



BIG IDEA

When Jesus returned to heaven,
the story didn't end.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 3 OF 4

MIDWEEK NOTES

Jesus Returns to Heaven

1 | Hangout

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Introduce the Big Idea: **When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.**
- Tell the kids that you're going to play a game of Finish the Story. You will give them story prompts and they will think of imaginative endings. They can respond individually or as a group.
- Read the following prompts one at a time, then guide the kids to come up with multiple endings for each one:
 - You hear a knock on the door and...
 - You find a raccoon hiding in your bathroom and...
 - You're walking down the street when you hear a strange sound and...
 - There's a mysterious package on your doorstep and...
 - It's your best friend's birthday today and you...
 - You're exploring a cave when you find...
 - There's a new kid in your class so you...
 - Your pet hamster learned an incredible new trick. It can...
 - You wake up and realize you can fly! The first thing you do is...
- Emphasize that **when Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.** His incredible story is still unfolding, and we are part of it!
- Watch this week's video from the Now Playing Kids playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

2 | Hear

SUPPLIES

- Bible

INSTRUCTIONS

- Let the kids know that today's God Story is the conclusion to the account of Jesus' life here on earth. It's found in the Gospels, which are the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. They were written by Jesus' friends. Ask everyone to listen carefully to find out how Jesus left the earth and went to heaven.
- Look up Luke 24:49-53 and read about Jesus returning to heaven.
- Review and discuss:
 - Before Jesus ascended (went up) to heaven, who did he promise to send? (The Holy Spirit)
 - What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do for his disciples? (Fill them with power from heaven)
 - What was Jesus doing while he was taken up to heaven? (Jesus was still blessing his disciples)
- Explain that if we read about the same event in a different book, we can sometimes learn more details.
- Look up and read Matthew 28:18-20.
- Ask: What were Jesus' final instructions? (Make disciples, baptize people, and teach them to follow Jesus' commands)
- Point out that Jesus isn't just talking to his disciples—he is talking to everyone who follows him!
- Discuss:
 - Who has helped you learn about what it means to follow Jesus?
 - Have you ever shared about Jesus with someone? If so, what happened?

**BIG IDEA**

When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.

3 | Huddle

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Tell the kids that when we follow Jesus, we have a part to play in God's story: we are given the incredible job of sharing Jesus' light with the world!
- b. Discuss:
 - What does "Jesus is the light of the world" mean?
 - What are some ways that we could share his light with others?
 - Is there anyone you would like to share more about Jesus with?
- c. Pray for the people who the kids mentioned and ask God to provide opportunities to share about Jesus with them. Thank God for everyone in your group. Ask for the Holy Spirit to fill them with love and God's power, so they can be shining lights in the world!

Jesus Returns to Heaven Word Search

Q U M E L A S U R E J M T T K
W D Z M Y Z G J R P B U I Z I
O K B E T H A N Y D J R J Z M
R M L F J R C Z J P I O T N Q
S Z Z Q A O X P E P O W E R F
H B G B V T Y R S R S P N H Z
I H H I P W H Y U L C R H N D
P O J R L N L E S K V A R E S
H M G R J O M Z R G H I S X W
S J H U H G M E L O Y S Z S B
P E F Y L M U C P U E E T E R
G B M H E A V E N L Y H B I V
S Y P N V E C F B K T F C R A
W E E I Y I I E C K U J G C K
S W E X E L P M E T L I Q Q J

HOLY SPIRIT
FATHER
POWER
HEAVEN

JESUS
BETHANY
BLESSED
WORSHIP

JERUSALEM
JOY
TEMPLE
PRAISE

Big Idea: When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.