

Pre K 4/12/26

LIFE POINT

Jesus is God's Son.

THOMAS SAW JESUS



LEADER BIBLE STUDY



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God sent Jesus because He loves us.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

John 20:19-31

UNIT VERSE

God loved us and sent His Son. 1 John 4:10

WEEKLY VERSE

God loved us and sent His Son. 1 John 4:10

SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

April 12

CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following page.)

Merriam-Webster provides three definitions of the word *doubt*: “to call into question the truth of,” “to lack confidence in,” and “to consider unlikely.”

Thomas displayed doubt when the disciples said, “We’ve seen the Lord!” He called their story into question by pragmatically pointing out the effects of the crucifixion and the mortal wounds in Jesus’ hands and side. He considered their claim highly unlikely, beginning his response with an uncertain “if.” He lacked confidence in their claims by stating that he needed to see it to believe it. Thomas’ doubt was certain. Considering what they all experienced, the resurrection claims were unbelievable. Would we have responded any differently in that situation?

Doubt is a normal part of the human experience. Many people who love Jesus deeply also experience seasons of doubt. Author C.S. Lewis wrestled with doubt after the loss of his wife. Preacher Charles H. Spurgeon confessed moments of doubt and depression. While in a Nazi prison camp, Corrie ten Boom struggled to see the goodness of God. Jesus came for people with doubts. He died for people with uncertainty. He rose again for people needing to overcome fear. Doubt is strong, but God’s grace is stronger.

Believers can experience doubt when they encounter difficult circumstances beyond their control. While doubt is not sin, the consequences of sin can produce doubt. Through Christ, believers can have peace despite their circumstances, and they can know the freedom of forgiveness (Ephesians 2:13-14; Romans 8:1-2).

God knows the frailty of the human heart. He understands doubt. God gives reassurance to the believer. First John 3:19-20 tells us, “This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows all things.”

Jesus knew what Thomas needed. The next time Jesus visited the disciples, Thomas was present. Jesus invited Thomas to touch His hands and His side. The unbelievable became real. Thomas could only exclaim, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus knows what you need. As you pray this week, be honest with God. Share your doubts. Be specific, like Thomas. Imagine yourself in Jesus’ presence. Look at the wounds in His hands and His side. Thank Him that His love never wavers and is bigger than your feelings.



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GROUP TIME

Worship: * God's Not Dead song video

- * **Sing and move to music.** Create and teach simple motions to “Let’s All Celebrate Jesus.” Invite the kids to sing and move as you play the song. When the song is finished, encourage the preschoolers to shout: “Jesus is alive!”
- * **Tell the Bible story.** Display a key. Ask the boys and girls to name the object and what it is used for. Say that people use keys to unlock doors and other things. Remark that in today’s Bible story, Jesus’ disciples were afraid and locked the door where they were staying. Jesus came in without even using a key! Open the Bible to John 20. Display the teaching picture as you tell the story.

THOMAS SAW JESUS

—Based on John 20:19-31

On Sunday night after Jesus’ death, the disciples were together in a room with the doors locked. They were afraid that the people who hurt Jesus might come after them.

Suddenly Jesus was standing in the room with the disciples! “Peace be with you,” He said. Jesus showed the disciples His hands and His side. The disciples were so happy it was Jesus.

One of the disciples, Thomas, was not in the room when Jesus came. When the other disciples told Thomas what had happened, Thomas did not believe them.

A week later, the disciples were in a locked room again. This time Thomas was with them. Suddenly Jesus came and stood with the disciples. Jesus told Thomas, “Touch My hands and My side. Have faith and believe.”

Thomas could see that Jesus is really alive!

- * **Review the Bible story.** Invite a child to gently toss a beanbag on the Review Question Board. Ask the question on or near where the beanbag lands. Assist with answers as needed. Continue until all questions are answered. Say that Jesus appeared to the disciples to show them that He is alive.
- * **Learn the Life Point.** Invite a child to attach the Life Point add-on to the Life Point poster. Say the Life Point aloud. Lead the children to repeat it together. Mention that after Thomas saw Jesus, he knew that Jesus is God’s Son and that Jesus is alive.
- * **Learn the Bible verse.** Lead a child to open the Bible to the verse strip. Read 1 John 4:10 aloud. Invite the kids to repeat the verse in short phrases. Sing “God Loved Us” together.
- * **Wrap it up and pray.** Show the “Thomas Saw Jesus” video. Lead the preschoolers in a prayer, thanking God for sending His Son, Jesus.



CHOOSE YOUR TIME

Decide when to have group time; then select learning activities to use before and/or after group time.

- › Pack Items:
 - 15: “Weekly Verses”
 - 23: “Word Strips” (John)
 - 29: “Unit 2 Door Poster”
 - 30: “Unit 2 Life Point Poster”
 - 31: “Unit 2 Life Point Add-ons” (session 2)
 - 32: “Review Question Board”
- › Teaching Picture 7
- › Music
- › Videos
- › Bible, scissors, beanbag, key
- › Display the Unit 2 Door Poster near the entrance of your room. Place the verse strip at 1 John 4:10 in a Bible. Place the *John* word strip at John 20. Hang the Unit 2 Life Point Poster on a focal wall. Cut apart Unit 2 Life Point Add-ons. Spread the Review Question Board on the floor.



BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

› Kids Activity Page

› Cardstock, colored pencils, white crayons, watercolor paints, cups of water, paintbrushes, painting smocks

› Various locks and keys (7 or 8), index cards, marker, hole punch

› Small paper bags; assorted objects to feel (cotton balls, toy car, blocks, etc.)

› Pack Item:
23: “Word Strips” (Jesus)

› Printables:
“Allergy Alert”

› Play dough; play dough tools: J, E, S, U letter stamps (or other letters to press)

REVEAL A MESSAGE

Write Jesus on sheets of cardstock using a white crayon, one per child.

- Assist the boys and girls in completing their Kids Activity Pages. Remind them that Thomas did not believe Jesus was alive because he had not seen Jesus. Say that when Thomas finally saw Jesus, He believed.
- Distribute the sheets of cardstock, paints, and smocks to the children. Encourage each child to paint over the entire paper. Invite the kids to tell about what they see appear on their papers.
- Mention that the word showing up on their papers is the name *Jesus*. Say that Jesus is God’s Son. (*Art*)

EXPLORE LOCKS AND KEYS

Write Jesus is God’s Son on index cards, one word per card. Punch a hole in the corner of each card. Open four different locks and attach one of the cards to each of them, then lock them back.

- Invite the kids to first explore locks without index cards attached. Encourage them to try to open the locks by finding the correct keys to unlock them.
- Guide the boys and girls to try to unlock the locks with index cards on them. Assist them in placing the cards in order to say *Jesus is God’s Son* once all of the cards are unlocked.
- Mention that Jesus came into a locked room to be with His disciples. He didn’t even need a key! (*Puzzles*)

GUESS THE OBJECT

Place objects in bags.

- Gather the children in a circle on the floor.
- Say that when Jesus first appeared to the disciples, Thomas was not with them. He did not believe Jesus was alive because He had not seen Jesus. Mention that when Jesus appeared to the disciples again, Thomas was there. He saw Jesus and believed that Jesus was alive.
- Pass a bag around the circle. Invite the kids to feel the object inside the bag without looking at it and try to guess what it is. Reveal the object after everyone has a turn to feel and guess.
- Continue until all objects are guessed. Say that Thomas believed Jesus is alive because he saw Jesus. (*Games*)

CREATE WITH PLAY DOUGH

Post the Allergy Alert. Separate the Word Strips. Place the Jesus word strips on a table.

- Distribute play dough and play dough tools. Point to the word strips. Say that the word on each card is *Jesus*.



BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Demonstrate how to roll play dough out and stamp letters in the play dough. Invite the children to press letters to spell *Jesus* using the word strips as a guide.
- Remind the kids that Jesus is God's Son as they stamp His name. Invite the preschoolers to name other things that are true about Jesus as they play with play dough. (*Nature*)

RETELL THE STORY

Cut out the Bible Figures. Attach the figures to binder clips.

- Display the teaching picture. Ask the boys and girls to tell you what they see in the picture. Mention that Jesus appeared to His disciples through a locked door. Comment that Thomas was not there so he did not believe Jesus was alive. Later Jesus appeared to the disciples again, and Thomas saw Him and believed.
- Encourage the children to use blocks to build a house. Guide the kids to use the Bible Figures to retell the story.
- Invite the preschoolers to repeat the Life Point together. (*Blocks*)

ASSEMBLE PUZZLES

Make extra copies of the missions pictures. Cut the pictures into several puzzle pieces. Place puzzle pieces in a Bible with an end sticking out like a bookmark. Use one puzzle per Bible.

- Display the missions pictures. Talk about the how missionaries are working to tell people about Jesus in the Kansas City, Missouri, area. Mention that they tell people the good news that Jesus is God's Son.
- Lead the boys and girls to open the Bibles to find the puzzle pieces. Assist them in putting each of the puzzles together and reviewing what they learned about the missionary family.
- Open a Bible to 1 John 4:10. Read the verse aloud. Comment that the Bible tells us that God sent Jesus because He loves us. (*Books*)

COLOR AND MATCH

Place the verse strip at 1 John 4:10 in the Bible. Cut out the puzzle shapes.

- Invite the children to color their coloring pages.
- Guide a child to open the Bible to the verse strip. Read 1 John 4:10 aloud. Say that Jesus is God's Son, and God sent Jesus because He loves us.
- Lead the kids to match the shapes on the puzzle. Point to the words and say the Bible verse aloud. Invite the preschoolers to repeat the verse.

CLEAN UP

- Encourage the boys and girls to work together to clean up their activities. Thank them for listening and following directions.

- › Pack Item:
25: "Bible Figures"
(Jesus, men)
- › Teaching Picture 7
- › Blocks, scissors, binder clips

- › Printables:
"Unit 2 Missions"
- › Bibles, scissors

- › Pack Items:
15: "Weekly Verses"
35: "Unit 2 Verse Puzzle"
- › Printables:
"Thomas Saw Jesus"
Coloring Page
- › Bible, crayons, scissors