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Into the Clouds

After Jesus was crucified and came back to life again, He spent 40 days with His disciples. During that time He encouraged them. He helped them believe that He really was alive again. And He prepared them for the work they were to do.

On His last day on earth, Jesus and His disciples visited together on one of their favorite spots, the Mount of Olives. From there, they could look down on the city of Jerusalem. The beautiful marble temple gleamed in the sun.

Only Jesus knew He would be leaving soon. The disciples had just asked Him if He would overthrow the ruling king. Would He take His place on the king's throne? They still didn't understand! Jesus wasn't going to be an earthly king. He would be the King of their lives.

Gently, Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would be with them. They were to take His message to all the world. Everyone must know about His death and resurrection.



After He said this, Jesus began to rise slowly into the air. He rose past the treetops, straight up into the sky. The disciples must have wondered what was happening. Maybe they watched with their mouths

hanging open. Silently He disappeared into the clouds. They strained their eyes as Jesus disappeared from their sight.

As they stood staring into the sky, two men in white robes joined them. These two angels had stayed behind to help the surprised disciples understand what had just happened. The angels spoke, "Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11, NIV).



The disciples began immediately to spread the good news about Jesus all over the world. Their work was the beginning of Christianity; a new religion based on three special beliefs:

- 1. Jesus, God's Son, is alive.
- 2. Jesus came to live on earth and die for us, showing us that God loves us.
- 3. Jesus is coming back to earth to take us to live with Him in heaven.

The disciples missed Jesus. They wanted Him to come back. How about you? Do you want Jesus to come again? Do you want to be with Jesus forever? He will help you to get ready. Just ask Him.



Into the Clouds Questions

wnat	happened after Jesus was in the tomb for three days?
Wh	nat did Jesus tell his disciples after his resurrection?
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	What did the angel tell the disciples?
	Are you glad Jesus ascended into Heaven? Explain



Into the Clouds Coloring Page





Into the Clouds Craft

He is Risen Empty Tomb Craft



You will Need: Construction paper of varying colors Scissors Glue Crayons 1 brass fastener

Instructions:

- 1. Use construction paper to cut out a picture showing Jesus' empty tomb!
- 2. Draw two half circles (one small and one large) for the tomb.
- 3. Draw a circle for the stone that was rolled away.
- 4. Cut out the pieces. Glue to tomb onto construction paper and attach the stone with a fastener.
- 5. Finally, cut out and glue the cross as seen in the picture, and write Jesus is Reisen at the top.
- 6. Enjoy sharing and reflecting on Jesus's death and resurrection with family members.

Remember, this story encourages both the celebration of Christ rising from the dead, and him coming back to take us to live with him.

Enjoy!



Into the Clouds Puzzle

Jesus is Alive Maze

Early Easter morning, Mary Magdalene visited Jesus' tomb. The stone had been rolled away, and Jesus was not in the tomb. She was very sad because she thought someone had taken Jesus' body.

Then Mary saw a man she thought was the gardener. She was so happy to see the man was Jesus! She ran to tell the disciples Jesus was alive.



