

Kids' Chronicle

Jesus tells the Apostles he must go

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Jesus was sitting with his disciples under the shade of a tree. They had been traveling together, and had stopped to rest before going any farther.

"I must leave you soon," he said to them.

They all leaned forward, as if they did not hear Jesus correctly.

"I knew this even before we became friends, but I did not say anything, because I have been here with you," Jesus continued. "I must return to the place I came from."

"Why?" one of them asked.

"I know you are upset by what I have just told you, but do not be discouraged," Jesus replied. "It will be better for you that I go, than if I stay. If I do not leave you, the Advocate will not come. But if I return to the one who sent me to earth, I will send the Advocate to be with you."

"Who is this Advocate?" James asked.

"He will follow after me, and he will reveal sin and righteousness," Jesus said. "The sin is the failure of the world to believe in me."

"Lord, we have always believed in you," Peter declared. "What else will the Advocate tell us?"

Jesus held out his hand, as if to discourage his friends from asking anymore questions.

"There is so much more I would like to tell you, but you would not understand,"



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

Jesus explained. "But when the Advocate, who is a spirit of truth, comes, he will enable you to understand much more than you do now. But I will tell you this much. The spirit will deliver the message he has been given, and he will tell you of things that are yet to come. In a short time you will not see me, yet in another short time you will see me again."

The disciples looked at each other. "What does he mean? See him, then not see him?"

Jesus smiled affectionately at his friends. He knew their thoughts.

"You ask each other what I mean," he said. "You will be heartbroken, but then your sorrow will turn into rejoicing. Think about a woman about to give birth. For a while, she is in pain, but when her child is born, she knows only the joy of

holding a newborn baby. The pain is forgotten. I promise you I will see you again, and your hearts will be filled with joy that will never leave you. The Father loves you, and I must leave this world and go back to him."

"Lord," Philip said, "now we understand, and we believe."

"You will have times of hardship," Jesus warned, "but my peace will always be with you."

READ MORE ABOUT IT: John 16

Q&A

1. Who would come to Earth after Jesus returned to heaven?
2. What did Jesus say would happen to his disciples' sorrow?

Bible Trivia

What term do we often use to refer to the unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit?

Send your Answer to: *Catholic Courier Bible Trivia*, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by June 4, 1998. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

Last month's winner was **Elisabeth Lyautey**, a third-grade student at Sacred Heart Cathedral School, Rochester. She correctly answered that St. Paul was originally known as Saul.

Puzzle

Answers on page 6.

Use the answer key to learn Jesus' message to his disciples.
1 2-3-4-5 6-7-8-9 10-11 12-13-14-15 16-17-18. (John 16:12)

Key:	5=E	6=M	3=A
1=I	10=T	13=E	17=O
16=Y	7=U	2=H	4=V
18=U	12=T	14=L	11=O
15=L	9=H	8=C	

Bible Accent

Jesus promised his disciples the Holy Spirit that would come after he had left them. He told them to wait with patience and prayer.

The spirit's purpose would be to give the disciples, and all Christians, the strength to live according to the example Jesus had given them. The spirit is also able to understand the will of God, the father, and therefore reveal it to his people.

The word "spirit" comes from the ancient Hebrew word for wind or air. Although we are not able to see the Holy Spirit, we know he is real because he lives inside of us. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven "in bodily form like a dove." (Luke 4:22) The spirit filled the Christians on the day of Pentecost after Jesus had ascended into heaven.

St. Augustine

St. Augustine was the prior of the monastery of St. Andrew in Rome. In 596 Pope St. Gregory the Great sent him with some of the other monks on a missionary journey to England.

Although the men were at first afraid of the uncivilized Anglo-Saxons, they were welcomed into the territory by King Ethelbert of Kent. Within a year, the king was baptized and united with Augustine to write laws for his people to live by. Because of his work in the British Isles, St. Augustine was consecrated bishop of the English.

St. Augustine devoted the rest of his life to bringing peace and Christianity to Britain. He met with the British clerics and tried to persuade them to work together. He was named the first archbishop of Canterbury, and was well-known for his patience and understanding of other people's beliefs and traditions. We honor him on May 27.

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