

**Big Idea:** Rejoice! Jesus our King is now ruling at God's right hand in heaven.

### Parents Notes

The death and resurrection of Jesus fulfilled God's plan of salvation for sinners and now, it was time for Jesus to be raised in glory up to the Father's side in heaven. But before he went, he blessed his friends, and while doing so, was taken up to heaven to enjoy glory forever.

We would expect the disciples to be sad at seeing Jesus go, but instead they celebrated! The Lord had opened their minds to understand the Scriptures (v.45). They now understood that Jesus was God's King and that his rightful place was on the throne in heaven, at God's right hand. Jesus had promised he would send them his Spirit; they knew they would not be alone. And so, they worshipped him, they thanked God, they waited for his Spirit, and they did it all with great joy.

Now as Jesus is taken into heaven, the journey ends exactly where Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem started, in Bethany by the Mount of Olives (Luke 19:29). But before he goes he blesses the disciples. He loves them. He died for them and rose to life for them, so now wishes to impart God's delight on them. While blessing them he was taken up to heaven as they looked on. They were filled with joy. His finished work gave them great reason to praise him.

The disciples had been transformed from the frightened, worried doubters who saw their Lord die, into joyful hope-filled worshippers. So, as we finish our journey through the Easter story, let's pray that the Spirit gives us the same understanding that the disciples had that day and that we too will be hope-filled worshippers of our Lord and Saviour Jesus.

### Get Going

Pray together before you begin.

**Pray** ask God to help you and your family rejoice that Jesus the King is ruling the world from heaven. (What wonderful and comforting news considering the current global pandemic.

**3-5s** – Let's go on a journey. Get out your child's suitcase and pack a bag, all the while talking about how you're going on a pretend journey. You can make up a story about where you're going and what you are going to do there. Then at the end, pretend to say good bye to each other. Link: Today's story is all about a big goodbye when Jesus left his friends. Listen carefully to hear where he went.

**5-7s** – Goodbye game! Everyone else (apart from one person in the middle) walks around a table, or around the room. But when the one person in the middle says 'goodbye' – they can say other words to confuse everyone! – then it is a \*safe\* race to touch the nearest door! When we say goodbye we normally leave through the door! Goodbye is usually a sad word. Ask them for any time they can think of someone saying 'goodbye' where they have felt sad (family / friends leaving etc.). Has there ever been a time when saying Goodbye has been a happy thing?

**8-11s** – Game, 'Where is the chair?'. Find pictures of chairs in different types of places (classroom, courtroom, office, throne, park bench, pew, armchair, wheelchair, camping chair, rocking chair etc). Ask the children where you might find said chair and who might sit in it. Link – today we see Jesus leaving his disciples to take up his seat on the throne in heaven where he is ruling.

## Songs

1. Long Live the King (Get Ready – EMU Music) [https://youtu.be/1S\\_ZYsWyM68](https://youtu.be/1S_ZYsWyM68)
2. King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rise up & Rock – Quizworx) [https://youtu.be/\\_NQmzPRMiyY](https://youtu.be/_NQmzPRMiyY)
3. Boss of the Cross (The Jesus Hokey Pokey - Colin Buchanan) <https://youtu.be/SMi7EnKUA5U>
4. Jesus is the King, Ruler Over Everything (Meet the King – EMU Music) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OcUOEMP5\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OcUOEMP5_s)

## Teaching Time

Click on the link below and select the appropriate video for the corresponding age group.

<https://dundonald.org/family-devotionals/>

**3-5s** – Before you watch the video read ‘Jesus goes to Heaven’ from *The Beginners Bible*.

**5-7s** – Listen to the video and get ready to answer the questions

**8-11s** – Have your Bibles open to Luke 24:50.

**Note:** Once you have watched the video find the appropriate page for how we can respond to the teaching time.

## 3-5s – Digging Deeper

### Explanation & Activities

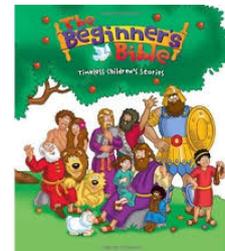
So far, we have learnt that Jesus is our King, he was arrested like a criminal, he was in always control, he died upon the cross, he saved us and he came alive again three days later, so we know truly that Jesus saves us. And we know that it was all part of God’s plan. Let’s shout and do the actions together:

*Hosanna! Hosanna!  
Jesus is the King.  
Hosanna! Hosanna!  
Jesus is God’s King.*

*Then he was arrested like a criminal at night!  
But it was all part of God’s plan.  
He let them arrest him like a criminal at night!  
But it was all part of God’s plan.*

*He died on the cross like a criminal, without a fight!  
But it was all part of God’s plan.  
He saved us, instead of himself!  
But it was all part of God’s plan.*

*Jesus came alive again, what a surprise.  
But it was all part of God’s plan.  
Jesus really really did save us.  
And it was all part of God’s plan.*



But we know Jesus didn’t stay on earth for very long. He was on earth for 40 days and then he went back to heaven to be with God. He said goodbye to his friends and then he was taken up into heaven on a cloud to be with God.

