

# I'll Be Back!

## Theme

Jesus will return and take us home to heaven.

## Object

None needed, but you could use a book such as "We're Moving" published by the WeWrite Corporation or "Let's Make a Move" by Beverly Roman. You can probably find a book at your public library or call a local moving company and see if they might have a free brochure or booklet.

## Scripture

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. John 14:26,28 (NIV)

Has your family ever moved from one city to another? Sometimes, a move to a new city can be very difficult for a family. It can be especially hard for children. There have been many books written to help children adjust to moving to a new city.

This morning I want to tell you a story about a boy named Andrew. Andrew's dad had a new job and the family was moving to a new city. Since it was so close to the end of the school year, it was decided that it would be better if Andrew stayed behind to finish the school year.

It was hard for Andrew to be left behind, but his father explained that they would go ahead and find a place for them to live and make sure that it was ready when it was

time for him to join them. He told Andrew that there was nothing to worry about because he would be staying with some very good friends who would look after him and make sure that he had everything he needed.

During the time that Andrew was separated from his parents, his parents called to talk to him on the phone every day. They told him about their new home and how much he was going to like it. It helped Andrew a lot to talk to his parents and to know that they would soon come for him and he would join them in his new home.

That is very much like what Jesus has done for us. Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with his Father, he said that he was going to heaven to prepare a place for us. He promised that he would come again and take us to our new home in heaven.

When Jesus went to heaven, he didn't leave us alone. He asked his Father to send the Holy Spirit to watch over us, teach us, and remind us of all that he has told us in the Bible. Not only that, we can talk to Jesus every day in prayer. In fact, I would like to talk to him right now.

Dear Jesus, we are thankful that you are in heaven preparing a home for us. We thank you for the Holy Spirit who guides us and comforts us each day and we look forward to the day when we join you in our new home in heaven. Amen.

Sermon Title: "He'll Be Back"

Scripture Reading: John 14:23-29

### HIDE AND SEEK:

Have the children spread out in a designated area and choose one child to be IT. The children will quickly hide and IT will begin finding the hiding children. Each time a child is found, the IT will bring them to his/her "hide out" and say - "I am coming back for you" and will continue to find all the players. When all the players have been found, the IT will bring them all OUT of the "hide out" and back to a circle called HOME. If time allows, let other children seek for the hiding children.

### GOING AWAY - COMING BACK PLAY TIME:

All the children will stand on one line. The teacher will say GO AWAY and the children will quickly begin to run AWAY from the teacher until COME BACK is shouted and then the children will quickly turn around and COME BACK, until the teacher shouts -- GO AWAY and children will stop and turn around and GO AWAY! Continue to play until children seem worn out and ready to sit and listen to our Bible story today.

### JESUS WILL RETURN CLOCK:

Provide the children with a paper plate to color and a long and a short clock hand, and a fastener brad to hook the hands into the middle of the plate. Have children write a colorful question mark at the place where each number would usually go on the clock. Children can write JESUS WILL RETURN on their clocks. Older children could be encouraged to draw a picture of a mansion, etc on the face of their clock as well.

### HEAVENLY MOBILE:

The children will draw and cut out clouds from poster board and add wisps of cotton around the outer edges. They will then write words from today's lesson on each cloud. Hang the "clouds of heaven" from a decorated hanger (or a colored plastic hanger), as a Heavenly Mobile to hang around the classroom.

### HEAVENLY BIBLE VERSE:

Each child will draw and cut out a large round or scalloped edged CLOUD. Add the wisps of cotton on the very edges.. Provide the children with squares and rectangles of many different colors of construction paper or other textures of papers for children to "build" a mansion on their large "heavenly cloud". When they are satisfied with their mansion "building", children can write today's Bible verse on the cloud to memorize. Every time they say the verse, give them a small sticker star to place on their cloud!

## PRAYER BOOKLET:

Children can be given several cloud shaped pieces of paper to staple or tie together with a piece of yarn to make into a book. PRAYER can be written with colorful markers on the cover and each cloud page can have prayers or words from today's lesson to remind children to thank Jesus for letting us talk to Him and to the Holy Spirit for guiding and comforting us and to God the Father for not leaving us alone.

## MANSION BUILDING:

Provide each child with a large piece of construction paper and many small squares, rectangles and triangles of colorful paper. Children can write words from today's lesson as well as words to describe heaven on each piece of the shapes. Then have children glue the shapes together on the construction paper to form a mansion and children can write JESUS WILL RETURN TO TAKE ME TO MY MANSION!

## PRAYER WHEEL:

Children will need a long thin dowel or stick and a paper plate or circle made from card stock or poster board. Cut into the circle/plate about 3 inches deep and about every 2-3 inches apart. The children can put a word/words on each cut slit for a prayer to thank Jesus for various things that the children choose, such as for Jesus to talk to, or the Holy Spirit to comfort or guide, for the Bible to read until Jesus returns, and for our home in heaven, etc. Tape the stick to the prayer wheel with heavy postage tape or duct tape.

## SING A SONG:

I've Got Peace Like a River; He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

## SHARE A SNACK:

Graham crackers and chocolate or other colored frostings. Children can BUILD an edible "mansion" to enjoy together, with various colored frosting between the layers.

