



**Yes
it's me
again!**

**Can you see
what the people in this picture
are doing?**

Alleluia!



**I think they are
jumping for joy!**



**Have you noticed how
sometimes when we are
full of joy we jump up?
We may lift our arms
above our heads
or punch the air!**

**We are getting close now
to the end of our
'Alleluia' season.**

**But before we get to the end of the
season, there are some more really
special days which we give special
names to and which we celebrate.**

Thursday 21st May

**(it is the one with the star on your next slide)
is the day we call Ascension Day.**

**If you count Easter Day as Day 1
which number day
in our season of Easter is this one?**





Easter Day

Alleluia!



**It's Day 40!
And Day 40
is
Ascension
Day**



**What does the word
ascend mean?**



To ascend means to go up.



**How many things
or people can you see
going up, on this slide?
How many of them have you
ever been on or in?**



**On Ascension Day
we are thinking about
Jesus' Ascension.**

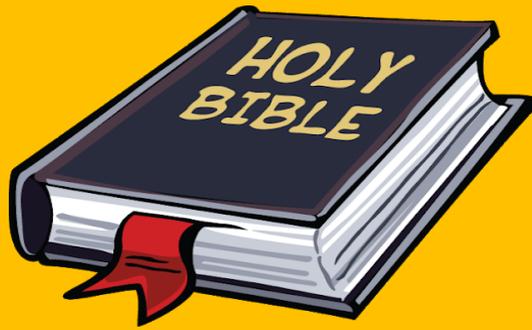


Jesus didn't know about

hot air balloons or aeroplanes.

**Jesus didn't live at a time when there were
escalators or ski lifts.**

**But the Bible tells us that after Easter,
when the first friends of Jesus had seen that
Jesus was alive and with them,
one day Jesus ascended up into heaven.
How do you think that made them feel?**



I think it could have made them feel sad at first, because it was like Jesus was leaving them again, after he had promised he would always be with them.

But Jesus didn't ascend into heaven to make us think he had left us.

Jesus ascended into heaven to help us begin to understand that God is higher and bigger than anything we can ever imagine.

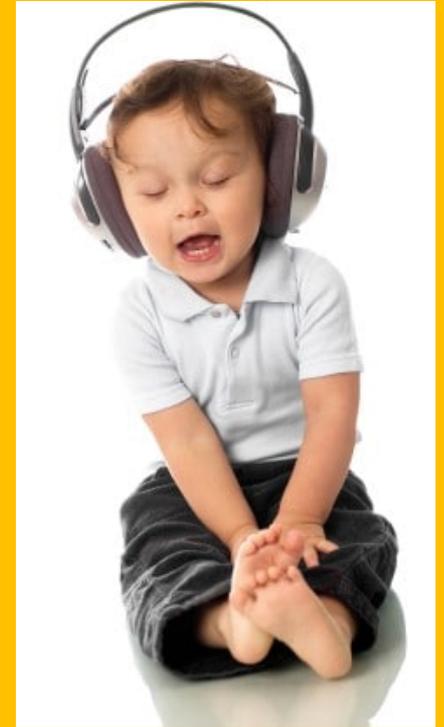
And when those first friends of Jesus did begin to understand that this great big God was still their friend, and that this great big God loved each one of them no matter how little they were, then do you know what?



It made them jump for joy!

**Do you remember the song
we sometimes sing at school?**

**Our God is a great big God.
Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
and he holds us in his hand.**



Go on...give it a go!

**It makes you feel better just singing it!
And can you remember what comes next?**



He's higher than a skyscraper.
He's deeper than a submarine.
He's wider than the universe
and beyond my wildest dreams.

He's known me and he's loved me
since before the world began.
How wonderful to be a part
of God's amazing plan.



**How about the actions –
did you do those too?**

Our God is
a great big God.
Our God is
a great big God
Our God is
a great big God
and he
holds us
in his hand.

The Bible tells us that



Jesus descended,
and came down,
to be with us and share
his life and show us what
God's love looks like.
But the Bible tells us too
that **Jesus ascended,**
and went up to heaven,
to show us

God's love is so big
that as well as being
for you and me
it fills all times
and all places,
and is for all people.

Alleluia!



**I think that's
worth jumping for
joy about!
How about you?**

A Looking Up
& Looking Down
Prayer
for Ascension Day:

Lord Jesus,
on Ascension Day
we look up and say thank you
for showing us that God's love
is so big there is enough for
everyone.

On Ascension Day
we look down and remember
that we can share God's love
in all the little things
we do and say today.

Amen.

A
Jumping for Joy
Prayer

Dear Jesus,
thank you for the things
which fill us with joy,
and the times when we feel
like jumping for joy.
On the days
when we don't feel like that
help us to know that you still
hold us in your hand
and give us peace and comfort
until the joy returns.

Amen.

