LEFC KIDS

SHEPHERD OVERVIEW

Pre-K / K
Nov. 22, 2026
2nd Service

Jesus Ascended to Heaven

Mark 16; Luke 24; Acts 1

How does the Holy Spirit help Christians?

The Holy Spirit comforts, shows sin, and guides Christians to live for God's glory.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses.
-Acts 1:8

Story Point:
Jesus told His followers to tell others about Him.

- [ ] Welcome/Intro Activity..... 5 minutes
- [ ] Kids Worship @ 11:00 - Large Group 3..... 15-20 minutes
- [ ] Circle Time and Bible Story ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Movement Activity..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Craft ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Music and Friends From Afar ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Prayer and Bible Verse ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Snack and Discussion Time ..... 5-7 minutes

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Matthew, Luke, and Acts all recount the weeks Jesus spent with His followers in the days before He ascended to heaven. Jesus spent these days fellowshipping with friends and speaking to them about God's kingdom. When the disciples saw Him, they worshiped, though some still doubted whether the resurrection was true.

In these days, Jesus prepared the disciples, taught them, and granted them the authority to proclaim His message of hope and love. He commissioned them to go and make disciples of all nations—not just the Jews or those who lived nearby, but to anyone who would come to Him by faith and be saved. And through it all, Jesus promised to be near to them and to remain with them always, to the end of the age.

As the disciples watched Jesus ascend, they gazed into heaven as two angels appeared and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you have seen Him going into heaven" (Acts 1:11). It was as if they were telling them that it was already time to get going!

The disciples continued worshiping Jesus as they joyfully returned to Jerusalem and spent time in the temple together, praising God as they awaited what He would do next.

Kids may experience doubts similar to what the disciples felt in the days immediately following the resurrection. Remind them that it takes faith to believe that God's Word is true and that Jesus knew we might feel this way at times. Jesus said it's better for Him to be in heaven with His Father and for us to have His Spirit to comfort us as we await His return (John 16:7). Pray that kids would hear this story and call upon the Savior who draws near to them—even in their doubts and uncertainty. Ask the Lord to soften their hearts so they may receive salvation, experiencing His gift of eternal life now and for all eternity.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 8:30-8:40 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

LEFC KIDS

Pre-K/K

KNOW + LOVE + FOLLOW + SHARE

Nov. 22, 2026
2nd Service

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

*KNOW Jesus went back to heaven and gave us a mission.

*LET the Holy Spirit help them follow Jesus.

*TELL others about Jesus!

As children arrive - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the other children.
Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.
Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.
When most kids have arrived for first service (by 9:05ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



PREPARE HEARTS

Welcome and Intro Activity

- Raisins
- Clear soda
- Clear plastic cup

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

Pour clear soda into a glass. Ask the kids to guess what they think will happen if you drop a raisin in the glass.

Drop a raisin in the glass. Invite the kids to wait and see what happens. Consider testing other small, lightweight objects. (Note: Test this experiment before trying it with your kids.)

SAY: That was a super cool experiment! The raisin rose to the top when we placed it in the soda. This reminds me of our Bible story. Do you remember what happened to Jesus? (He rose up in the air and returned to heaven.) Even though Jesus returned to heaven, He promised His disciples they would not be alone. Jesus told them to wait for the Holy Spirit to come. The Holy Spirit would help them tell about Jesus and live like Him. When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside us, too. The Holy Spirit comforts, shows sin, and guides Christians to live for God's glory.



KIDS WORSHIP

11:00 **Kids Worship for Pre-K - 4th Grade in LG2.**

ACTIVE MINDS

Display the Bible Story Picture Invite the kids to join you for a game.

On the white board, draw a picture of a cross. Invite the children to guess what it is and to tell why it is important. Without erasing the cross, draw a cloud next to it. Prompt kids to tell you what that picture is. Leave the cloud picture, and draw 2 stick figuresnext to it. Lead kids to tell you what that picture is. Leave that on the board. Finally, draw a happy face and lead the kids to tell you what it is. Leave all four drawn pictures on the board until after the end of the review time.

