
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 9, Bible Truth 6

The Case of the Fluffy Farewell *Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 23-24; John 19-20; Acts 1*

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. Jerusalem was buzzing with incredible news. Three days earlier, on Friday, Jesus had died on a cross and was buried in a cave-grave. But now, people were saying Jesus had risen from the dead! Could it really be true?
2. The soldiers guarding Jesus' tomb said it was. "There was an earthquake and an angel who rolled away the stone. He said, 'Jesus isn't here! He's risen from the dead. Come see the empty tomb,'" they told Jesus' enemies.
3. Jesus' enemies didn't like this at all. "Shh! Don't tell anyone!" they replied. "Here's lots of money. Keep quiet! Tell everyone that Jesus' disciples stole His body," they ordered the soldiers. "No one must know the truth!"
4. But this news couldn't be kept quiet. Jesus WAS alive and He was appearing to His followers! He appeared to the women at the empty tomb, then to two men walking to Emmaus, and later to His disciples in Jerusalem, just on that Sunday.
5. For forty days, Jesus kept meeting with His followers --one time, to over five hundred of them at once! Jesus still had so much to show them in Bible --all that was written about Him and God's good plans still to come. But He had so little time to do it. Jesus was going home to heaven!
6. On Day Forty, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives to say goodbye. "I'm going to heaven to rule now, but I'm not leaving you alone," He told them. "I'm sending you the Holy Spirit to live in your hearts. He'll give you power to tell the world the gospel, that they might be saved."
7. Then up, up, up went Jesus into the sky and through the clouds. Jesus' friends stood there staring up, watching Him rise until they could no longer see Him.
8. "Would Jesus come back? When? How?" Jesus' friends wondered, as they kept looking up. God sent two angels to answer them. "This Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will come back one day, in the same way you saw him go up to heaven," they promised.
9. How sad Jesus' friends must have been when Jesus left! There's nothing so wonderful as being close to Jesus. BUT, they were very, VERY happy that the Holy Spirit would come live in their hearts soon. And that one day, they would get to live face-to-face with Jesus forever.
10. But how loudly the millions of angels must have sung, as Jesus entered heaven! Jesus had saved God's people! And how Jesus must have enjoyed once more the full, Perfect Wonderfulness of fellowship with God, His Father, and God, the Holy Spirit He had known in heaven before.
11. Where is Jesus now? He is still in heaven, ruling as the great King of Kings over everything in heaven and earth. He's praying and caring for God's people. He's working out God's great plans for this world, until the day when He'll come back through the clouds and down to earth again.
12. That will be a great day for God's people. They'll live together with Jesus in the new heaven and earth, where there will never be sin, sickness, sadness or death. And they'll see Jesus in all His glory and enjoy as much of the Perfect Wonderfulness of God as they possibly can.