

Prior learning: children should be familiar with the Easter story, including Jesus dying on the cross, and then rising again.

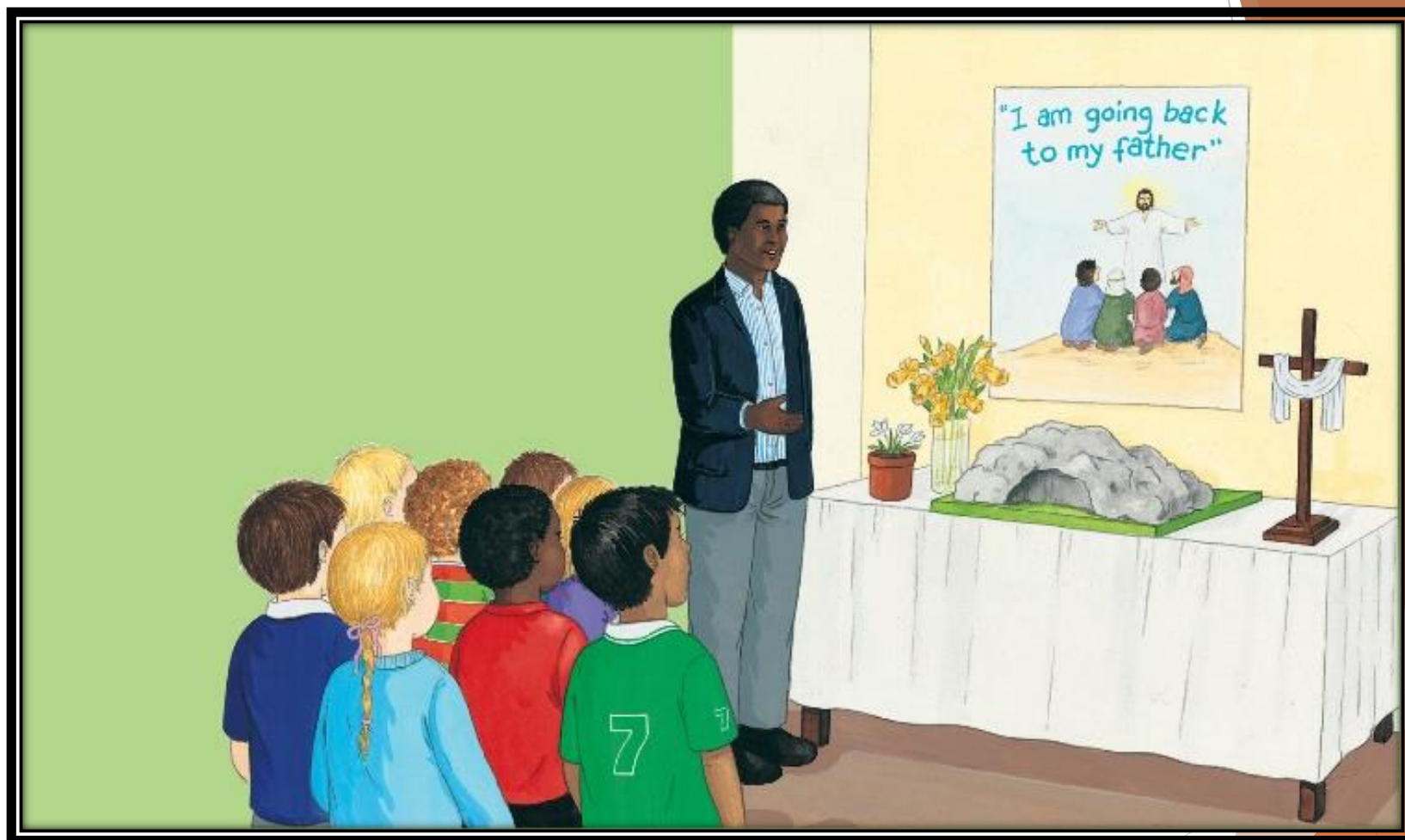
This video is a good way to remind yourself! I'm revealing my age here but this used to be on TV when I was young. Now I'm not Christian, but I used to enjoy watching it. I hope you enjoy it as well, and remind yourself of the Easter story (the story behind the eggs and food) whether or not you choose to believe it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PSgoPdKQFQ>

LO: read and act out the Ascension story and talk about the promise Christians believe he made.

- ▶ **After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples and made a promise to them.**
- ▶ **What was it?**





What does John say that Jesus promised to do?

