

THOMAS SAW JESUS



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the kids to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Tell kids to give a high five to two friends as they move to the group-time area.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

THOMAS SAW JESUS—BASED ON JOHN 20:19-31

- Talk about the word *doubt*. Tell kids that *doubt* means “to not know for sure; think something is not true.” Tell kids to listen for someone who was not sure if what he heard was true.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- The disciples were gathered in a house together. They locked the door to make sure others could not get in. Jesus had died on a cross but Mary said she saw Him, and He was alive again.
- Suddenly, Jesus was with them in the locked room. The disciples were happy to see Him. They listened to the things Jesus said.
- Thomas, one of the disciples, was not in the house when Jesus appeared.
- Thomas said, “Unless I see Jesus and touch the wounds in His hands and side myself, I cannot believe this is true.”
- A week later, the disciples were gathered again. Thomas was with them.
- Jesus came in and stood among them. Jesus told Thomas to touch his hands and side. Thomas said, “My Lord and my God.”

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Who appeared to the disciples? Which disciple was not with the others?
- What did Thomas say when the other disciples told him they saw Jesus?
- What happened a week later?
- Think: Why do you think it was hard for Thomas to believe what the other disciples said?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Tell the kids that Jesus is God’s Son.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Salvation: God sent His only Son, Jesus, because He cares about us.

LIFE POINT

Jesus is God’s Son.

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

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “London Bridge”:

*God loved us and sent His Son,
Sent His Son, sent His Son
God loved us and sent His Son,
First John four ten.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open the Bible and read the Unit/Weekly Verse. Pass a Bible with the verse marked around the circle while you sing the song from “Sing Together.” Stop singing. Lead the child holding the Bible to open it to the verse and say it. Close the Bible. Sing and pass the Bible again. Stop again and ask that child to open the Bible, say the verse, and close the Bible. Continue until all kids have opened the Bible and said the verse.

PRAY

Thank God for the Bible that tells about Jesus.
Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: Jesus is God’s Son.

- 1. Play a name game.** Write each child’s name on a separate index card. Sit in a circle with the kids. Mix the cards and pull two cards. Read aloud the names. Tell those kids to trade places. Continue for several turns. Call three names to change places. Then tell all the kids to change places. Open a Bible to John 20:19-31. Ask kids to recall the name of the disciple that was not in the house when Jesus first appeared. Read to the kids what Thomas said and what else happened in the Bible story.
- 2. Use play dough.** Post the “Allergy Alert” informing the parents that kids will use play dough. Provide play dough and play dough tools. Invite kindergartners to roll and mash the play dough. Suggest the boys and girls flatten or roll out the play dough and make handprints or fingerprints in the play dough. As kids work, open a Bible to John 20:19-31 and talk about the Bible story. Comment that Thomas said he wanted to touch Jesus to believe that Jesus was alive. Say that Jesus appeared again and

Thomas saw Him. Challenge the kids to make a letter *J* with the play dough. Repeat the Life Point with kids.

- 3. Make a Bible verse heart hanging.** Provide one large heart shape and seven smaller heart shapes for each child. Provide child-size safety scissors, crayons, 12-inch lengths of yarn or twine, and tape. Write the Unit/Weekly Verse on a sheet of paper. Display the Bible verse. Lead the kids to write the reference of *1 John 4:10* on the large heart, and one word of the verse on each small heart. Help kindergartners cut the heart shapes out and tape each of the Bible verse words in order to the yarn or twine. Then tape the strand to the back of the large heart. Tell the Bible story as kindergartners work. Say the Bible verse together. Tell the kids to hang their heart signs in their rooms to remember the Bible verse and the Bible story.
- 4. Write about the Bible story.** Provide dry erase boards, dry erase markers, and erasers. Lay a copy of the Kids Activity Page with the story side up. Talk about the Bible story. Suggest the kindergartners write phrases or words about the Bible story on the dry erase boards. They may want to write names or copy words from the Kids Activity Page. Point to the words of the Life Point and say it with the kids: “Jesus is God’s Son.”

CLEAN UP

Play music as the kids put away toys and materials.

PLAY A TOSSING GAME

Sit on the floor with the kids. Play music. Toss a beanbag or paper wad back and forth across the group. Toss to the beat of the music. Stop the music; challenge kids to say the Unit/Weekly Verse. Restart the music and toss the beanbag or paper wad again. To extend the game, ask kindergartners to tell something about the Bible story when the music stops.

DISMISS

Help each child gather her belongings and give her a Kids Activity Page. Thank the family for coming to church today.