

**Achievement Objective**

Children will be able to: recognise that, before his Ascension to heaven, Jesus sent the disciples to bring the Good News to all creation.

**Learning Outcomes:**

The children will:

- 1 identify *Ascension* as the time when Jesus sent his disciples to bring the Good News of the Gospel to all creation
- 2 give examples of 'good news' for people
- 3 give examples of 'good news' for the planet

**Preparation for the Lesson:**

- Scripture Reading Mark 16:15-20
- Children bring newspaper clippings of good news and bad news
- Bibles for each child or small group
- Paper to make scrolls, writing and art materials. One per child or per small group. If a computer is available, some of the children prepare scrolls using computer graphics
- Cards with the words - eyes, ears, hands, feet, voices, enough so that each child can take one. Place the cards in a bag, or a covered box

**While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.**

**Luke 24:51**



**Teacher's Notes:**

In his gospel St Mark tells about the command Jesus gave to his 11 followers before he ascended into heaven. Jesus says the 'good news' - te rongo pai is for all God's creation, including people.

Not only did Jesus come to save people from all the troubles they cause themselves. He came to save creation from being spoiled and destroyed.

Now that Jesus is in heaven with God, he works through his people. The only eyes, ears, hands, feet, and voice he has on earth are those of his people. With the help of the Holy Spirit Te Wairua Tapu, the Spirit of Jesus, we have to see what is needed, listen to people, go where we are needed, help where we can, and share the Good News that Jesus taught.

The followers of Jesus should be 'good news', so that where they have been, through the power Mana of the Holy Spirit, people are happier and things are better.

**Teaching and Learning Experiences:**

- Children sort the newspaper clippings into good and bad news. For whom, or for what, is the news good or bad? Children discuss briefly.
- Using Bibles, children locate and read Mark 16:15-20.
- Make scrolls with the words from Mark 16:15, "Go into all the world, and proclaim the good news to the whole of creation".
- Children share their work with the whole group, then talk about what might be 'good news' for people and 'good news' for the planet. List ideas.
- Children draw cards from the bag or box, and form groups of eyes, ears, hands, feet and voices. In the group the 'feet' think of ways they can help to spread the good news of Jesus; the other groups do likewise with their item.
- Conclude by sharing with the whole group.

**Consolidation and Extension Activities:**

- Children prepare and celebrate a prayer celebration, based on the work they have done in class. Include the Scripture reading from the scroll. Develop movement and mime to illustrate ways to use eyes, ears, hands, etc.

**Suggested Assessment Examples:**

- **LO 1** Complete the following sentence:  
At the *Ascension* Jesus sends people to go into the world and share the good news.
- **LO 2** Refer to Teaching and Learning Experience 4
- **LO 3** Refer to Teaching and Learning Experience 4