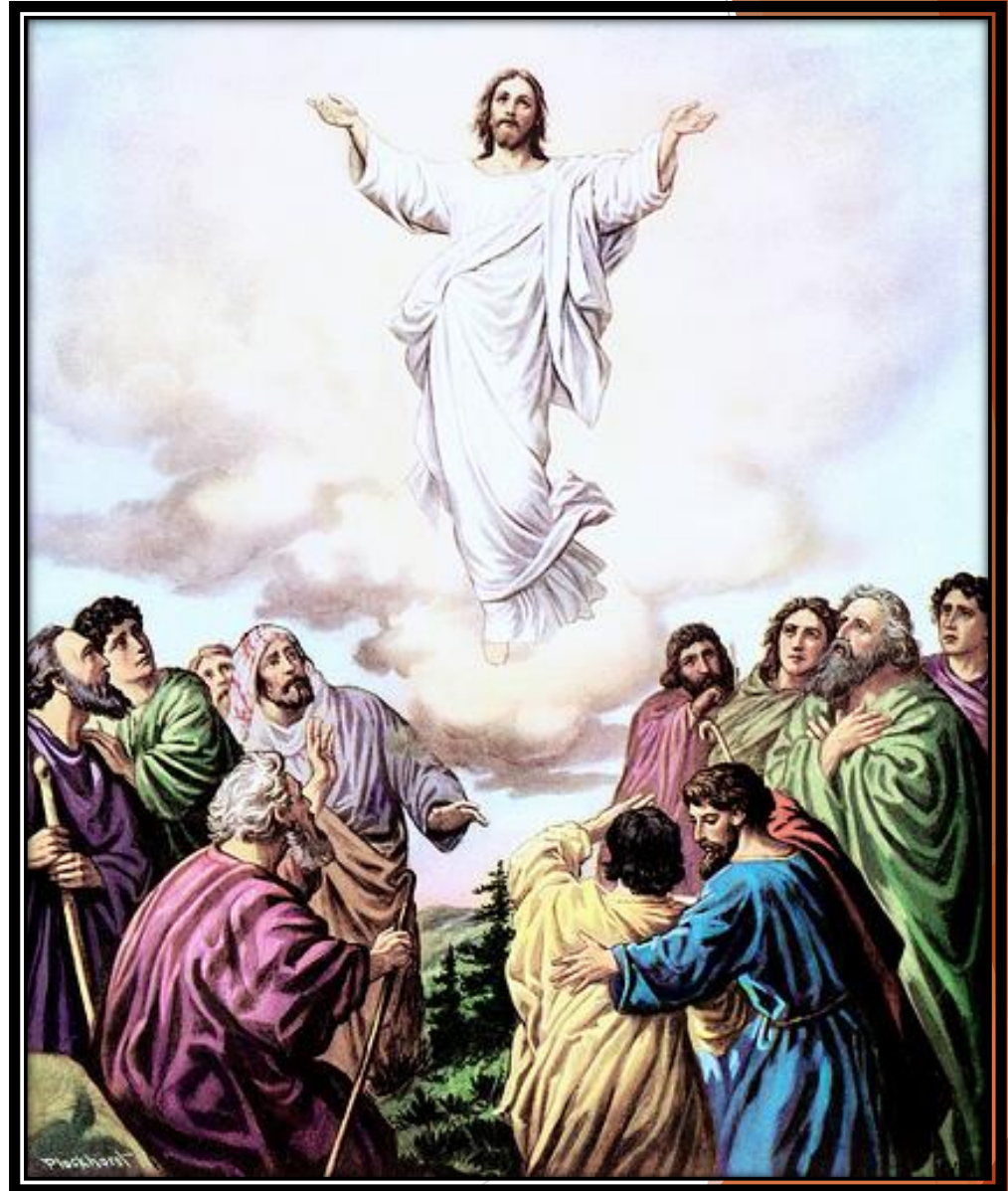
▶ John

- ▶ ³³ Little children, I am only with you for a little while. You will look for me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'
- ▶ ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.
- ▶ ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you and I will send a guide to help you."



