

December 6

Now and Later®

John
16:28,
14:3

“I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father... (14:3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” NIV

Now and Later candies have the unique ability to be yummy now and cause trouble later. I know lots of people who have had teeth pulled out or fillings lost because this candy is so sticky and hard to eat. But the intense flavors are great and last and last.

Jesus has always been with God. In John Chapter 1 the Bible explains that while he was always with God, God sent him to earth as a man. The disciples were people who spent time with him and learned from and loved him for the time that he was on earth, but he knew he wasn't meant to be here forever. Over and over he encouraged the disciples to listen and understand what he was teaching. When they realized what was going to happen they were broken hearted, but Jesus comforted them by reminding them that he was going to come back for them. Since they believed he was God's son and loved him, he would return for them and take them to Heaven with him. For the disciples Jesus really was here Now and Later!

We didn't get to see Jesus as a person, but we can know him. Like the taste of that candy lingers in our mouths all afternoon, the message that Jesus left has been changing lives for 2000 years. He says he is coming back for us and we can believe him. Just like for the disciples Jesus is with us now and later.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus the first time, and for his return. Help us to tell others so they can be watching too. Amen

