



The Holy Spirit is With Us – Jesus Goes to Heaven

Luke 24 & Acts 2

God Statement: The Holy Spirit is With Us

KEY VERSE: “But you are not ruled by the power of sin. Instead, the Holy Spirit rules over you... The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.”
(Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV, paraphrased)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: The Holy Spirit is With Us

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how the Holy Spirit is always with us.

SAY:

Who remembers what we learned about last week? Turn to the person next to you and tell them one thing you remember from last week. We learned that Jesus is the Good News! What does that mean? *Let kids respond.* Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told all of His disciples to go and tell others about Him. We also learned what our new God Statement is – ***The Holy Spirit is With Us.***

What do you think that means? The Holy Spirit is our helper. After Jesus went back to Heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit as a helper. Can we see the Holy Spirit? No, we can't, but we see in the Bible that God is with us because of the Holy Spirit. Just like we see the affect the wind has on trees and things outside, we see how the Holy Spirit helps us – when we're sad, when we're scared, know God's love, speak God's truth, etc.

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

REVIEW – Old Testament Books of the Bible Cube Race!

Supplies: 2 bags of Old Testament books of the Bible cubes

Say: *Does anyone remember what our Summer Bible Challenge is right now? That's right! We're working on memorizing the names of the New Testament Books of the Bible. Well, we're going to play a game today to help us remember and review the Old Testament Books of the Bible we learned this winter.*

Directions: Have children get into groups of 4-5. Each group will get a chance to race against another group. Give two groups, block bags. Set a timer and see how quickly each team can finish stacking the blocks in order from beginning to end (the books of the Old Testament need to be in order). Have children help their teams to remember what order the books of the Old Testament go in.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the Bible Challenge slide.****

BIBLE CHALLENGE

Host

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

New Testament Books of the Bible

Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the NEW Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a “Bible Challenge” card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

****After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide.****

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“But you are not ruled by the power of sin. Instead, the Holy Spirit rules over you... The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.”
(Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV, paraphrased)**

**** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.****

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

**** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY**Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: The Holy Spirit is With Us

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE**Host**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: easter egg, water bottle or water cup, My God is So Big song on PowerPoint

God is a beautiful mystery. We try to explain Him. We try to explain the Holy Spirit, but nothing really can explain Him.

There are 3 parts to God:

- God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Spirit (Holy Spirit).
- We call God the “trinity.” That word starts with “tri.” Where else do we see tri starting a word? (*triangle – how many sides does a triangle have?*) (*tricycle – how many wheels does a tricycle have?*)
- Tri means 3. These are the 3 parts of God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Examples to explain the Trinity:

- Your role - One way to explain the Trinity is thinking about yourself. You can think that you are a son or daughter, a cousin, and a friend. You have different roles in each of those, but you are always you.
- Water (water cup or bottle held up) - Some people say that God is like water – there are 3 different kinds of water: ice, liquid, and steam. They are all water, but they take different forms.
- Egg (hold up plastic egg) - Some people say that God is like an egg. You have the shell, the yellow yolk, and the white part. Three parts to an egg, three parts to the trinity!

All these explanations give us good ideas of what God is like. God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. They all have different roles, and they are all God.

The Bible talks about all three parts of God:

- God the Father - **Look at Mark 12:29**. Who will read that for us? Jesus is talking about God the Father. He says that God is one God.
- God the Son - **Now who can read John 1:1-4?** The “Word” is another name for Jesus. What do we learn from this verse?
 - *Let kids answer. Sum up by saying, The Word was with God and the Word WAS God. Wow. Jesus was with God and He WAS God.*
- God the Holy Spirit - OK, let’s look at the Holy Spirit. **Read Acts 2:3-4**. Who is this verse talking about? Yes, the Holy Spirit.

So, we can see in the Bible that all three persons of God are distinct and have different roles AND they are all God! Wow. This is a great mystery. How can it be? Well, it’s GOD.

Let’s sit quietly and think about this.

Turn on soft worship music and encourage kids to close their eyes as you prompt them.

