



TLC Study Guide for May 28, 2017

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father, leaving his disciples looking up into the sky. He is far from absent, though. Because he has ascended, he intercedes for his people at the throne of God, indwells them, and is at work in their lives.

Getting Started:

1. Today, we will look at Jesus' ascension to heaven. What do you think is important about Jesus' ascension for your faith and life?

2. All of us experience many good-byes throughout our life. What makes good-byes difficult? What, if anything, makes them easier?

In the Word: Read Luke 24:44-53

3. In verse 44, who or what does Jesus say the Law, Prophets, and Psalms are about?

4. As Christians, the Scriptures are all about Jesus, both Old and New Testaments. What does Jesus say was predicted about himself in the Old Testament? How do the disciples understand these things?

5. Who are the disciples supposed to wait for in verse 49?

6. Good-byes are often sad occasions for us. What is the disciples' reaction to Jesus' ascension in verses 52-53? What is so peculiar about this reaction?

7. The disciples react with joy to Jesus' ascension which may seem odd to us since it appears Jesus is leaving. Reading the verses below, discuss how each describes Jesus' ascension as good news for the disciples *and* for us today.
 - a. Acts 1:11
 - b. Ephesians 1:19-23
 - c. Acts 2:33 and John 16:7
 - d. Hebrews 7:25
 - e. Hebrews 4:14-16

8. Jesus had to leave so the Spirit could come to us (John 16:7). What will be one effect of the Spirit's coming upon the disciples (v. 48 & Acts 1:8)?

Putting the Pieces Together

1. Putting it all together, what aspect of Jesus' ascension is most comforting to you? Explain why.

2. Jesus tells the disciples to preach the Good News first in Jerusalem and then to all the nations. Where is "Jerusalem" for you today? How can you be a "witness" for Jesus in this place or in the midst of this person?

3. Jesus tells us the Scriptures are all about Him (vv. 44-47) which means we faithfully and correctly read the Bible when we find Jesus in it. What temptations or difficulties do you have in reading Scripture with a "Jesus-shaped" lens? How can we more faithfully read the Bible in a Christ-centered fashion?

Prayer: In your prayer time, ask God to give a firm confidence to all believers that Jesus lives and reigns at His right hand so that we might be filled with joy and peace. Pray that He would continually send His Spirit that we might be witnesses of Jesus across our communities.

Next Week: Jesus poured out the Spirit on all whom believe on the day of Pentecost. The Spirit quenches our spiritual thirst with living waters that never run out. This living water refreshes our hearts and minds so that we boldly live for Jesus.