Song: "Peace Like a River"

[Words and Music \(pdf\)](#)

[MP3 Piano Accompaniment](#) - Right click and save to your computer.

Song: "He's Got the Whole Word in His Hands"

[Words and Music \(pdf\)](#)

[MP3 Piano Accompaniment](#) - Right click and save to your computer.

# He'll Be Back

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. John 14:28-29 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 14:23-29



G D I B F P E A C E R Q S A W  
P S S B E S O Q U X W F Y H S  
F V O G A L T X C A W A Y J J  
M P B R G O I A K A K J C G H  
B W E Q U X C E U B I S N R A  
A A Y B O Y K P V G L A D E A  
R A C S G Q P U P E C Y X A M  
U T L K D I A N Q T O B G T O  
A K J U L O V E U E M P G E Z  
Z F U R C O M N A A I X L R R  
F M R W G Q I J W C N Z R E T  
M O A A D O H O Z H G T H R F  
S Z S X I D I N Y Y E T A J T  
R U M V K D B N I J A E U E J  
O M H O M E H T G F H L Y A N

AWAY  
HEART  
PEACE

GREATER  
TEACH  
GLAD

AFRAID  
FATHER  
COMING

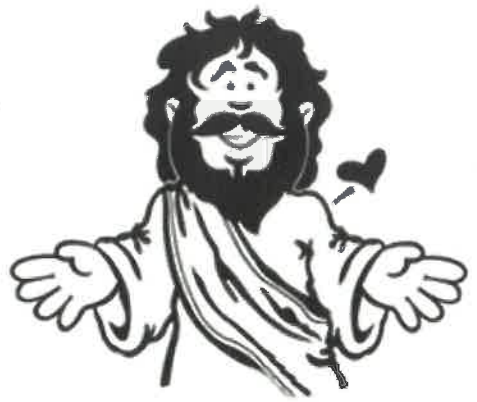
BELIEVE  
OBEY  
GOING

HOME  
BACK  
LOVE

# He'll Be Back

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. John 14:28-29 (NIV)

Enter the missing vowels to complete the words from the Bible verse shown above.



1. L \_ V \_ D \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_ W \_ Y \_\_\_\_\_

3. T \_ LD \_\_\_\_\_

4. G \_ \_ NG \_\_\_\_\_

5. C \_ M \_ NG \_\_\_\_\_

6. F \_ TH \_ R \_\_\_\_\_

7. GL \_ D \_\_\_\_\_

8. B \_ L \_ \_ V \_ \_\_\_\_\_

9. B \_ CK \_\_\_\_\_

10. H \_ \_ RD \_\_\_\_\_

BELIEVE  
COMING

GLAD  
BACK

GOING  
TOLD

AWAY  
LOVED

HEARD  
FATHER

# He'll Be Back

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. John 14:28-29 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 2-1-3-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-1-20-8-5-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-15-12-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-15-9-14-7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-15-22-5-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-15-13-9-14-7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-23-1-25 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-5-12-9-5-22-5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8-5-1-18-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-12-1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

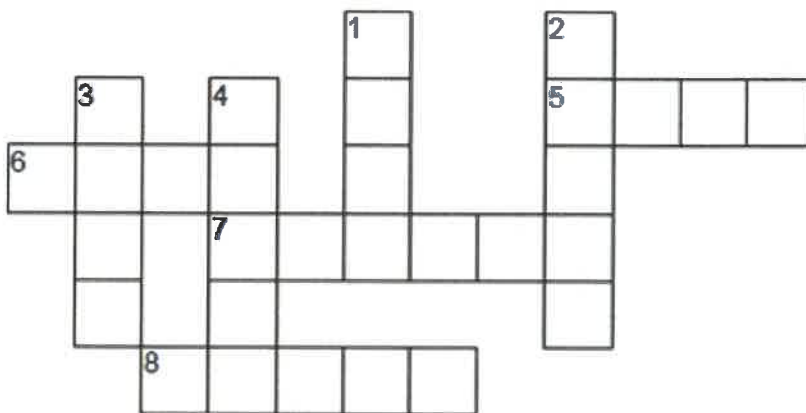
FATHER	GLAD	TOLD	GOING	LOVED
BELIEVE	BACK	HEARD	COMING	AWAY



# He'll Be Back

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. John 14:28-29 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on John 14:23-29



## ACROSS

5. To carry out or fulfill a command, order, or instructions
6. A place where someone lives; a residence.
7. Have a feeling of fear
8. To give instruction to others

## DOWN

1. To receive a sound using your ears
2. Parts of a language which can be spoken or written
3. To have a deep feeling of affection toward a person
4. A time when people live and work together happily without violence

AFRAID  
LOVE

TEACH  
WORDS

PEACE  
HOME

HEAR  
OBEY





Yes, Jesus Keeps His Promises

From Thru-the-Bible Coloring Pages for Ages 4-8. © 1986,1988 Standard Publishing.

Used by permission. Reproducible Coloring Books may be purchased from

Standard Publishing, [www.standardpub.com](http://www.standardpub.com), 1-800-543-1301.