



Seventh Sunday After Easter

John 17:6-19

Jesus reports to God. Jesus has done the work given him to do. A little band of believers is trained to do the work Jesus has given them to do. Jesus lifts these people up to God. As he does so, we, and our ministries are also lifted up. We are not immune to pain, suffering, or even defeat. But God offers protection from the evil one, in all we do. And, in all we do, Jesus asks, “that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.”

GOD’S MISSION, OUR MISSION

The Story

This past week we celebrated what we call the Ascension. It is the time Jesus went back to be with God and his friends were now ready to do the work he had given them to do. Now that Jesus is with God, he is right here with us. And he is with everyone, everywhere. He had to go back to be with God so he could do this. Before he left to go be with God, he had a long conversation with God. He told God that he was sending his friends out to do God’s work. His friends taught their friends, who taught their friends, and today we are learning together.

Reflection Questions:

- Who is the “them” Jesus is talking to God about?**
- What happens when we are “protected from the evil one?”**
- What does “They do not belong to the world” mean? them in the truth” mean?**

ACTIVITIES

- 1. In your journal, write letter to your future self.**
- 2. Decorate your ceiling with neon stars to see God’s light at night.**
- 3. Create the “Jesus Rising” craft or color the attached page.**
- 4. Compose a prayer about asking for God and Christ’s protection.**