The Ascension of the Lord
(Lower Elementary)

May 13, 2021 – The Ascension of the Lord

Overview

In this week’s Gospel passage, Jesus gathers His disciples for His final command before ascending into Heaven – preach the Gospel to the world. This command becomes the mission of the Church. In this lesson, students contemplate Jesus’ command by reflecting on sacred art.

Directions

A. Read the Gospel passage aloud to your students as they follow along. Then discuss the focus and reflection questions with them as a class.

B. Read the directions from Go into the World Hidden Letters to your students. Then have them find the hidden letters in the painting and write them on the lines. Last, help your students unscramble the letters to spell out Jesus’ command to His disciples to proclaim the Gospel.

C. Conclude the lesson by discussing the sacred art painting with your students, using the following questions:

- What are some things that you see in this painting? Jesus, the disciples, angels, rays of light, clouds, a building in the background, hills, trees, and so on. Accept other reasoned answers.
- How does this painting illustrate this week’s Gospel story? Jesus is ascending into Heaven before the gathered disciples.
- If you could rewind this painting, what do you think happened immediately before this scene? Jesus gave His disciples the mission to proclaim the Gospel to the world.
- If you could fast forward this painting, what do you think would happen immediately after this scene? Perhaps the disciples prayed, or they went home amazed, or, like the Gospel says, they went out and told the world what they had witnessed. Accept other reasoned answers.
- Do you think the artist did a good job illustrating Jesus’ Ascension into Heaven? Why? Or why not?
Answer Key

Focus Questions

1. By keeping His commandments.
2. He has loved us by dying for us on the Cross. Jesus’ entire life is an example of love and total self-giving.
3. To lay down our lives for our friends.
4. Even though most of us will never face the call to literally die for our friends, we can lay down our lives for others each day by sacrificing in small ways. Through our unselfish acts of charity, we “lay down our lives” for our friends.
5. He commands us to love one another.

Go into the World Hidden Letters