



Catechesis At Home – The Lord Worked With Them

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – Year B

DISCUSSION

The Ascension of the Lord is a Solemnity that we celebrate each year 40 days after Easter. Saint Luke explains in the Acts of the Apostles that Jesus spent 40 days with His disciples after His Resurrection, teaching and instructing them for their future mission. Then, he rose bodily into heaven, leaving them somewhat dumbfounded.

St. Mark gives a brief description of the event with Jesus' instructions to the disciples to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." And after the ascension, Mark tells us that the disciples "went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs."

We are called to this same mission – to preach the gospel and allow the Lord to work with us. Did you know that our Liturgy is a "public work"? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, "In Christian tradition it means the participation of the People of God in "the work of God." Through the liturgy Christ, our redeemer and high priest, continues the work of our redemption in, with, and through his Church." ([CCC 1609](#))

ACTIVITY

Let's look at how Jesus works with us. Discuss with your family what sort of signs of Christ's work is evident in your lives. Do you see how God works in and through each of us? In what ways? Maybe it's how we share our gifts with each other – being helpful, joyful, or compassionate. How do we share the gospel with family and those outside our family? Parents, you may be able to tell a story of how you share the gospel at work or with your friends. Encourage your children to look at the different ways they share Jesus' love with others. It may be overt – actually speaking with someone about Jesus and our relationship with Him. Or, it may be through our actions and words of encouragement and compassion.

Does your family have a particular charity you participate in together? Now is a good time to start this if not. Find a way to share the gospel through your parish or community programs. Maybe it's a Meals on Wheels ministry, or working in the Catholic Charities or St. Vincent de Paul store, or taking Communion to the homebound, or mowing the lawn of elderly parishioners or neighbors. Maybe it is volunteering your talents and skills for Holy Owned and Operated? However you serve, be sure to offer your service in the Lord's name; it will bring grace upon grace to you and your loved ones and the ones you serve!

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