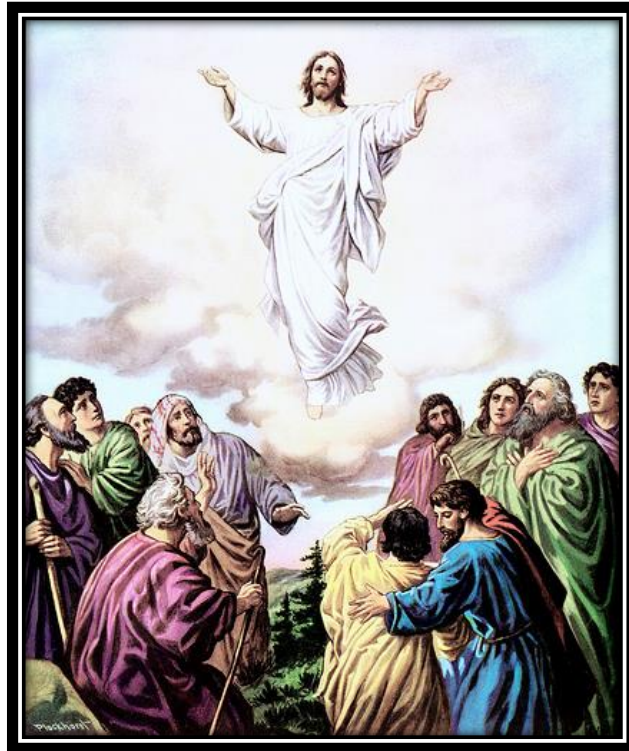
SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- ▶ Why were Jesus' friends sad again?
- ▶ What was the promise Jesus gave to his friends?
- ▶ How did this make them feel?



Activities to do

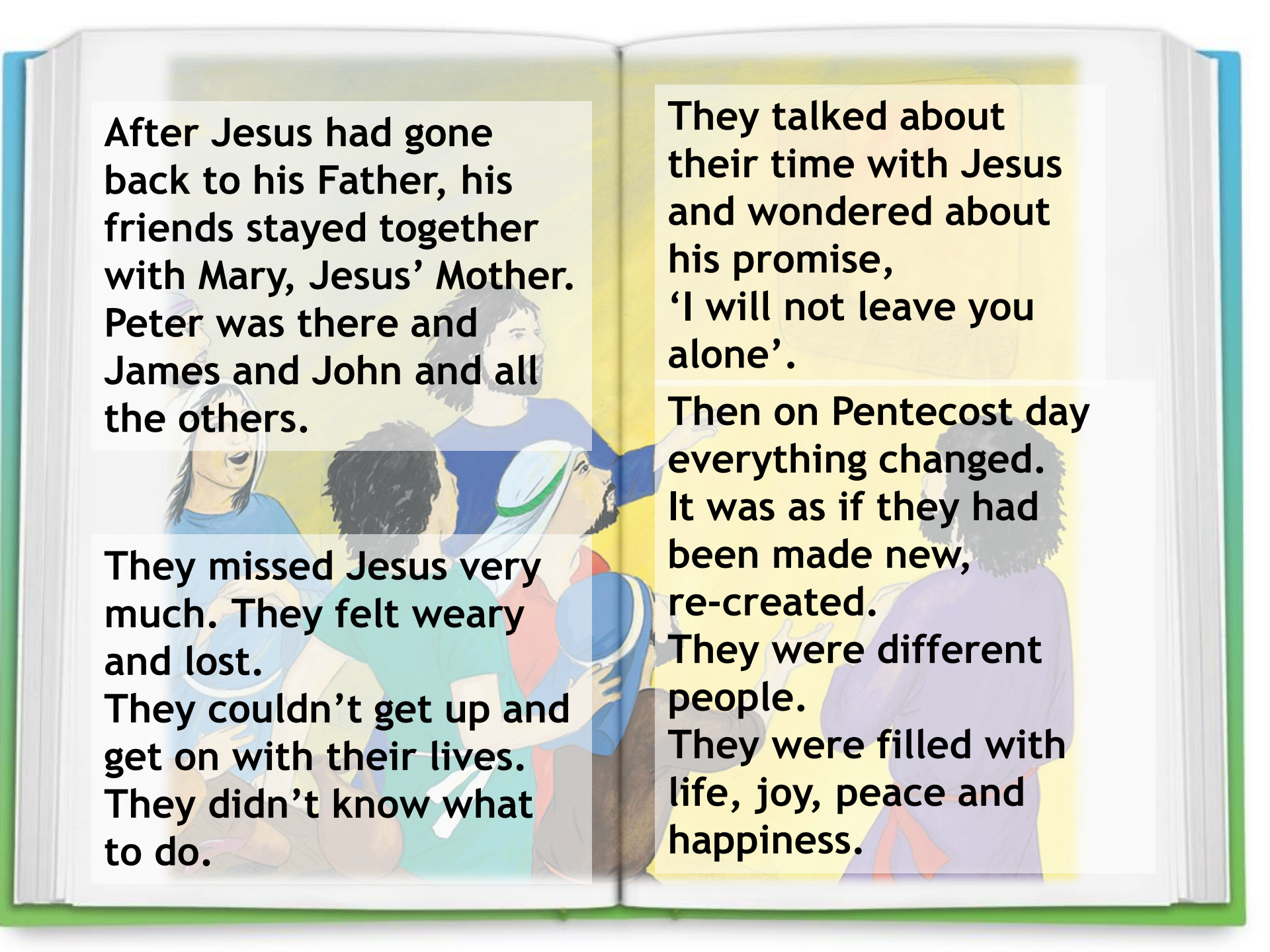
- ▶ Create a collage or a picture of Jesus talking to his friends; add speech bubbles and copy the words of Jesus' promise.



