



Let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello are doing today. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 4, Lesson 22.



Let's sing to Jesus now and tell Him we love Him. Sing Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Do You Love Me?"



Lord is another name for Jesus. Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Say the Bible Memory Verse together with the motions.

"Lord,	Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You."	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Jesus is taken up to heaven

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 1:9, picture of the Bible story, binoculars or "Jesus Goes to Heaven" craft sample

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.

Hold the balloon down in front of you. **Who likes balloons?** (Children respond.) **What do you like about balloons?** (Children respond.) **I like watching them float in the air.** Hold onto the ribbon or string but let the balloon rise as high as possible. **What direction did the balloon go?** (Up.)

Pull the balloon back down toward you. **In our story today, Jesus is talking with His friends one last time. After He said His goodbyes, He was taken up to heaven.** Let the balloon rise again. **Where is heaven?** (Up.) **Can you look up toward heaven? Now, let's look at our storybook and listen.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 1:9.



WATCH THE WORD: ACTS 1:8B-11

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.

- **It was time for King Jesus to go to His throne.**
- **He did not plan to leave His followers alone.**
- **He promised His Holy Spirit to send;**
- **So He would be with us to the end.**
- **And then to His followers' surprise,**
- **He went up to heaven before their very eyes!**
- **They watched 'til He was hidden by a cloud,**
- **Then two men in white said this out loud:**
- **"Why do you look up today?**
- **Soon He'll come back in the very same way!"**
- **Nobody knows exactly when,**
- **But Jesus will come back again!**

Jesus was taken up to heaven. Which way did Jesus go? (Up.) **What did the angels tell Jesus' friends?** (Jesus will return!)



Jesus is in heaven

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: JESUS GOES TO HEAVEN

Purpose: To know Jesus was taken up to heaven.

Supplies: Blue or white cup, cotton balls, sturdy paper, label or paper, pipe cleaner (or string), glue, markers and crayons

Prepare: Draw or print an outline of Jesus to cut out from sturdy white paper. Punch a hole in the center of the bottom of the cup. Thread the pipe cleaner through the hole until some of the pipe cleaner is showing on both ends. Holding the cup upside down, loop the end of the pipe cleaner that is above the cup. On a label or piece of paper, print:

Jesus was taken up to heaven.

Acts 1:8b-11

Adaptation for Ages 2-3: This craft was developed for ages 4-5. To adapt the craft for younger children, you may choose to tie a knot in the pipe cleaner (or string) just above Jesus so children do not pull the pipe cleaner out of the cup. Another option would be to eliminate the cup and pipe cleaner. Instead, cut a cloud shape from sturdy white paper and have children add cotton balls to the cloud. Attach Jesus and the cloud each to a craft stick so children can act out Jesus being taken up to heaven.

Directions:

1. Color Jesus.
2. Attach the label to the cup.
3. Glue cotton balls onto outside of cup as clouds, being careful not to cover the words.
4. Tape Jesus to the end of the pipe cleaner which is hanging under the cup.
5. Pull the pipe cleaner loop to raise Jesus into the cloud-covered cup.

Craft Discussion:

- **Jesus went up. Where did Jesus go?** (Heaven.) **Jesus' friends looked up and they saw Jesus go up to heaven.**
- **Look up to heaven to see where Jesus is.** Everyone looks up.
- **Let's show how Jesus was taken up to heaven.** Show children how to hold their cups with one hand and pull the pipe cleaner with the other hand so the Jesus figure goes up into heaven (the cup).

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: LOOK UP

Purpose: Children will play a game to help them think about how Jesus went to heaven.

