

Lesson #2-31*Jesus Commissions the Disciples*

Acts 1:1-14

**Key Verse:**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

The Point:

Jesus sends us to spread the good news everywhere!

Unit Theme (April 19—May 10)

God Works through Us

We Lift Our Praises to You

Praise with balloons.

You will need:

- † Balloons
- † Permanent markers
- † Optional: paper, scissors, tape

Preparation:

1. If balloons are not available, or if any participants have a latex allergy, cut ovals out of paper and adapt the activity accordingly.
2. Blow up and tie one balloon for each participant.

Instructions:

1. Read the story of Jesus' ascension in Acts 1:1-11 from either a Bible or story Bible.
2. **We have heard the story about Jesus' resurrection and ascension. He was raised from the dead, and then he was raised up to heaven to live with God there. We are going to give God our thanks and praise for these**

wonderful things that happened.

3. Give each participant a balloon. **Please think of a part of the story that you like or something you are thankful for. When you think of it, write a few words about it on your balloon.**
4. If necessary, write the words for the participant.
5. When everyone finishes, they can all stand up and hold their balloons in their hands. **In our story, what two things happened that made Jesus rise up?** [*Rising from the dead, rising to the clouds.*]
6. **Let's make our words of praise and love for God rise up toward God as well.** Have everyone share what is on their balloon and throw it up as high as they can.
7. Demonstrate how to rub balloons to create static electricity. Then, stick the balloons on the wall as high as possible using the static electricity.
8. After all the balloons are stuck to the wall or ceiling say: **God, we lift up our prayers to you!**