LO: retell the Pentecost story and talk about why Christians celebrate it.

Read this story from the bible





After Jesus had gone back to his Father, his friends stayed together with Mary, Jesus' Mother. Peter was there and James and John and all the others.

They missed Jesus very much. They felt weary and lost. They couldn't get up and get on with their lives. They didn't know what to do.

They talked about their time with Jesus and wondered about his promise, 'I will not leave you alone'.

Then on Pentecost day everything changed. It was as if they had been made new, re-created.

They were different people. They were filled with life, joy, peace and happiness.

Story summary

The disciples were afraid when Jesus had left them and they had gathered together in one room. They stayed like this for days and days.

Suddenly, the room was filled with a bright light and flames of fire. The Holy Spirit had come to them.

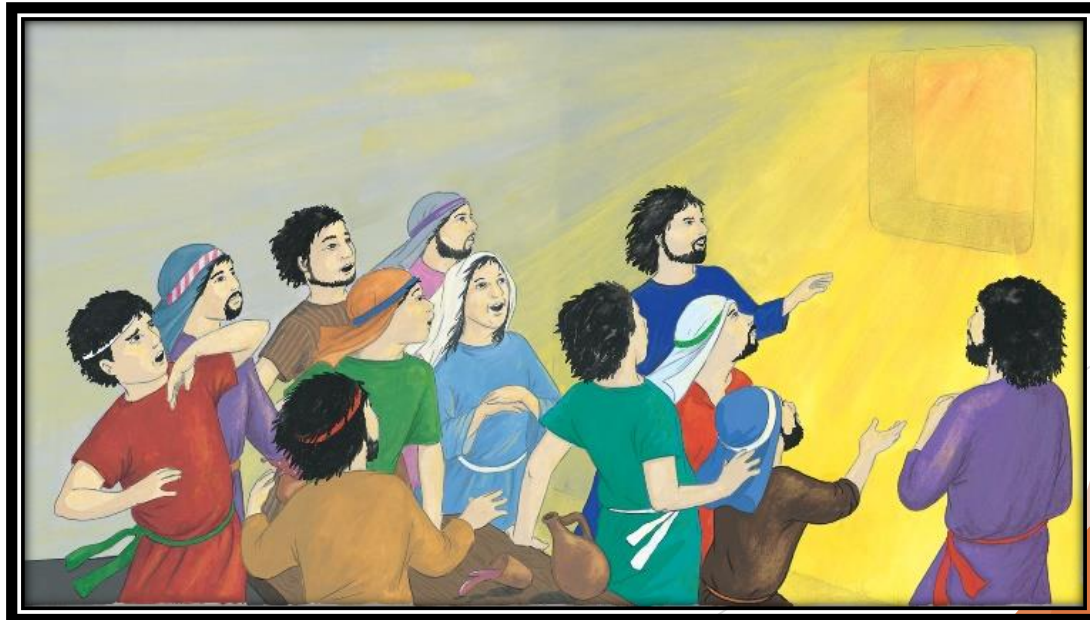
The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost changed them because it showed that Jesus kept his promise.

The Holy Spirit helps and guides Christians in their lives just as happened to the disciples.

The Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples like tongues of fire, giving them strength and courage.

Christians believe that Jesus' disciples went out to share the good news that Jesus had told the truth, he had sent the Holy Spirit which means he would also come again in the future.

On Pentecost Sunday Christians celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. They remember that Jesus keeps his promise to send the Holy Spirit to help his friends.





Questions - look back at the story to find the answers.

- ▶ Who were the people there in the room when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost?
- ▶ What were the signs of the Holy Spirit? What did it look like?
- ▶ How do you think the disciples felt when they saw the Holy Spirit?
- ▶ Why do you think they felt like that?
- ▶ What was the good news the friends shared?



Activities to do

- ▶ **Retell the Pentecost story when the Holy Spirit came**
 - ▶ Use red and yellow material/tissue paper to show the flames representing the Holy Spirit.
 - ▶ Take photos!
- ▶ **Create a stained glass window on a template in the shape of a dove.**
- ▶ **Talk about your own feelings and experiences.**
 - ▶ Make a feelings box/bag by writing a range of feelings words on pieces of card and putting them in the box. Pick out words and discuss if anyone has ever felt that 'feeling' - when and why you felt it.