



What Do We Believe?

Lesson 17

What Do We Believe?

Lesson 17: Jesus the Son: He Ministers to Us Today

Scriptures:

Hebrews 2:17-18, 7:23-28; Acts 9:1-18; Ephesians 1:20-23; John 14; I John 2:1-2; Romans 8:31-39

Lesson Goals:

To show the learner that Jesus lives today.
To show the learner that Jesus reigns with the Father.
To show the learner that Jesus knows and cares about us today.

Scripture Memory:

In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2)

The Lesson:

Sometimes people have problems with their computers. The program gets messed up...it won't work right. When that happens, somebody who is an expert must be called on to help. So, the person calls a phone number that may be answered by someone thousands of miles away. The expert can guide the person through some steps that can solve the computer problem. These computer experts have been taught how the computer works so they don't have to see your computer to fix it. You must describe the problem, but when you do, they use their knowledge of computers to help you solve the problem.

After Jesus rose from the dead, and appeared to many people, He took His disciples to the top of a mountain and told them goodbye. Suddenly, He began to rise up into the sky. The power of God was lifting him up, beyond the clouds, to Heaven. He went there to be with God the Father.

Jesus could have set up a place in Jerusalem to rule the world. However, that was not God's intention. Jesus needed to be at the right hand of God so that he could rule all that there is. Now, He is not confined to earth or to time. His ascension to Heaven was the final proof that He was, and is, God's Son.

Jesus is in heaven, right now. But, He is not resting. He is not just waiting for His children to come home to Heaven. He is busy. Acts 9:4-6 tells us that Jesus is aware and involved in what is happening on earth. He spoke to Paul, the apostle, after He ascended into Heaven.

The human body of Jesus may be a long way from earth, however, He is God and as God He is everywhere. He sees and knows everything that is happening on the earth and what we humans are doing. He is closer than our own family. When we ask Jesus to be our Savior and our Lord, He places within us the Holy Spirit, who speaks **to** us for Jesus. The Holy Spirit also speaks **for** us to Jesus and God the Father.

Not only does He do that, He knows what needs to be done to fix you or the problems in your life, like the computer expert. But unlike the computer expert you may call to assist with a computer problem, Jesus knows all about you and how you work, without you having to tell Him. After all, He made you and knows every part of you. He also lived on this earth and knows everything that there is to know about how to be successful in life and how to deal with all of life's problems.

Jesus speaks to us today through His Holy Spirit. He spoke to Paul, as told to us in I Corinthians 1:17. There, Jesus Christ told Paul that the Gospel was for everyone, not just a chosen few. Paul told of Christ's leadership for him personally, in II Corinthians 2:12-14. Through His Holy Spirit, Jesus gives us gifts for ministry, to do good things today. Ephesians 4:7-13 tells us that because Jesus came to earth,

lived here, and then ascended into Heaven, He is the most qualified to provide us with talents for carrying on the work of His Kingdom.

Jesus is in Heaven today. He is preparing a place for you to live when you leave this earth. He said that He was building many places there for His children to live forever with Him. He promised that He would be there to welcome you when it is time for you to go there.

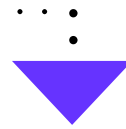
Life Application:

So Jesus “had to be made like His brothers in every way. Then He could serve God as a kind of faithful high priest. And then He could pay for the sins of the people by dying for them.” (Hebrews 2:17 NIV) Did you know that is what Jesus did for you? He was made like you - He took the form of a human body. He became sin for you and paid for that sin by dying on the cross. God loved **you** so much that He gave His one and only Son . . . By realizing that you are a sinner and that you deserve death for that sin, and by accepting the great gift of salvation that Jesus has offered you - you can be with Jesus forever in the place that He is preparing just for you. Won't you do that today?

Once you walk with Jesus in trust and belief, you can also know that help that He gives daily. “He Himself suffered when He was tempted. Now He is able to help others who are being tempted.” (Hebrews 2:18 NIV) When you are tempted to disobey, He can help. Jesus is aware of everything that happens in the world today. As a believer, you can trust that God has a plan for you and that He will help you to know how to see that plan accomplished in your life. He does that through the gift Jesus sent believers after He returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit. When we accept God's great gift of salvation, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives. Aren't you thankful that God has a plan, that Jesus showed us how to live and died in our place, and that the Holy Spirit comes to us? Aren't you thankful that Jesus ministers to us today?



Planning for Lesson 18
The Holy Spirit:
He is God



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Be reporters. Look at the memory verse and its surrounding verses John 14:1-6. Ask “Who?,” “What?,” “When?,” “Where?,” “Why?,” and “How?” See just how much information you can pull from these verses!
- ◆ Ask your students to share ways that they have seen God at work in the world around them. Begin with stories of your own to get conversation flowing.
- ◆ Discuss the following quote from Hudson Taylor, missionary to China. “I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. I ended up by asking Him to do His work through me.” For added discussion, also look at John 15:1-5.
- ◆ Sing “He Lives,” “God Still Moves,” “Come, and God With Me,” and “When We All Get to Heaven.”
- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Think back to Lesson 14 - Jesus the Son: He is Judge and Advocate. Remember that the Greek word for Jesus as our Advocate is *parakletos*. This is the same word used for Holy Spirit in John 14:16, 26; 15:26; and 16:7 where it is translated “Comforter.” The Holy Spirit is “another helper,” one of the same kind as Jesus. Look up the previous verses in the Amplified Bible and discuss how Jesus is still ministering to us today.
- ◆ **Dig Deeper Still:** Look into the Old Testament sacrificial system. Provide a picture of the Jewish priest and temple that shows the altar, basin, holy of holies, etc. Start with the first chapter of Leviticus and look at the rules for offering sacrifices. Be sure to look at chapter four as well. Then, look again at Hebrews 7:23-28.

In my Father's house
are many rooms;
if it were not so,
I would have told you.
I am going there
to prepare a place
for you.

John 14:2

Jesus' ascension
to Heaven was the
final proof that
He was and is

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T L W H H L M



Crack the Code

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Z Y X _ B A

Word Search



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R	R	E	P	L	A	S	E	E	H
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S	H	E	P	R	O	I	N	R	R
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T	H	A	P	M	A	D	L	O	T
H	E	R	P	O	D	I	S	G	O

Complete the memory verse. Find the missing words in the word search above.

In my _____, _____ are _____; if it
 were not so, I would have _____ you. I am _____
 _____ to _____ a place for _____. (John 14:2)

Word Search



F	A	T	E	R	E	D	W	O	T
R	R	E	P	L	A	S	E	E	H
O	P	S	R	E	H	T	A	F	E
S	H	E	P	R	O	I	N	R	R
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I	A	O	U	L	S	P	T	G	A
Y	N	R	O	P	E	R	P	N	L
F	Y	O	U	R	O	G	H	I	O
T	H	A	P	M	A	D	L	O	T
H	E	R	P	O	D	I	S	G	O

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In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2)