

17 May

Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Remembering and celebrating Ascension Day



Let's hear your story

1. What did Jesus do while ascending into heaven? (**See Luke 24:51 – He lifted His hands and blessed His disciples.**)
2. How did the disciples respond in Luke 24:52 - 53? (NIV; **they worshipped Jesus; returned with joy; continually praising God**).
3. How many days did Jesus spent after His resurrection, before He ascended into heaven? (**See Acts 1:3**).
4. What did Jesus speak about before ascending? (**See Acts 1:3**).



Let's go deeper

5. What did God promise in Joel 2:29? (**He will pour out His Spirit**).
6. Which Old Testament prophecy did Jesus fulfil in His ascension? (**See Acts 7:56 and Daniel 7:13 – 14**).
7. What does John 16:28; tell us about the ascension of Jesus Christ? (**Jesus' ascension is His return to His Father**).
8. What does Acts 1:11; tell us about the ascension of Jesus Christ? (**That Jesus will return, and He will return the same way He ascended into heaven**).



Let's apply this

9. **What does the ascension of Jesus into heaven mean to our everyday lives?** Jesus reign as King and remains active and engaged in our world and lives.

Live boldly, confidently, and with purpose as servants of the exalted King of heaven. Knowing that our labour in the Lord Jesus is not in vain.

Jesus knows our struggles. He is the most merciful counsellor and mediator. Take your cares to Him who hears your prayers and respond with all authority.

Hope in a glorious future. The ascended Lord will return as Judge and King. He will set up his kingdom of truth, righteousness, joy and love.

SUMMARY:

Read: Acts 1:1 – 11; Luke 24:49 – 53; 1 Corinthians 15:4 – 7 and Daniel 7:13 – 14.

1. What did Jesus do after His resurrection, before ascending into heaven?
2. What is the importance of the ascension of Jesus Christ?

1. What did Jesus do after His resurrection, before ascending into heaven?
- Acts 1:2; Jesus gave specific instructions to His apostles through the Holy Spirit.
- Acts 1:3; He spoke about the Kingdom of God, and He ate with them.
- Acts 1:3; Jesus gave many convincing proofs that He was alive (See 1 Corinthians .15:4 – 7).

2. The Ascension of Jesus Christ is important for several reasons:

1. Jesus continues to work after the ascension.

In **Acts 1:1 – 2**; we read, "...that Jesus **began** to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up..." The small but important word **began** signals that Jesus's ascension does not mark the end, but the continuation of His work as Lord and Messiah.

2. The ascended Lord Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to His people.

In **Luke 24:49**; Jesus told his followers, "I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." Peter explains this in his sermon in **Acts 2:33**. And God fulfills His promise of **Joel 2:29**.

3. At Jesus's ascension He is crowned as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Acts 1:11; Jesus is taken up to heaven in a cloud, and in **Acts 7:56**; Stephen declares that he sees the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. Jesus's ascension fulfills the prophecy of **Daniel 7:13 – 14**. Jesus's eternal Kingdom; will not pass away!

4. Jesus's ascension is His return to His Father.

Before and after His death and resurrection Jesus declares that He was sent by His Father, and must return to His Father (see **John 16 and 20**). Jesus fully accomplished His mission and glorified the Father on earth.

5. The ascended Lord Jesus is our heavenly Mediator and High Priest.

1 Timothy 2:5; Jesus is the unique Mediator between God and man. The Lord Jesus is now in heaven interceding for His people as our true High Priest and Advocate.

6. The ascended Lord Jesus will return as King and Judge.

In **Acts 1:11**; two angels explain to the disciples, "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven."