

Why Jesus Went Away

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[0:00] 2nd February. Why Jesus went away. Jesus said, Nevertheless, I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away.

John 16 verse 7. These words must have sounded both strange and sad for the followers of Jesus. They felt really lost when he was not around with them. How on earth were they going to get on without him?

And anyway, where was he going? Jesus answered that question and explained why he was going away. After his crucifixion and his resurrection, Jesus went back to heaven where he had come to be our saviour.

Acts 1, 9-11. From heaven, Jesus then sent the Holy Spirit to be the helper, the guide and the friend of all who put their trust in Jesus for their salvation. Indeed, without the help of the Holy Spirit, we would not even want to trust in Jesus.

Once we are trusting in Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our hearts to help us day by day to follow Christ. The Spirit is the third person in the Trinity.

[1:04] So we should be humbly grateful to God to have this great helper in our hearts. As Jesus said, another like himself. So now that Jesus has gone to heaven, we have the Holy Spirit with us, whoever we are or wherever we are, if we are Christians.

And what is Jesus doing now? He is preparing a place for us in heaven and one day he will come to take us there. And a prayer. Gracious God, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit who has come to be with us and in us to lead us onwards to heaven.

Amen. . Thank you.