

**AWOL**

- Disappear straight after the first hymn - while the hymn is still listed on the data projector!
  - promise that someone will come along in a moment to lead the rest of the service...
  - *leave for a minute - a decently long amount of time!!*
- After I come back in - what did it feel like?
  - to be left, deserted, without a leader, not sure what was happening and what might happen next?
  - put up "reactions" faces: sad, scared, puzzled, excited!
  - but I promised I would provide
- *Prayer...*

## Part 1: Promises

- Need a job done - need someone to make a jam sandwich!
  - you get to eat it if you'd like - and no, there aren't going to be any odd tasting ingredients!!
- Give plate and knife, but nothing else:
  - can't make it... why not?
  - *what do they need?*
  - *promise* that some bread will be delivered to them
  - this is similar to what Jesus did - he gave his friends a job to do that they couldn't complete - telling the world about him
  - but he also promised that he would send all that they would need to enable them to tell others - the Holy Spirit!
  - *(at this point bread should be brought up, unannounced by Colin)*
- Right, now we've got bread - lets make that sandwich...
  - *still can't make it... why not?*
  - *promise* that the rest of what we need - butter, jam... delivered to them
  - again there are similarities to what happened when Jesus gave his disciples the job of being witnesses, telling others about him
  - how would they know that his promise of the Holy Spirit was reliable?
  - because he'd kept his last promise!
  - he'd risen from death, just as he'd said he would - they had reason to trust him
  - *(at this point butter and jam should be brought up, unannounced by Colin)*
- *(Allow sandwich to be made while talking through the next bit...)*
- Did it make it easier to believe the second promise, knowing I'd kept the first one?
  - it should have!
  - and that was Jesus' intention for the disciples when he promised them the Holy Spirit - they'd know his promise was worth waiting for, and would come to pass, because of their past experience with his promises!
- How's the sandwich?
  - good - once we had all the right ingredients!!
  - God wants us to live for him, to work for him, to tell others about him
  - and he's given us everything we could possibly need to do a great job of it - because he will be with us, indeed in us, by the Holy Spirit - giving us power, truth, gifts, character...

## Part 2: Position - Going Up!

- Already looked at how Jesus **promised** to send the Holy Spirit.
  - and at one reason for confidence that he'd keep his promise was in him previously keeping his promises...
- *But there's another reason for confidence that Jesus keeps his promises - this particular promise and all the others the Bible contains*

### Location implying position

- **organ stool** - play the organ
- **minister's seat** - lead the service
- **head-teacher's office** - in charge of the school
- **Recap on story** - where does this fit in - **pictures** - Jesus overview, then pictures of ascension
  - (*"where is Jesus?" slide*)
  - position in heaven, seated at God's right hand - **implies he is God's son!**
  - proof of **right to rule** and **position to help**
  - if he says his Father will send the Holy Spirit, then that is what will happen!
  - if he says we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes, then we will receive power...

### Coming back!

- Talk round folks' experience of anticipating a visit:
  - granny coming for birthday / Christmas / visit
  - mum or dad coming back from being away...
  - friends coming to visit...
- Eager anticipation!
  - pointless if not sure they are coming!

### Conclusion

- **Confidence!**