

Scribbled Truths about

Ascension

This edition we will be looking at the Christian festival of Ascension

A story from the Bible

The apostles were all together. They asked Jesus, "Lord, are you at this time going to give the kingdom back to Israel?"

Jesus said to them, "The Father is the only One who has the authority to decide dates and times. These things are not for you to know. But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses—in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world."

After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up. A cloud hid him from their sight. As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking into the sky? You saw Jesus taken away from you into heaven. He will come back in the same way you saw him go."

(This version of the Ascension story comes from Acts 1:6-11 in the International Children's Bible)



What is Ascension ?



The word "ascension" means "going up". According to the story told in the Bible, Jesus ascended (went up) to heaven.

It is believed that after Jesus' resurrection (or coming back to life), he spent the next 40 days teaching his disciples how to continue his teachings.

On Ascension Day Jesus took his disciples to the Mount of Olives, where they watched him ascend to heaven.

Ascension is officially celebrated on the 39th day after Easter Sunday (the day that Christians celebrate Jesus' resurrection), it is always on a Thursday and is the 40th day of Easter.

Ascension Day is 10 days before Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples as Jesus had promised (find out more about this in our Scribbled Truths Pack on Pentecost).

Wondering Questions

I wonder how the disciples felt when they saw Jesus ascend?
How do you think you would feel?
I wonder who the two men were that spoke to the disciples after Jesus had disappeared?



Activity

On a cloudy day go outside, perhaps you can lay down on a blanket, or sit by a window if you can't go outside and watch the clouds, can you see shapes or pictures in the clouds? What can you see?



Craft



You will need:

Thin card or paper
Cardboard tube or paper cup
String or wool
Colouring pencils/pens
Glue
Tape
Scissors

Take a piece of thin card or paper and cut it into a cloud shape.
Stick the cloud shape onto the cardboard tube or paper cup.
Take a piece of paper and draw a picture of Jesus on it, then cut out the picture.
Stick the string to the back of your picture of Jesus.
Thread the string into the tube or make a small hole in the base of the paper cup and thread the string through there.
You can move Jesus up and down into the cloud.