

Jesus Christ Exalted Part 1

Focus

Because of Christ’s obedience, God exalted Him to sit at His right hand to reign forever as our Lord and King.

Today’s Tip

“Only God rightfully exalts anyone. When Christ was exalted by God He was placed where he rightfully belongs.” - John MacArthur

Supplies Needed:

- Construction paper
- Pencils/Markers/Crayons
- Glue/Glitter



Welcome and Singing

- Welcome guests & take attendance.
- Ask questions about their week.
- Lead group in a chorus or two.
- Take prayer requests and pray.
- Announce subject of today’s lesson.
- Hand out worksheets.



Devotional

Today, we want to focus on Jesus’ resurrection because this is the first step of Jesus’ exaltation. “Jesus had told the disciples that He would be raised from the dead, but His words never quite hit home with them. When Jesus died, for them it was as if all hope was gone. They still had in mind that Jesus would be a great earthly ruler. Although they were right about Jesus being a ruler, they had the sequence of events out of order. We are going to be looking up some scriptures that are connected with His resurrection and discuss their meaning.” Assign students to read some of the following scriptures. Then, ask the student who read to explain what was read. After this, you may open the discussion to all, using the interpretations below as a guide for the explanation.

Scripture	Meaning
Matthew 22:31-32 -----	God is the God of the Living; not the dead.
Matthew 27:66 -----	Nothing could keep Jesus in the grave.
1 Corinthians 15:13-18 -----	Jesus’ resurrection is the key to the Christian faith.
Mark 16:14-15 -----	The resurrection is the reason for sharing our faith.

Luke 24:36-39 ----- Jesus' resurrected body had substance.
1 Corinthians 15:5-8 ----- Many were witnesses to His resurrection.
Colossians 1:18 ----- Christ's supremacy over the church and world.
1 Corinthians 15:50-52 ----- All believers will be raised with imperishable bodies.

Prayer

Thank God for the awesome significance of Jesus' resurrection! Thank God that those who belong to Jesus will live forever with Him!

Memory Verse

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, - Philippians 2:9

The Story/The Passage

God never intended for the humiliation of Christ to be a permanent condition, but only temporary; in order for His plan of redemption for the world to be accomplished. For a little while, thirty-three years, Jesus laid aside His power and glory to be obedient to His Father's plan to save lost humanity. The book of Luke tells us that after Jesus ascended back to heaven, He sat at the right hand of God. In other words, Jesus' ordeal with humiliation and suffering was over forever!

Philippians 2:9 says that because of Christ's obedience, God glorified Christ by raising Him to His original position at the Father's right hand where He will reign forever as our Lord and King.

Ephesians 1:21 says that Jesus' position at God's right hand is far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, referring to the rulers of this earth and the powers of Satan. Verses 22 and 23 tell us that God has placed all things under Jesus' feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body. As head over the church, Jesus acts as our lawyer (or priest), pleading our case to the Father when we come to Him confessing our sins. **Because Jesus died to forgive our sins, we can know that God will forgive us for Jesus' sake.**

As Christians, we can be confident that God has won the final victory over evil through Christ's resurrection and is in control of everything. **When we belong to Christ, we do not need to be afraid of any evil thing that can happen on earth.** Because of what Christ has done for us, let us always praise Him as our Savior and Lord and give ourselves to Him and His plans for our lives!

The world is afraid of the power of the atomic bomb, yet we belong to the God of the universe who not only created atomic power, but also raised Jesus Christ from the dead. God's incomparably great power is available to help you and me. There is nothing too difficult for Him!



Lesson Questions

Answer each question below using today's teaching as your guide.

1. God planned that the humiliation of Christ be only a temporary condition.

2. What was the reason that God chose to have Christ suffer such pain and humiliation?

In order to save lost humanity.

3. What was Jesus' position after He ascended back into heaven? He sat at God's right hand.

4. How long will Jesus reign as our Lord and King? Forever.

5. Finish the following statement which tells us what Jesus is doing now: God has placed all things under Jesus' feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church.

6. When we belong to Christ, how do we know that God will forgive every sin we confess?

Because Jesus died to forgive all our sins.

7. Why do God's children (Christians) not need to be afraid of any evil thing that can happen on earth? Because God is in control of everything and His power is available to help you and me.



Activity - Drawing

A great word picture is given in **Ephesians 1:20-22** to explain Christ's position of exaltation at the Father's right hand. Meditate on these verses, then make a drawing of how you understand and interpret Christ's present position of power and authority. (Here's a clue: Show Christ's position as well as our position here on earth.) You may want to show Christ being worshipped in heaven as well as on earth, and show that He is Head over the church. Students will each need one sheet of craft or drawing paper for this activity, as well as pencils, markers or crayons, and glitter.