The Ascension of Jesus
A fun and meaningful “act-it-out” craft

Young people and families will enjoy this engaging craft that allows them to reenact the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven. Not to be confused with the Resurrection on Easter, when Jesus rose from the dead to walk on the earth again, the Ascension is celebrated on the Thursday of the 6th week of Easter. Watch as he disappears into the clouds!

...as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
- Acts 1:9 NRSV

Materials List:

- Jesus printable (included)
- One cup per project – shown here with a 9 oz paper cup. You can also use a blue plastic cup and skip the painting part.
- Construction paper (blue, yellow, white)
- Cotton balls
- Paper plate or painting dish
- Blue paint or markers
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- White glue or glue stick
- Clear tape
- Marker, pen, or crayons
- Yarn, 18 inches, thicker is better
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Directions:
Note: If you are using a blue plastic cup, skip to step #4.
1. On the paper plate or painting tray, squirt a glob of blue paint.
2. Turn the cup over and paint all outer surfaces thoroughly. Don’t try to paint the inside of the cup, as paper cups usually have a wax or plastic lining and the paint won’t adhere properly. (You may choose to color with a blue marker)
3. Let this paint dry completely before moving on to the next steps.
4. Pick the appropriate size Jesus template for your cup. The small template fits a 9 oz cup (as shown). Larger template fits a 16 oz cup.
5. Use crayons or markers to color the Jesus figure.
6. Cut around the figure of Jesus in a smooth pear shape.
7. Glue this figure onto blue paper, and cut around the edge to make a thin blue border.
8. Use white glue and bits of cotton to make clouds at Jesus’ feet.
9. On white paper, draw a semicircle and write the following verse:
   ...as they were watching, he was lifted up,
   and a cloud took him out of their sight. Acts 1:9
10. Glue the white semicircle to yellow paper, and cut a border.
11. Add strips or triangles to make it look like a sun.
12. Use white glue to add bits of cotton to make clouds on the sun.

Directions continued on the next page →
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Directions: continued...

13. When the cup is dry, use a pen, needle, or other sharp tool to poke a small hole in the middle of the cup’s base. Note: depending on the size of the yarn you have, the hole will need to be a particular size. If the hole is much larger than the yarn, the cup will always slide right down over the Jesus figure. It is better if the hole is barely large enough for the yarn to pass through. This gives the yarn some resistance and the cup will stay where you put it. Children may need help getting the yarn through the hole in step #16.
14. Use white glue to put cotton clouds around the hole on the “top” of the upside down cup.
15. Use white glue to put cotton clouds around the sides of the cup.
16. Thread the yarn through the hole in the cup. Students may need help with this step. Inexpensive needle threading tools may help.
17. When the glue is dry enough, lay the cup flat and tape the yarn to the back of the sun above and the Jesus figure under the open end of the cup. Use one piece of tape to stick it on, leaving the yarn end out, and then fold it up and tape over that end (see photo for example). This will keep the yarn from sliding out of the tape. On the sun, you can choose to make a loop at the top with the yarn to use as a hanger (not shown).
18. Now your project is ready! Hold the cup, pull up on the sun and Jesus will ascend into Heaven!

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God.
Mark 16:19
Printable Jesus Templates

Smaller version for 8-12 oz cups  Larger version for 16 oz cups

Let us see your creations! Send photos to cedoffice@ameced.com or share on Instagram. The Department’s Instagram is AMEC_CED.

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Adapted from https://www.catholicteacherresources.com/