SAY: In today's Bible story, we are going to hear what happened to Jesus after He rose from the dead. Listen carefully to the story and raise your hand when you hear the words for the pictures that we have drawn: Jesus died and came back to life, clouds, two men, and happy friends.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- None

BIBLE STORY:

Jesus Ascended to Heaven

STORYTELLING TIPS:
Travel the room: Lead kids to move to different parts of the room as you talk about the disciples going to different places in the Bible story.
Pause to worship: Guide kids to worship God by singing a song or repeating phrases telling about Jesus when the disciples worship Jesus in the story.

After Jesus came back to life, He appeared to His friends many times over 40 days. He taught His friends about God's kingdom and reminded them of His promises.

One day, Jesus met His friends on a mountain. He said, "God has given Me all power in heaven and on earth. Go and tell everyone about Me! Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey My commands. And remember, I am with you always."

Later, while they were together, Jesus said, "Stay in Jerusalem. Soon, My Father will give you the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will give you power to tell people about Me—here and everywhere in the world."

Then Jesus took His friends outside the city. He lifted His hands to bless them. As He was blessing them, something amazing happened: Jesus began to rise into the sky! The disciples watched as a cloud hid Him from their sight.

Two men in bright clothes appeared and said, "Why are you standing here looking up? Jesus will come back the same way you saw Him go."

The disciples worshiped Jesus and went back to Jerusalem with joy. They praised God and waited for the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus told them.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus went back to heaven but did not leave His friends alone. He sent the Holy Spirit to help them tell the good news. When we trust in Jesus, He forgives us and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us live for Him.



REVIEW AND DISCUSS

- Balloon

Lead kids to stand up and try to continuously keep a balloon (non-helium) or worship Jesus in the story. beach ball in the air by tapping it as a team. Each time the balloon falls to the ground, ask a simple review question. Display the Bible Story Picture Poster to help kids recall the story. Once the question is answered, begin tapping the balloon in the air again. Ask questions such as,

- What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
- What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad?
- Did all of Jesus's friends believe that He rose from the dead? (At first, His friends thought He was a ghost; Thomas did not believe until He saw Jesus.)
- Why did Jesus show His hands and feet and eat fish? (to show His disciples He is alive)
- How do we know Jesus is alive? (The Bible tells us.)
- What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

SAY: Jesus's friends were scared after Jesus died, and they were in a locked room. Jesus appeared in the room and surprised His friends. Show me what kind of face you think Jesus's friends made when Jesus appeared. [Allow responses.] JESUS SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE by eating fish and later by letting Thomas touch His hands and feet. Jesus said that those who believe without seeing are blessed. Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.



Movement Activity

Run a Relay

- Sticky Notes with letter J

Write J (for Jesus) on sticky notes, one per child. (This will be done for you!)

Give each child a sticky note. Form two teams of kids. Guide the teams to line up on one side of the room.

Encourage the first child in each line to run to the other side of the room, place his sticky note on the wall, and then return back to his line.

Lead each child in line to take turns running their sticky notes to the other side of the room.

Once a team finishes, invite them to reverse the activity by running to the other side, removing a sticky note off the wall, and returning to place the sticky note on the wall where their teams are.

SAY: In this game you worked together to spread Jesus's name throughout the room. Before Jesus returned to heaven, He met with His disciples. JESUS TOLD HIS FOLLOWERS TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to help His disciples tell people everywhere the good news. When we trust in Jesus, He forgives us and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us live for Him, too.

Craft

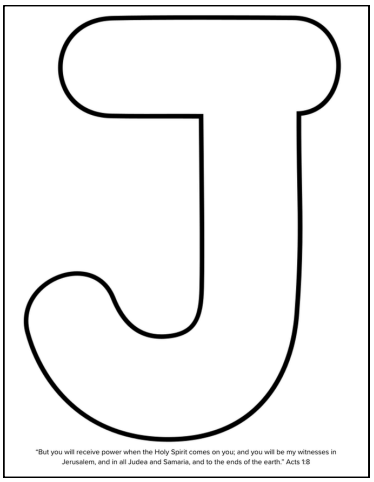
Cloudy J's

- Letter J papers
- Glue Sticks
- Cotton Balls

Distribute letter "J" papers, glue sticks, and cotton balls to the kids. Help the children to trace the drawn letter] on the page with the glue stick.

