

## Ascension B

Today we celebrate the Ascension – I want you to think about how we got here

At the Annunciation GOD became a human being in Mary's womb

At the Nativity GOD is born – He becomes a person like us

GOD walks the earth as a man – just like us

GOD, in this humanity, DIES and RISES

This Resurrected God-man appears – shows them his body – his human body now risen

Then this human risen body Ascends – physically rises up – returns to heavenly home

OUR HUMANITY RISES to HEAVEN

This is our destiny

As Jesus ascends to His father *His last words are kind of important* What does He say?

1. (promise) You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you

2. (command) **Then** go and be my witnesses to the ends of the world

HE tells them to GO ASCENDS HOLY SPIRIT COMES – **THEN THEY GO**

AND

His mission becomes OUR mission

WE become instruments by which salvation will be proclaimed

The gospel says the disciples went and preached everywhere AND

The Lord continued to work thru them and confirmed their message with miracles

With the HS all things are possible

This small band proclaimed the Christian message *to the whole world*

CHRIST WORKED THRU THEM & HE STILL DOES

In the Bahamas track & field is really popular

What happens during Ascension is like a relay race

Jesus passes the baton on to Peter James and John

Peter, James, and John pass it on to Linus, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian

And it goes on, and on, and on – until it is passed to us

(Let me tell you something)

Proclaiming Jesus is more than preaching.

Proclaiming the Gospel means making Christ a reality to the world

**People do not become Christians thru the words of Christianity**

**People become Christians thru the presence of Jesus Christ**

**People become Christians because they see love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control – IN US**

**And satan doesn't want that to happen.**

So he tempts us, he instills fear in us, he makes us doubt our faith.

Evil is always going to wage war on Christianity

Jesus defeated sin – Jesus has risen – AND Ascended.

Now He intercedes for us – that we may overcome temptation

The Lord fights for us AND He fights with us

He empowers us to be His witnesses to everyone we meet.

He sent the Holy Spirit so we can preach with our lives –

To choose light over darkness

To choose life over death

To tell the whole world what we believe