



# Adventures in Faith

## The Ascension of Jesus

Hi families,

Welcome to our 'Adventures in Faith' resource - The Ascension of Jesus

This links to our Ascension Day School Service which we put together in conjunction with the school. It can be found on our Youtube channel so do head on down there and check it out on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7Pr7sx4XyU>



I'd love to hear your feedback, stories and see anything that the children have made.  
Sharon

### Connection

Which friend or family member haven't you seen in a while? Do you miss them? How does it feel?  
Jesus friend

### Tell the story

This story follows 40 days after Easter. We have been learning about Jesus death, resurrection and then His how the disciples met the Risen Jesus.

During this time Jesus prepares the disciples for His return to heaven and promises to send a helper, the Holy Spirit.

In Act 1:1-11 we are told the story of how Jesus ascended back to be with His Father in Heaven. The disciples are still thinking of an early Kingdom asking if this is the time for the restoration of Israel. Jesus sidesteps this by reminding them that time is all in Father God's hands. However He does point them again to the Holy Spirit and a much bigger pictures of the 'Kingdom'. He tell them that they will be witnesses and take God's Kingdom to the whole world.

### Explore the story

Recap the story - that's it - Jesus has finally gone for good. He has headed back to heaven to sit down at the right hand of the Father.

- What do you think Jesus was thinking and feeling as He said good-bye to His friends and got ready to back to His Father?
- How do you think the disciples felt to finally see Jesus go?
- can you retell the story? What are the important parts to include?

### Reflection

This story follows 40 days after Easter. We have been learning about Jesus death, resurrection and then His how the disciples met the Risen Jesus. When Jesus met the disciples He would speak about how He was going away but they were to wait for the Holy Spirit.

What good thing are you waiting for at the moment?

## Faith in everyday life

At the moment there may be many uncertain things going on in your family, including wondering when we will be able to be with our families and friends again. As those feeling raise up in your family you might like to give them to Jesus, acknowledging that like the disciples you feel a bit uncertain but know that Jesus is good.

## Prayer

See Dandelion prayer sheet below.

## Activities

- Retell the story using everyday objects - see below.
- Make a craft using clouds and a picture of Jesus - see below.



- Have fun watching the video of the story on the 'Saddleback Kids' YouTube channel - Jesus Ascension  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFW8pLBS1o>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFW8pLBS1o>

• Play 'keepy uppy' with a ball or a balloon. How many hits or kicks can you do before it hits the ground? Remember that the ball or balloon comes down because of gravity. That's what made it so amazing that Jesus went up to heaven because ordinarily gravity keeps us on the ground.



- Board Game - Design a board game that relates the final journey of Jesus. Create a winding path across the board that shows these events in chronological order. Start the game with the Last Supper, progress to the Crucifixion, then the three days in which Jesus was in the tomb, the Resurrection and finally his Ascension to Heaven. The Ascension can mark the finishing point of the game. Work in pitfalls and challenges to the game, for example, if you land on the space decorated like the tomb, you must lose three turns as Jesus spent three days there. The first player to reach the Ascension wins.



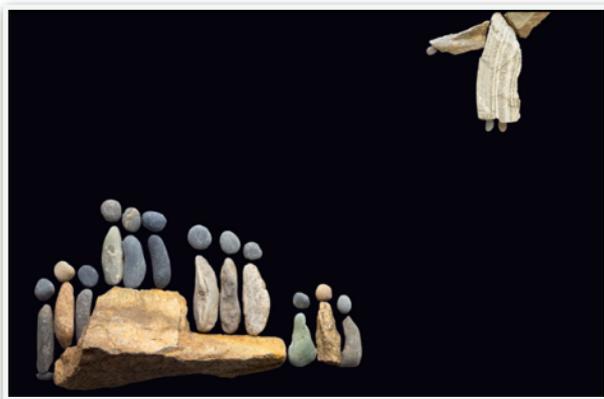
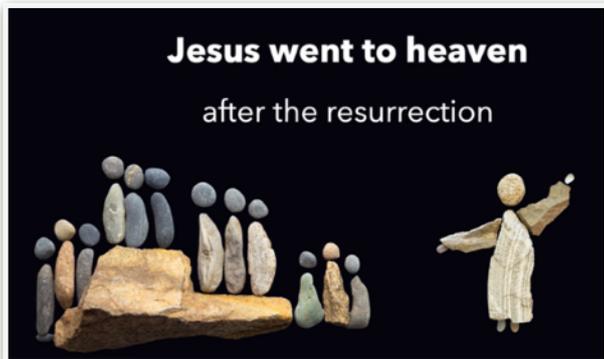
• Ascension Building - To both show the definition of ascension, rising up, as well as reiterate the fact that it was 40 days after the resurrection, challenge the children to build an ascending tower. Give each player 40 sugar cubes/ bricks / lego. Challenge them to build a tower out of all of the 40 cubes. The tallest tower that stands upright for at least 40 seconds wins the game. Set a time limit on the building process, such as 30 minutes.

