

SERIES : EASTER

THE ZONE



Week 4 - Jesus appears to Thomas - Jesus is always with us even when we don't see Him.

Virtue: It is all about Jesus

Memory Verse: John 3:16

“For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.”

Lesson
Time

It can sometimes be difficult to understand and explain how we know that God's word is true. Kids and adults all wrestle with doubts. This message uses the story of Thomas to remind children that if we believe in Jesus we are called blessed. We cannot always know things beyond a shadow of a doubt, but through faith and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we trust the reality of the Bible. The world sometimes tells us to be skeptical and hunt for evidence to support whatever we might consider. There are plenty of things that are difficult to verify, especially in the life of a Christian and the story of the resurrection. But we know from the Bible that Jesus rose, and that He appeared to His disciples. He also told them that those who believe without sight are especially blessed.

Materials: Paper bags or boxes; items to show (stuffed animal, ball, flower,) Good morning! Today we are going to talk about trust, and how we can know that something is true...what if I told you that I have climbed Mount Everest? Would you believe that? Why or why not? What if I told you I brushed my teeth this morning? That might be a little more believable, but you still didn't watch me do it, so you would have to take my word for it. Well, look at this bag. Would you believe me if I told you I had a ball in this bag? How do you know? Have one child come up to look. (child's name), is it a ball? Ask other children do you believe her? Do you believe me? Hold it up. Now we can know for sure, right? Okay, well, here's another bag. What do you think is in here? This time, I want (another child) to come up, but you can't look at the inside of the bag. You may only touch the item. What do you think it is? Can you know for sure without seeing it? It might be a little tricky. Would you believe him/her if you didn't see what this was? Well, in our gospel lesson today, someone had a hard time believing what others tried to tell him. The story of Jesus appearing to his disciples after Easter is so exciting. Imagine watching Him die, and feeling so upset, and then seeing Him alive again! But one disciple missed out. He wasn't there in the room when Jesus came, and didn't see him personally. He did not believe what his friends told him about witnessing Jesus, and promised that he wouldn't believe it until he saw Jesus face to face. When Jesus did show up later, and showed His wounds, Thomas must have felt embarrassed. But the neat thing is that Jesus said "blessed are those who have not seen, and yet still believe."

Activity: Coloring Page

Prayer:

Thank you Jesus that you gave us the gift of Your Word the Bible and Your Spirit the Holy Spirit to help us have faith and believe in You and know that You are our only on true God, You are our Friend and our Father in Heaven. Thank you that you bless us because we believe. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen!

