

# THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

## JESUS ASCENDS TO HEAVEN

After His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus ascended into Heaven. In doing so, He opened Heaven for us! Jesus shares in the power, authority, and kingship of God the Father; the Kingdom of God has no end. Jesus asks us, His disciples, to share this Good News – His life, death, and resurrection – with others. This is good news because Jesus loves us so much, He offers us the promise of salvation through His life, death, and resurrection

### PRIMARY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Jesus ascends into Heaven, opening Heaven to us.**

*Scripture Resources:* [John 14:2](#); [John 3:13-15](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 661-662](#)

**Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father to signify the Kingdom of God has begun.**

*Scripture Resources:* [Daniel 7:14](#); [Mark 16:19-20](#); [1 Peter 3:21-22](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 663-664](#)

**Jesus asks all His disciples to tell others about His life, death, and resurrection.**

*Scripture Resources:* [Mark 16:14-18](#)

*Catechism Resources:* [CCC 849-852](#)





## PONDER: EXPLORE KEY THEMES FOR THE WEEK

*Look for opportunities throughout the week to ponder with and communicate these truths to your child(ren). Use the questions and explanation for each objective as a guide. The “Younger” and “Older” Children sections are loosely divided by the “age of reason.” You know your child(ren) best (what questions will resonate better with them, if they need a simpler or a more complex version of a particular objective, etc.), so use the section that works best for your family. Refer to the Parent Guide for more recommendations on pondering with your child(ren). Remember that our faith is a mystery that we can always ponder, but sometimes we do not always fully understand and that is ok!*

### FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

#### *Learning Objectives*

#### **01** Jesus ascends into Heaven, opening Heaven to us.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- What do you think Heaven is like?
- What do you want to say to Jesus for opening Heaven for you?
- What excites you most when you think about being with Jesus in Heaven?

#### **02** Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father to signify the Kingdom of God has begun.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- What do you know about kings? What powers do they have?
- How is Jesus like a king? What powers does He have?
- Is Jesus different from kings of the world? If yes, how so?

**Go into the whole world  
and proclaim the gospel  
to every creature.**

Mark 16:15



### 03 Jesus asks all His disciples to tell others about His life, death, and resurrection.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- Why do you think Jesus asks us all to tell others about His life, death, and resurrection?
- What can you tell others about His life, death, and resurrection?
- Whom might you want to tell about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?



### FOR OLDER CHILDREN

#### *Learning Objectives*

### 01 Jesus ascends into Heaven, opening Heaven to us.

By His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus saved us from our sins. He then went up to Heaven where He prepared a place for us; He wants us to be with Him in Heaven for all of eternity after we die.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- Why do you think Jesus ascends to Heaven?
- Why did Jesus need to open Heaven for us?
- Why do you think Jesus prepared a place for us in Heaven? What is so amazing about that?

## 02 Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father to signify the Kingdom of God has begun.

To sit at someone's "right hand" is a way of saying you are given authority or power. The chair on the right-hand side of a king was a seat of great honor. Jesus shares in the glory and power of God the Father. As king, Jesus has everlasting power and His Kingdom has no end.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- What does it mean that Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father?
- What powers do God the Father and Jesus share?
- What do you know about the Kingdom of God?

## 03 Jesus asks all His disciples to tell others about His life, death, and resurrection.

Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is good news because He offers us the promise of salvation if we follow Him. Any good news is worth sharing. Jesus asks us all to share His Good News out of love for our brothers and sisters.

*To ponder this idea with your child, ask:*

- Who are Jesus' disciples?
- How would you describe His life, death, and resurrection?
- Whom can you tell about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection? What would you say?
- When would you share this Good News?

### LISTEN: FAMILY LECTIO DIVINA



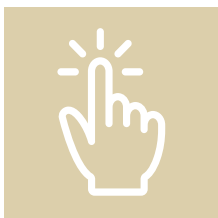
*Choose one or more of the passages listed below for this week's family Lectio Divina time. Ask what your child's favorite part is or what stood out to them. Ask what God may be trying to show your child through the chosen scripture. Please refer to the Parent Guide for further recommendations on doing Lectio Divina with children.*

[Mark 16:14-18](#) - The Ascension  
[Acts 1:6-11](#) - The Ascension of Jesus



### **PRAY: SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK**

**FOR THE FAMILY:** As a family, pray the second glorious mystery of the holy rosary, **the Ascension** (see page 13 of the Prayer Guide). Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in prayer. After the decade of the rosary, go around and have each family member, in his or her own words, thank Jesus for dying, resurrecting, and ascending to Heaven. Tell Him how much you love Him and want to be in heaven with Him.



### **ACT: CONCRETE WAYS TO LIVE OUT THIS WEEK'S THEME**

**The Good News in Our Own Words:** Jesus asks us, His disciples, to tell others about His life, death, and resurrection. Therefore, we need to be able to describe that in our own words. Have each family member write about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in his or her own words. Keep it brief! (Help younger children write out theirs or encourage them to draw a picture instead.)

Arrange a prayerful setting in which to write by having everyone keep quiet and possibly lighting a candle. Once every family member is finished writing go around and have each person share what he or she wrote. Tell your family members what you liked about what they wrote. Then consider a few people with whom you might be able to share this Good News of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Say a prayer for those people. Pray that God will send you His Holy Spirit to guide you to know when He wants you to share the Good News with others.