- Complete the maze below.

Jesus goes back to heaven.  
Use everyday items from your house or garden  
to retell the story.

What items can you find in your house that would help you to retell the story? Cotton wool or clouds? Green fabric and a bowl for a hill? Some toys, wooden figures or lego figures for Jesus and the disciples.

Retell your story. Maybe you could video it.



There is a wonderful video of the Ascension Day story retold using stones.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYZtwQoFhCA>

Can you find stones or objects in your garden and arrange them to tell the story.

Maybe you can take photos or a video too.



# Time to Pray



I wonder if disciples thought it was the 'end' of their adventure with Jesus when He went up to heaven.

It wasn't the end though, the Holy Spirit was going to be God's presence with them in a new way.

Just like a dandelion, when the flower dies we can feel like it's the end. However it isn't, as the 'seed head' comes next and when the wind blows the seeds fly all over and settle and new plants start.

Can you find a dandelion seed head? Hold it tight and think what you would like to pray.



Tell God about the good things that you are waiting for, the new beginnings and blow the dandelion head.

If you can't find a dandelion use the picture here and pretend.





# Ascension Day Craft

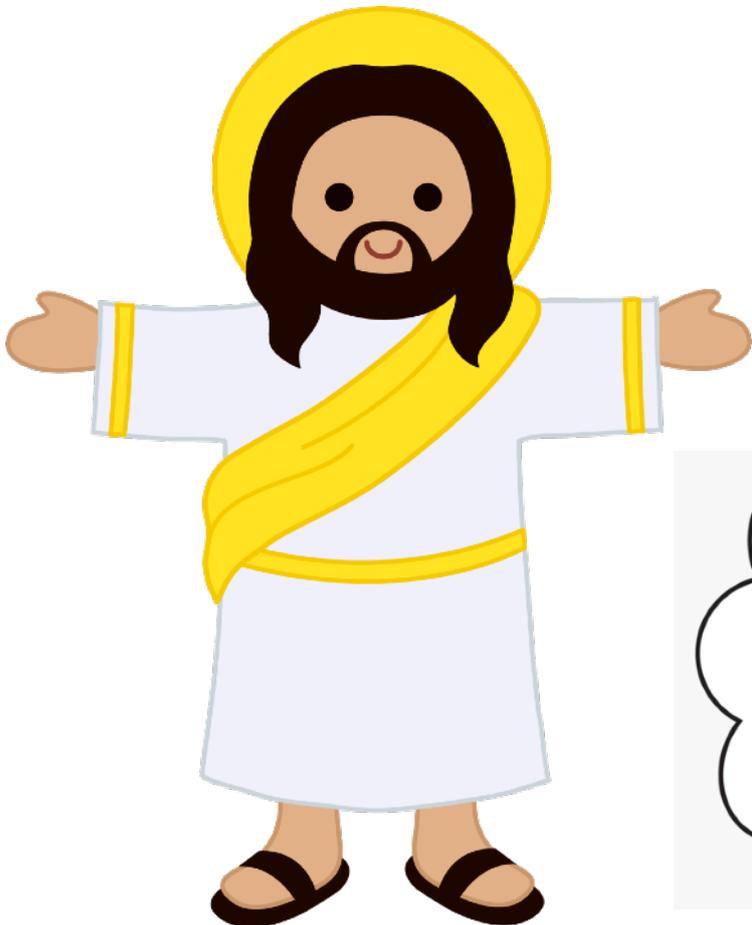


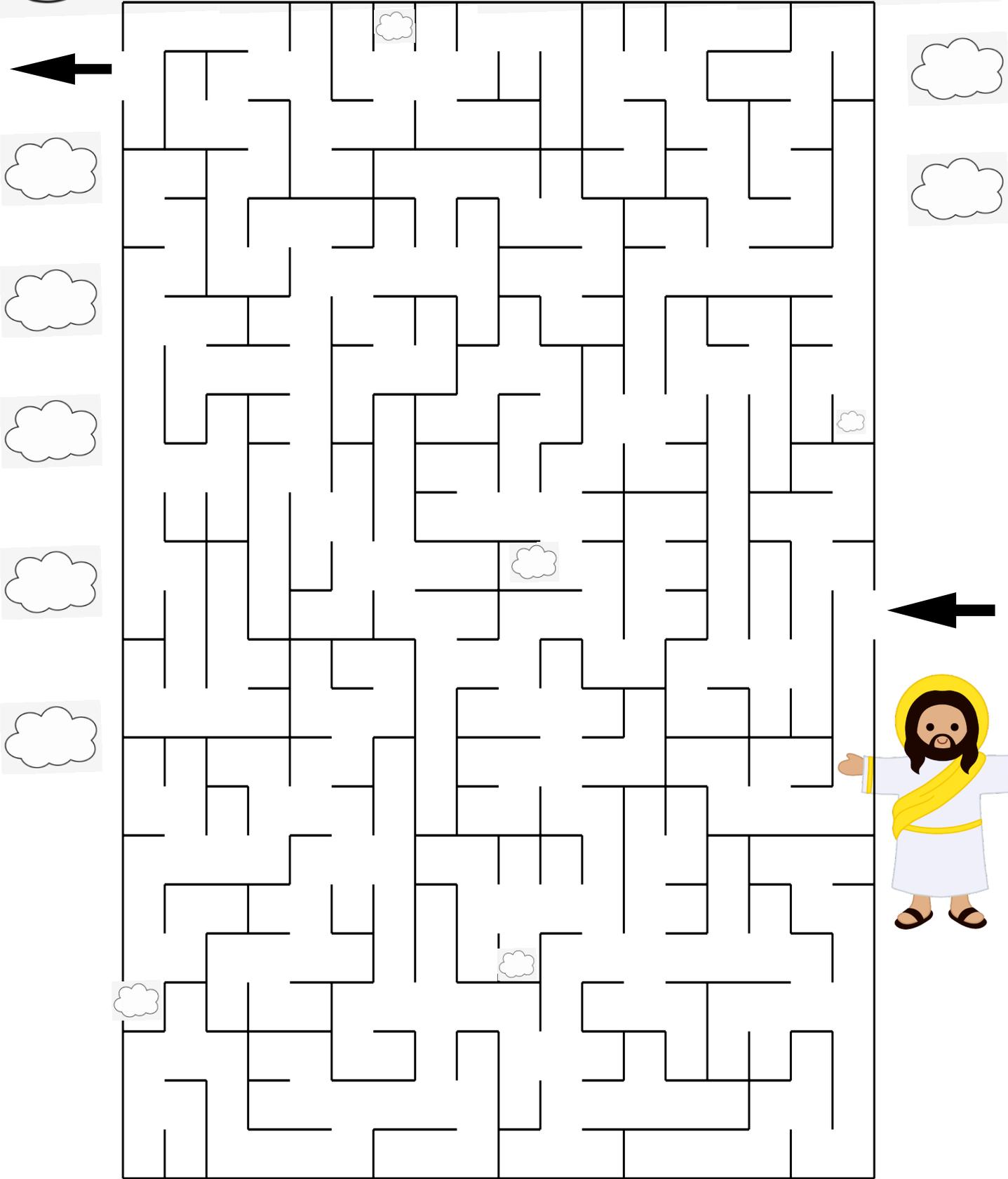
Use the pictures of Jesus and the clouds below to make a craft showing Jesus ascending to heaven.

You could use a cup painted blue and covered in 'clouds' and pull Jesus up into the clouds using string.

Or you could make a picture and cut a slit in the paper to move the picture of Jesus up to the clouds.

The picture on the right uses cut out hands to make the sunshine.





Take Jesus through the maze of clouds up to heaven.



**CHILDREN  
AND  
FAMILIES'**  
RESOURCES

Email your feedback, pictures and stories  
to Sharon

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**ST JOHN  
THE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
LEICESTER