

Achievement Objective

Children will be able to: recognise that the Church celebrates Jesus' return to heaven in glory.

Learning Outcomes:

The children will:

- 1 identify a picture of Jesus in glory
- 2 demonstrate a celebratory action when singing Psalm 47

Preparation for the Lesson:

- Picture Resource - *The Ascension*
- Invitation to Year 3 children to tell or dramatise the *Ascension* story
- Several pictures of Jesus posted on a chart, with only one of Jesus in glory
- Caption cards for *Ascension* and glory
- Art materials to make a mural or banner - optional
- Percussion instruments, coloured streamers and balloons
- Word chart for song 'Psalm 47'

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

Acts 1:11



Teacher's Notes:

Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus going home to his Father. Going home after being away for a long time is usually nice. For Jesus "home" is "heaven", and he lives in glory with God, Te Atua. This means that the life of Jesus in heaven is more beautiful, more wonderful, than we can ever imagine.

Great artists have tried to show us how they think Jesus in glory might look. They show Jesus wearing a crown, with shining light around him, sometimes with angels. But we don't really know.

So *Ascension day* is a very happy day, and all over the world people sing a special song, Psalm 47. They sing it or say it when they go to Eucharist, some say it as part of their karakia - prayers at school or home.

Teaching and Learning Experiences:

- Children are introduced to the topic of *Ascension* with the caption card. They may be able to recall that it means "going up".
- Year 3 children tell or dramatise the story of the *Ascension* of Jesus with the class.
- Children look at the pictures of Jesus on the chart. In small groups they tell each other about the pictures.
- Children point out the picture of Jesus in glory, and explain to each other how they identified it. Children look at and discuss the picture of the *Ascension* from the Picture Resource.
- Children learn to sing the version of Psalm 47 on the word chart, with clapping and percussion instruments.
- On the banner or mural have a simple outline of Jesus. Children use an assortment of art materials to make the figure beautiful and wonderful.
- Plan a procession which includes the banner or mural, and the singing of Psalm 47. When outside, release the balloons.

Consolidation and Extension Activities:

- Take the procession on a tour of other classrooms. Children explain briefly what they are celebrating

Suggested Assessment Examples:

- **LO 1** Refer to the fourth Teaching and Learning Experience
- **LO 2** Observe the children's participation in the procession

