

The Ascension

Storyteller: *Hold the Jesus doll out toward the children...* For forty days after Jesus had suffered and died, he proved in many ways that he had been raised from death.

Acts 1.1-8

Theophilus, I first wrote to you about all that Jesus did and taught from the very first until he was taken up to heaven. But before he was taken up, he gave orders to the apostles he had chosen with the help of the Holy Spirit.

For forty days after Jesus had suffered and died, he proved in many ways that he had been raised from death. He appeared to his apostles and spoke to them about God’s kingdom. While he was still with them, he said:

Don’t leave Jerusalem yet. Wait here for the Father to give you the Holy Spirit, just as I told you he has promised to do. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

While the apostles were still with Jesus, they asked him, “Lord, are you now going to give Israel its own king again?”

Jesus said to them, “You don’t need to know the time of those events that only the Father controls. But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world.”

Luke 24:50-53

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

Acts 1.9-11

They could not see him, but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. They said, “Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go.”

Set the doll down in a stand, and stand the apostle dolls near it.

He appeared to his apostles, and told them about God's kingdom. He told them “Don't leave Jerusalem yet. Wait for the Father to give you the Holy Spirit. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Unroll the road underlay, and put Jesus on it. Move him a few inches down the road, so there is room to put the apostles behind him. Then he led them out as far as Bethany.

Turn the Jesus doll around to face the apostles, and lift its arms: Lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

Slowly lift the Jesus doll straight up, over your head. Focus on the doll, so that the children focus too and follow it with their eyes.

While he was blessing them, he was carried up into heaven.

Put the Jesus doll in the basket, and put the two angel dolls down on the road next to the apostles.

Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. They said “Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven. But he will come back in the same way you have seen him go.

- Story Materials**
- Felt “road” underlay
 - Dolls
 - Jesus
 - Apostles
 - Angels