As you sit quietly, think about these questions:

- Do I relate more to one of the persons of God? Why?
- Do each of them have a role in my life? What?
- What is common to all of them?
- Sit quietly and think about these things. Talk to God about it. Tell Him you love Him. Listen for His reply.

Let’s close by singing “My God is So Big!” Watch out for where we sing about God the Father, God the Spirit, God the Son. $1+1+1=1$ Three parts but all God!

Play My God is So Big worship song on powerpoint, and encourage kids to sing and praise God.

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

CLOSING WORSHIP***Worship Leader***

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

******After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the “Compassion International” slide.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Cure Surgeries

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

Say: Are any of you going to Summer Day Camp this year? Well, every year for camp, we highlight a specific mission project that we work together to raise money for. This year at camp, our mission project will be CURE Surgeries in Zambia, Africa.

Play video provided in powerpoint.

Say: Think about this question – when you break your arm or have a really bad tummy ache or get a bad cut, what do you usually do? What do your parents or guardians do? *Let kids respond.* If it's really bad, likely your parent or guardian will take you to see a doctor to help you get the problem fixed/healed. Well, kids just like you in other countries can't just go to a hospital or doctor's office to get help... They don't have one close by or they don't have enough money to get help.

Say: This is where CURE International comes in. Not only does CURE help provide life-changing surgical care, but also the hope of Jesus Christ and His love to each kid who comes through their doors. You can help be a part of #healing4life when you bring in offering on weekends or to camp over the next couple of weeks.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, let's try something different for our blessing today. Will you bless each other?

Find a friend. Ask them if you can put your hand on their shoulder. If yes, look them in the eye and say: "Friend, always remember that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit loves you."

Now switch. Ask them if you can put your hand on their shoulder. If yes, look them in the eye and say: "Friend, always remember that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit loves you."

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

As part of Remember & Celebrate, use this time to chat with kids about all they have to be thankful for and enjoy a snack together.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Recap today's story: Luke 24 and Acts 2**
3. **What happened to Jesus in our story? (He ascended into Heaven!)**
4. **When Jesus ascended into Heaven, what did He leave with us? (The Holy spirit)**
5. **God is always with us. Someday, Jesus will return. What is one way we can share Jesus with someone this week?**

Close small group in prayer.

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Read scripture: Luke 24: 50-53**

What happened to Jesus in our story? (He ascended into Heaven!)

When Jesus ascended into Heaven, what did He leave with us? (The Holy spirit)

3. Read scripture: Acts 2:1-4

What was the powerful sound and wind that came over the people? (The Holy Spirit)!

4. God is always with us. Someday, Jesus will return. How can we remember His promise and seek Him? How can you share Jesus with someone this week?

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher
(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

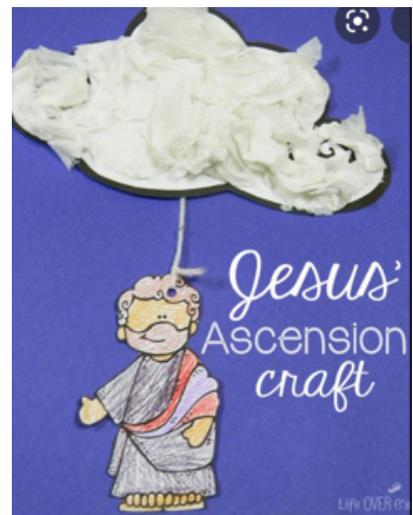
If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

MAKE – Jesus Ascends to Heaven Craft!

Supplies: Jesus cut outs, string piece, cloud cut out, cotton balls (to pull a part for the clouds), tape, glue sticks, crayons/markers

Directions: Pass out one Jesus cut out, one cloud, one string, and 3 cotton balls per child. Have children pull apart the cotton balls and glue the “fluff” onto the cloud. Flip over the cloud and tape the top part of the string to the back of the cloud piece. Have children color Jesus and help them tie the bottom of the string to the hole at the top of the cut-out Jesus piece.

Say: *Today, we learned that when Jesus returned to Heaven, God gave us a very special gift to help us – the Holy Spirit! Let’s make this craft to remind us that even though Jesus returned to Heaven, God is still with us!*



CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher
(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.



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