

Sunday School Lesson

April 19, 2020

3rd grade through high school

John 20: 19-31

Faith is Believing Without Seeing

The Story of Thomas



Materials needed:

Bible or Spark Story Bible

Crayons or markers

One piece of construction paper any color

Child scissor

Journal

1. Today we continue learning about the amazing story of Easter! Can you think of something amazing that happened to you or a family member that seemed unbelievable at the time? Today's story of Jesus appearing to his disciples after his death seemed unbelievable to one disciple named Thomas.
2. Read the Story of "Doubting Thomas" to your child or with your child found in John 20: 19-31 and on page 492 of the Spark Story Bible. You can also hear Mrs. Schoch tell the story on our Light of Christ Lutheran Church Youth Facebook page.
3. We define faith as believing without seeing. We cannot see Jesus, yet we believe. We believe because of what we read in the bible, what our family members, teachers and Pastor Jerry tell us about Jesus and when we see Jesus' good works done in the world by his followers- us !!
4. Instead of using our sense of sight to know Jesus, we use our intellect, our mind to know Jesus. This activity uses our sense of smell. Gather a few things that have a distinct smell: an orange, a lemon, vinegar, chocolate, cinnamon, vanilla, etc. Place the objects underneath a bowl or other object so that your child cannot see the objects. Ask your child to close her/his eyes or use a scarf to cover his/her eyes. Let your child identify the objects one at a time using his/her sense of smell. Let your child pick one for you to identify. Have fun 😊
5. Handprint Easter Prayer Craft
 - a. Fold one piece of construction paper
 - b. Trace child's hands on the fold keeping fingers together as in prayer
 - c. Cut out hand shape being careful not to cut the side of the hand along the fold.

d. On the hand on the left side draw a cross and an Easter flower in front of the cross with a palm branch next to the flower.

e. Copy this prayer on the right hand or type it on your computer and print it out and glue it on the hand on the right side.

I fold these hands into a prayer

To thank the Lord for love and care.

Fold your hands right next to me

And He will love and bless us both, you see!

6. Create a journal entry: Title it April 19, 2020 Doubting Thomas
Draw or write your ideas for this story. Some questions to consider:
What are some ways or people who have led you to faith in Jesus?
Do you remember who first told you about Jesus? Do you have any questions you would like to ask Jesus? Is it hard to believe in Jesus without seeing Him? How can we share our faith in Jesus with others? If a friend would introduce you to someone new, what would they say, if the new friend could not see you? How would your friend describe you? Do the traits that are told about you come from God or are they of your own doing? During this time of the pandemic is it hard to believe in God and Jesus? Why or why not?

7. Sing together:

"Peace Like A River"

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

2nd verse: I've got joy like a fountain.....

3rd verse: I've got love like an ocean.....

8. Close with A Prayer

Dear God, When Jesus appeared to the disciples he said, "Peace be with you!" He then sent his disciples to tell everyone that Jesus is alive! We ask you to help us share the love and peace of Jesus with everyone we know. We ask you to help all who are ill or sad this day. We ask for your peace to bring us all comfort in this difficult time. Amen!

Alleluia, He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!!