

Dig Deeper @Home – “Alive and Ascended”

Complement to lesson on 4/20/2025 – “The Reality of the Resurrection”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What day of the year can you hardly wait for?
2. What event or happening have you observed that left you “awestruck”?

MEMORIZE – Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

READ – Acts 1:1-14; Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the texts on Christ’s ascension into heaven and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read about Jesus’ ascension?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What are the verses revealing about Jesus’ ascension? What are the verses saying about people’s response to it?
2. According to these verses, what are the disciples responses to Jesus’ ascension? If you were one of the disciples, how would you have felt about Jesus leaving?
3. Reread Acts 1:6 –11. What do the disciples think will happen when they receive the Holy Spirit? (vs.6) How does their idea of the Kingdom differ from Jesus? (vv.7-8)
4. As a follower of Jesus, what is the impact on you of Jesus’ words (vs.8)? Of Jesus’ departure (vs. 9)? Of the angels promise (v.11)?
5. What do you see as the key point of Acts 1:6-11? In verse 8, Jesus says “you will be my witnesses.” Where do you feel called to be Christ’s witness?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Ascension Reenactment

As a way to celebrate the risen Christ and his ascension to the Father's right hand in heaven, purchase a balloon filled with helium. As a group go outside with the balloon.

Write on the balloon with a dark marker, "Jesus is Risen". Have someone read Acts 1:1-9?

Then release the balloon and let it rise into the sky. As you watch the balloon float into the sky, have someone read Acts 1:10-11. Keep watching until the balloon is out of sight.

Read Luke 24:50-53; Mark 16:19 – Why would the disciples be filled with great joy at Christ's ascension? As you go, talk about where is Jesus might be inviting you to be his witness to his resurrection and ascension?

SING (or listen to)

I Will Rise - <https://youtu.be/VD4joM7INws>

In Christ Alone - <https://youtu.be/HaTMoaQayu8>

Crown Him with Many Crowns - https://youtu.be/YuMh_ept-Js

He is Exalted - <https://youtu.be/QCAL9sULAFA>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us, for this week.

Sending prayer based on the message:

Risen Lord Jesus, thank you for your love. May we be filled with joy this week as we celebrate your resurrection and your ascension to the right hand of the Father. Use us to be witnesses to others of the eternal life you promise to all who believe and trust in you. Amen.