



Sermon Study Guide for May 21, 2023

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus left His disciples, to take His place at the right hand of God. But Jesus doesn't leave his disciples, or us, forever. He is coming back. But until then, we proclaim the risen, and ascended Christ!

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. Think of a time where someone went ahead of you to a specific place, and prepared it for your arrival. Did they do a good job? Was there a surprise waiting for you when you got there?
2. When you think of Ascension Day, are there any thoughts, ideas, or images that come to you?

In the Word: Luke 24:44-53

3. "Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms." Jesus is pointing to the OT, and how there are many prophecies fulfilled in Him. How do those prophecies that point to Christ, help us to witness?
4. Jesus opens the minds of His disciples, and then shares with the disciples the truth about His mission. Why is it such an important thing that the disciples are witnesses of these things?
5. After Jesus ascends, the disciples do exactly what we are to do, worship our Lord and Savior with great joy! How does the ascension increase or add to our worship of our Lord?

6. **Read Acts 1:1-11** Why does Luke, the writer of Acts, make a point to talk about the “proofs” that Jesus gives to show that he was alive?

7. Why are the disciples so focused on asking Jesus if he is going to restore the kingdom to Israel? Is that Jesus’ mission?

8. What comfort is given to us and the disciples from the two men dressed in white as they tell the disciples, “This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

9. We may not be eye-witnesses of what Jesus did, or His ascension, or His life, but the witness of the disciples gives us a great opportunity to witness. How does the proof that Jesus gave, the words that we have, help us when we share the witness of Christ?

10. We are now the witnesses. We are the ones who are to share the message of Christ. The disciples are told to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, and all Samaria. Where does that look like for you? Lansing or Grand Ledge? Ingham, Eaton, or Clinton County? Where is God giving you opportunities to be a witness of the death and resurrection of Jesus?

Prayer: Thank God for the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. Thank Jesus for coming to our earth, living, dying, and rising to save us. Ask God that He might give you the words, the opportunities, and the courage to be His witnesses to Lansing, and to the ends of the earth.

Next Week: At Pentecost, the promised Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples for the launch of the Christian mission. The same Holy Spirit enlivens and energizes the church for mission today.