

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY
CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K&K)

Lesson #85

DATE:

SUBJECT: Jesus Ascends into Heaven

SCRIPTURE: John 21:1-14; Luke 24:49-51; Acts 1:3-11

AIM: To tell the children the story of the Lord's Ascension.

MEMORY VERSES:

Acts 1:9b "...while they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him away from their sight."

REVIEW: In the last two lessons we have seen how the Lord met with His disciples after His resurrection. Review with the children how the Lord met His disciples on the road and how He appeared to doubting Thomas.

CONTENT: One day some of the disciples decided to go fishing. They got into a boat and throw the heavy net overboard. After a while they pulled it out of the water. They were very disappointed. It was empty! Again and again through the night, the fishermen threw out the net and pulled it in, but each time the net was empty. The men had wanted very much to go fishing, but they weren't catching any fish.

When dawn came and the sun rose above the hills which surrounded the lake, the men rowed the boat toward shore. As they came close to the shore, they saw a man standing there. The man was Jesus but the disciples didn't know it was Jesus. He asked them if they had caught any fish. They said, "No."

The Man said, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find *some*." The fishermen were surprised. They were pretty close to shore now, and they didn't think many fish would be there. But they cast their net.

When the disciples started pulling up the net, they expected it to be empty, but, instead, it was so full of fish that even those strong fishermen could not lift it over the side of the boat. Suddenly John knew that the Man on the shore was Jesus. He said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Peter jumped into the water. The other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish.

When they reached the shore they saw a fire of coals with fish cooking on it and some bread. "Bring some of the fish that you have just now caught." said Jesus.

Peter pulled the big net full of fish on the shore and counted them. He counted 153 fish in the net! Then Jesus said, "Come and have breakfast."

The disciples didn't ask the Man who He was, because they knew it was the Lord. They were glad to be with Jesus again. Jesus broke the bread and gave each man a piece; He also passed pieces of fish.

This was the third time Jesus showed Himself to the disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Jesus showed Himself to His disciples many times over a period of forty days. But after forty days it was time for Jesus to go back to heaven. He took them out of Jerusalem to Mount Olivet and blessed them.

After Jesus had blessed them, He was lifted up, up, up into the cloud and out of sight. The disciples were looking intently into heaven as He went, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. The two men asked the disciples why they were looking up into the sky and told the disciples that Jesus would be back someday the same way He left.

APPLICATION:

Let the children know that even though Jesus went up into heaven, He still watches over us and will be back one day. Also remind the children that Jesus lives in our hearts when we pray, sing and read His word.

Adapted from Scripture Press Primary Teaching Guide Volume 57, Number 3, Lesson 8