Then, lead the kids to stick cotton balls on the glue until they have covered all of the lines of the J. Set pictures aside to dry.

SAY: When Jesus went back to heaven, He went up into the sky, and a cloud hid Him from His friends. Before Jesus left, He told His friends to stay in the city until God would send the Holy Spirit to help them. That is what our key passage phrase, Acts 1:8 says: 'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses.'



Music

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you would like!

Friends From Afar

You will find today's activity for Friends From Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are invluded. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.

Prayer and Bible Verse

- None

Prayer:
Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well.

Thank You, Jesus, for promising to be with Your followers. We ask for power from the Holy Spirit to tell others that You lived, died, and rose again so they can be forgiven from sin. Help us believe that, too. Amen.

Bible Verse:
Read the verse aloud - Acts 1:8

Invite the kids to come up with hand motions to the key passage words "power, Holy Spirit, witnesses." Practice these hand motions and repeat the verse several times.



Snack and Discussion Time

- Snack (Pretzels) located under the sink cabinet

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

- What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
- What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
- Who was in the locked room at the beginning of the story? (Jesus's friends)
- What did Jesus do to show He is alive? (He appeared to His friends and ate fish.)
- What did Jesus first say when He appeared to His friends? ("Peace to you.")
- What job did Jesus give His friends? (They should tell everyone the good news that Jesus died and rose again.)
- What did Jesus do to save us? (Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.)

SAY: JESUS SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE. Jesus wanted them to tell all people how He offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.



Additional Activities:

JUMP HIGH
Invite kids to take turns jumping as high as they can and touching the wall. Before each child jumps, give her a piece of painter's tape so she can stick it to the wall at the highest point of her jump. (Note: Modify the movement as needed based on the abilities of the kids in your class, such as having them stretch their arms up and place the tape on the wall instead of jumping.) SAY You all jumped so high! But no matter how high you jump, you'll always come back down to the ground. Jesus went up into to the clouds to be with God. Before Jesus left His followers, He told them to tell everyone the good news about Him. He promised that God would send the Holy Spirit to help them. How does the Holy Spirit help Christians? The Holy Spirit comforts, shows sin, and guides Christians to live for God's glory.

GO ON A LETTER J HUNT
Cut several pieces of paper into twelve smaller pieces. On these smaller pieces of paper, write a capital letter J. Place a loop of tape on the backs of the prepared J] papers. Gather the children in a circle, tell them you are going to play a game, and ask them to close their eyes without peeking. Quickly tape eleven of the pieces of paper around the room in plain view and within a child's reach. Prompt the kids to open their eyes. Show them the remaining J] and ask them to find the other] papers and bring them to you. SAY Jesus starts with the letter J]. Jesus took His friends outside the city. He lifted His hands to bless them. Then Jesus went up into the sky. Two men in bright clothes told Jesus's friends that Jesus will come back one day. Jesus went to heaven, and He sent the Holy Spirit to help His friends. When we trust Jesus, He gives us the Holy Spirit too.

OBEY ALL THE COMMANDS
Stand in front of the kids and give a command, such as "pat your head." Instruct them to keep patting their heads until you add a second command, such as "stand on one foot." Continue giving more commands and inviting kids to obey all the commands. When kids can no longer perform all the actions at once, start again with a new set of commands. SAY When JESUS TOLD HIS FOLLOWERS TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM, He also told them to teach them to obey all that He commanded them. Jesus's commands were not simple actions like, 'stand on one foot.' Some of His commands were, 'Love your enemies,' 'Forgive as you have been forgiven,' and, 'Do not worry.' We need the the Holy Spirit's help to keep all these commands. When we trust in Jesus, He forgives us and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us live for Him.