Supplies: Pillow or white paper cloud cutout, optional: praise music

Where did Jesus go? (Up to heaven.) **Where does Jesus live now?** (In heaven.) **Let's pretend this pillow is a big fluffy cloud floating under Jesus in heaven. When you walk under the cloud, look up while you say, "Look up."**

Directions:

1. Optional: Play praise music in the background.
2. Choose two children to hold the pillow high between them. They should stand far enough apart so the other children can walk between them and under the pillow.
3. Have the children stand in a line.
4. Lead them to walk under the circle. As they pass under the pillow, they are to look up while they say: **"Look up."**
5. After all the children have passed under the pillow, choose two more children to hold the pillow and play again.

GAME: SEND UP LOVE

Purpose: Children use the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse to show Jesus they love Him.

Supplies: Lightweight or inflatable ball (draw hearts on ball with red permanent marker), large sheet or tarp

Where is Jesus? (Heaven.) **Jesus loves to look down from heaven and see us praising Him. Let's send our praise up to Jesus by saying our Bible Memory Verse together. Repeat after me: "Lord, You know that I love You." John 21:17b. Let's pretend this ball with hearts on it is our love for Jesus. We can send our love up to Jesus!**

Directions:

1. Spread sheet on the floor and have children gather around the edges.
2. Have children grasp the edges with both hands. Practice raising and lowering the sheet together.
3. Place the heart-covered ball in the middle of the sheet as the children raise and lower it.
4. Have children pretend they are sending Jesus their love as they bounce the ball on the sheet.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: UP IN THE SKY SWEETS

Purpose: Children will enjoy marshmallows to remind them of clouds as they discuss today's story.

Snack Suggestion: Marshmallows and pretzels

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.
 - **Who did Jesus' friends see go up to heaven?** (Jesus.) **Clouds floated in front of Jesus when He went up. Let's eat marshmallows that look like little clouds.**
 - **Where is Jesus now?** (Heaven.)
 - **Who will come back to earth one day?** (Jesus.)



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.

"Lord,	Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You."	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	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: ACTS 1:8B-11

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

- **It was time for King Jesus to go to His throne.** (Point to the sky.)
- **He did not plan to leave His followers alone.** (Shake head no.)
- **He promised His Holy Spirit to send;** (Point to sky.)
- **So He would be with us to the end.** (Place hands on heart.)

- **And then to His followers' surprise,** (Place hands on cheeks with look of surprise.)
- **He went up to heaven before their very eyes!** (Point to sky.)
- **They watched 'til He was hidden by a cloud** (Look up using hands, as binoculars.)
- **Then two men in white said this out loud:** (Hold up two fingers.)

- **"Why do you look up today?"** (Look up using hands, as binoculars.)
- **Soon He'll come back in the very same way!"** (Point to sky.)
- **Nobody knows exactly when,** (Palms up and shrug shoulders.)
- **But Jesus will come back again!** (Point to sky.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Lord, You know that I love You." John 21:17

GAME: "DO YOU LOVE ME?" DANCE

Purpose: Children review the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do You Love Me?," optional: musical instruments

I'm going to play our Bible Memory Verse Song. When you hear the music, it's time to dance and praise God. When the music stops, freeze where you are and we will say our verse together.

Directions:

1. Optional: Hand out musical instruments.
2. Play the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Do You Love Me?"
3. Have a helper periodically pause the music.
4. When the children have stopped moving, say the Bible Memory Verse together: **"Lord, You know that I love You."**

Teacher Tips: Add variety by having the children recite the verse in different ways (ie. whisper the verse, shout the verse, lift their hands to heaven, etc.). Play for as long as you like!

GOT TIME? *continued...*



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 how Jesus went up to heaven.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 4, Lesson 22: The King Ascends

PONDER! Jesus was taken up to heaven (Acts 1:8b-11). His friends looked up and saw Him go into the clouds. Where is Jesus now? (Heaven.) Jesus promised to come back some day.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, we look up to heaven and think about You. Thank You for the promise that You will come back again. Amen."

PLAY! Go outside with your family, sit or lie down on the ground, and look up at the clouds. Pretend you were with Jesus when He went up to heaven. What do you think you would have seen?

UNIT 4 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Lord,	Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You."	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.