



THE STORY @ HOME

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-23
Acts 1:1-14

THIS WEEK

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit and go to the ends of the world to be witnesses. Jesus ascends into heaven and the disciples return to Jerusalem (Acts 1:1-14).

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus Commissions the Disciples

After Jesus' brutal death on the cross, we pick up the story with the good news that our Christian faith relies on: Jesus rose from the dead and has conquered death for all believers. During the next forty days, he spends his time preparing the disciples for the work of sharing the good news of what has happened with the world. Jesus appeared to the apostles and taught them about the kingdom of God. Then, he promised the Holy Spirit's presence on earth, called followers to action,

Today I Learned..

THE POINT

Jesus sends us to spread the good news everywhere!

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

What Was the Roman Empire?

Knowing a bit about the Roman Empire can help us as we read and interpret the New Testament. The Roman government ruled without the people's input. There was a strong military presence, and those who were seen as a threat to the empire were tortured and sometimes crucified. There was violence, high taxation, and pressure to worship Roman gods. The people who lived in Judea were under the rule of the Roman Empire. There was significant tension between the Jewish people in Judea and Galilee and the Roman rulers who did not even allow the people full freedom over religious matters. This tension led to the Jewish-Roman War. One result of the war was that the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 CE.

Family Devotions

Read Acts 1:1-14

Jesus commissions the disciples.

Look up how to combine Mentos with Diet Coke or vinegar with baking soda to create a reaction that rises. Jesus rose to heaven but has promised to come back.

Read Acts 2:1-13

Pentecost and the Holy Spirit.

Use an online translator to learn how to say, "I love you" in at least three other languages.

Friday—Read Acts 2:37-42

Repentance and baptism.

Dip your finger in water and make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead as a reminder of their baptism.

PRACTICE: PRAYER

With Jesus' resurrection and ascension, our faith makes a transition. That which had been promised has been fulfilled. God's kingdom has broken into our world. Now this new way of being God's people starts spreading throughout the world. We pray for the many parts of the world in which we see God and in which we hope to bring God's peace. Write prayer words on balloons and toss up as you pray together.

Up & Coming @ Hope....

April 5th—Family Event!

- * West Campus
- * 6-8 pm
- * Wednesday families can still sign up tonight!

Registration is Open! Please register early! It helps our youth team prepare for fall!