

# Lesson 19 – The Church Through Time

Grade 3 – Chapter 19

## KEY CONCEPT

*God kept his promise to be forever faithful when he sent his Son, Jesus. Throughout her history the Church strives to be faithful to God's covenant and proclaim the Good News.*

## QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

**STEP 1 - WELCOME**

**STEP 2 - INVITE**

**STEP 3 - DISCOVER**

**STEP 4 - LIVE**

**STEP 5 - CLOSING**

### 3 Helpful Tips to Finish the Year Strong

1. Don't coast through the finish line – be even more intentional than before about teaching these kids the beauty of the Faith
2. Draw on the relationships you built – you've built relationships with these kids and they respect you, use that to challenge them to live out their faith more
3. Choose to enjoy the little moments that might be even more profound to these kids than you will ever know

## **STEP 1 - WELCOME**

### **TIP**

**Community Activity**

## **STEP 2 - INVITE**

### **TIP**

**Let us Pray**

- **Our Father**
- **Chapter Story:**
  - **Use this story after the opening prayer, before telling the children that Jesus wasn't always well known.**
  - **Read aloud this story of discovery.**
  - **Connect learning about the past with making discoveries about early Christians, then transition back to the lesson instruction.**

#### **Those Who Came Before**

**"Wow, look at this arrowhead!" LaNae said.**

**"I wonder who made it," said Greg.**

**"Maybe we can find out about who lived here before the pioneers. That might give us clues about the arrowhead," Ms. Ortiz suggested.**

- **Read God's word section**
- **Talk about What do you wonder questions.**

## **STEP 3 – DISCOVER**

### **TIP**

#### **God's Covenant**

- **Ask: How does God care for his People?**
- **Read paragraph**
- **Read God's Word**

#### **Fulfilled in Jesus**

- **Read paragraphs**
- **Activity – Do the Share Your Faith activity**

#### **The Early Church**

- **Ask: How did the Church grow?**
- **Read the paragraphs**
- **Explain that some people did not want to hear the Good News about Jesus and made laws against the Christian faith. Help the children understand the term persecution – harassment of or harm done to a group because of some difference.**
- **Ask: Why is it important to learn about the early Christians? Write the responses on the white board.**
- **Ask: What does the photo on pg. 260 represent?**

#### **Activity – My Story of Faith sheet**

#### **The Church Grows**

- **Read paragraphs**

#### **Into the Present**

- **Read paragraphs**
- **Do the Connect Your Faith section**

## ***STEP 4 – LIVE***

### **TIP**

#### **Our Catholic Life**

- **Ask: What can you learn from the Church's past?**
- **Read paragraphs**
- **Talk about the Church history Research topics. Tell children they can look into these topics.**

#### **Ascension**

**Talk about review sheet on the Ascension attached. The feast is celebrated on May 16th this year.**

#### **Talk about St. Clement of Rome**

#### **Take Homes**

- **Remind the children to review the Faith and Family section with their parents**
- **Chapter Review.**

## ***STEP 5 – CLOSING***

### **TIP**

#### **Closing Prayer**

- **Review Our Father and Hail Mary**

## **The Ascension**

### **Question: "What is the meaning and importance of the ascension of Jesus Christ?"**

After Jesus rose from the dead, He "presented Himself alive" to the women near the tomb, to His disciples, and to more than 500 others). In the days following His resurrection, Jesus taught His disciples about the kingdom of God.

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus and His disciples went to Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and He instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit had come. Then Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing, He began to ascend into heaven. The account of Jesus' ascension is found in [Luke 24:50-51](#) and [Acts 1:9-11](#).

It is plain from Scripture that Jesus' ascension was a literal, bodily return to heaven. He rose from the ground gradually and visibly, observed by many intent onlookers. As the disciples strained to catch a last glimpse of Jesus, a cloud hid Him from their view, and two angels appeared and promised Christ's return "in just the same way that you have watched Him go".

### **The Ascension of Jesus Christ is meaningful for several reasons:**

- 1) It signaled the end of His earthly ministry. God the Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son was returning to the Father. The period of human limitation was at an end.
- 2) It signified success in His earthly work. All that He had come to do, He had accomplished.
- 3) It marked the return of His heavenly glory. Jesus' glory had been veiled during His sojourn on earth, with one brief exception at the Transfiguration.
- 4) It symbolized His exaltation by the Father. The One with whom the Father is well pleased was raised up in honor and given a name above all names.
- 5) It allowed Him to prepare a place for us.
- 6) It indicated the beginning of His new work as High Priest and Mediator of the New Covenant.
- 7) It set the pattern for His return. When Jesus comes to set up the Kingdom, He will return just as He left-literally, bodily, and visibly in the clouds.

Currently, the Lord Jesus is in heaven. The Scriptures frequently picture Him at the right hand of the Father—a position of honor and authority. Christ is the Head of the Church, the giver of spiritual gifts, and the One who fills all in all.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## My Story of Faith

You and others who follow Jesus are an important part of the story of faith. Follow the directions below to tell about your own story of faith.

### Directions

- Cut on the solid lines.
- Fold on the dashed lines.
- On page 1, paste your picture or make a drawing or a symbol for yourself.
- On pages 2, 3, and 4, write your story. You can write about your whole life or a time when you came to know God better and grew in your faith.

<b>Page 1</b>    <b>My Story of Faith by</b>	<b>Page 4</b>    <b>End your story of faith.</b>
<b>Begin your story of faith.</b>    <b>Page 2</b>	<b>Continue your story of faith.</b>    <b>Page 3</b>

# The Ascension of Jesus

Acts 1:6-11

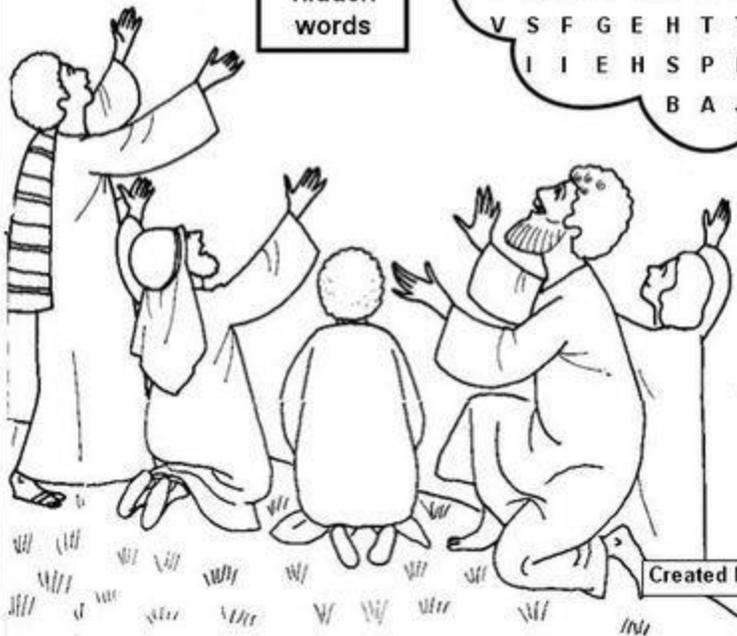
*When he had said this,  
as they were looking  
on, he was lifted up,  
and a cloud took  
him from their sight.*



Lord  
Time  
Israel  
Father  
Spirit  
Jerusalem  
Galilee  
Men  
Heaven  
Garments  
Cloud



Find the  
hidden  
words



Created by Nunzio Rubino 20-05-2014

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**Then Jesus went back to heaven  
to make a home for his followers.**