## Going up to heaven

### Need:

- 1 ladder
- 1 chair (set up a chair to look like a throne)

Note: This is a little activity to recap the story and reinforce the point that Jesus is ruling the world from heaven.

### Actions.

1. Get your child to climb the ladder (help them up), and say as they are climbing, 'Jesus was taken up into heaven on a cloud and is now in heaven with God. What wonderful news.

Then ask 'what is Jesus doing now? He's in heaven ruling the whole world because he is the King.

2. Get your child to sit in the chair and put the crown on and say 'Jesus is our King and he is ruling the world from heaven.

Repeat x2

At the end of the activity say again:

But we know Jesus didn't stay on earth, he went back to heaven to be with God. What wonderful news! Jesus said goodbye to his friends and he went back to heaven to be with God. What wonderful news! Jesus is ruling the world from heaven. What wonderful news! Jesus is the King. What wonderful news!!

*Jesus said goodbye to his friends.  
But it was all part of God's plan.  
Now Jesus is in heaven ruling the world.  
And it was all part of God's plan.*

*So, we can say:  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Jesus is the King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Jesus our God's King.*

### **Craft** - Waving Hand.

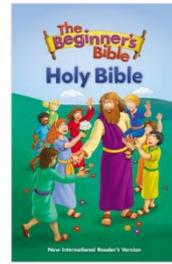
Trace your child's hand on a piece of paper/cardboard. Write on the hand: 'Jesus said goodbye and went to heaven'. Cut the hand out, stick a lolly stick on the back and get your children to decorate. The children can then wave to hand and say, 'Jesus said goodbye and went to heaven'.

**Ask:** Where did Jesus go? *Jesus went up to heaven!*  
Why were his friends happy when he left? *Because he was going to heaven to be king.*

**Pray** - Dear God, thank you for Jesus our King who is ruling the world from heaven. What wonderful news. Amen.

## 5-7s – Digging Deeper

**Read Luke 24:50-53**– you could use The Beginners Bible (NirV)



### *Did you spot it?*

- What happened to Jesus?
- How did the disciples respond?

### *Work it Out*

- Why is this good news?
  - o Where is Jesus now?
  - o Was there anything left for Jesus to do on earth?
  - o Does Jesus leave them alone?

### *Live it Out*

- Why should Jesus going to heaven make us happy?
- How does it help us to know that Jesus is on the throne?
- Does Jesus leave us all alone?

### *Stretch Yourself*

- **What is Jesus doing on the throne?**
- **When is it hard to believe that Jesus is sitting on the throne?**

**Pray** – thank Jesus that he ascended to heaven to reign on the throne. Praise Jesus that he is still King. Help us to trust that he is King and He is on the throne, even if it doesn't always feel like it.

## **Activities**

**Craft** – **Jesus on the throne** – Draw Jesus on the throne in heaven, with a crown on his head, and stick it on your ceiling to remind you where Jesus is now!

**Game** – **Easter Recap** – Shout out different parts of the Easter story with different actions to accompany (you can make up actions or use suggested). You can try to increase the speed!  
'Jesus came to Jerusalem' – pretend to ride a donkey; 'Jesus was arrested' – Hold hands together like in cuffs; 'Jesus died' – Arms out like a cross; 'Jesus was buried' – Lie on the floor; 'Jesus rose again' – Jump up the crouch down, and repeat; 'Jesus saw his friends' – touch someone else in the room; 'Jesus went back to heaven' – Find a chair to sit on (like Jesus on the throne!).

## 8-11s – Digging Deeper

### Read

Keep the Bibles open to encourage the kids to find answers from the passage.

#### *Did you spot it?*

Where is Jesus at the beginning of these verses? (v.50)

What did Jesus do for his friends before leaving? (v.50)

Where is Jesus at the end of the verses? (v.51)

What did the disciples do once Jesus had gone? (vv.52-53)

- How would you describe how they were feeling?

#### *Work it out*

Jesus disciples were sad when Jesus died, but here they are happy. What do you think changed for them to now be happy?

- What did they now understand? (vv.45-49 will help)

Why do you think Jesus blesses his friends?

- What does this tell us about Jesus?

We can get a picture of what Jesus is doing now: Read Ephesians 1:19-22

- What is Jesus doing now?
- What is Jesus ruling over?

#### *Live it out*

Do you think it is good news or bad news that Jesus is now in heaven and not on Earth?

- Why do you think that?

When in particular is it great to remember that Jesus is on the throne and ruling over everything?

- Is there some aspect of your life that you don't want Jesus to rule over, some area where you don't want Jesus to be King and instead want to be King yourself?

### Pray

#### *Stretch Yourself*

**It can be normal to think, 'if only Jesus was here on Earth now, then everything would be better'. If your friend said this to you, what could you say to them to encourage them?**

**Do you share any of the emotions that the disciples felt when they saw Jesus go to be on his throne?**

### Activities

**Craft – Storyboards.** Split a piece of paper into 6 boxes and ask the children to draw in each box a summary of what we have learnt each session. The final box can be left for them to write a prayer in. Be creative with materials and styles if you want!

**Game – Paper planes.** Today we saw Jesus disappear right in front of his friends and go up to Heaven to rule with his Father. See if you can make a paper plane that can fly up into the sky and disappear!