

# Doubting Thomas

## Observation Questions: What happened?

Have kids refer to John 19:38-20:31 in their Bibles. Have kids list the signs that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead and point out the verses where they are found.

1. The stone was rolled away. (*John 20:1.*)
2. The tomb was empty. (*John 20:2,5.*)
3. The linen cloth was folded. (*John 20: 6-7.*)
4. Angels sitting where Jesus' body had been lying. (*John 20:11-13.*)
5. Jesus appeared to Mary. (*John 20:14-18.*)
6. Jesus appeared to the disciples behind locked doors. (*John 20:19-23.*)
7. Jesus appeared a second time. (*John 20:26-28. Both times Jesus appeared, people could see his wounds and even touch him.*)

## Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Read John 20:24-29 out loud.

**Why do you think Jesus told Thomas to put his finger on the nail marks of his hands and where the spear pierced his side?** (*Thomas had not been with the others when Jesus appeared the first time and said he would believe only if he could see and feel Jesus' hands and side.*)

**How do you think Jesus knew Thomas had said this?** (*Jesus is God and knows all things.*)

## Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Use the sheet found on the last page.

**Seeing is believing, but better yet is believing without seeing.** During the presentation, I showed you how you can walk right through the middle of this paper. What do you think now that you saw it with your own eyes? Discuss.

**John 20:29b says: "Blessed are those who haven't seen me but believe. "** What does Jesus mean by this?

**We were not able to be there when the actual resurrection of Jesus took place. We can only read it in the Bible or watch a re-enactment based on the Bible. Jesus knew there would be many people like us who would not see with their own eyes but would believe just the same.**

**That is why Jesus says we are blessed with faith to believe even though we didn't see his resurrection. As a matter of fact, Jesus says we are more blessed than the disciples who knew him and saw him face to face. It takes more faith to believe without seeing Jesus than it did for those who did see him. \*You can believe with your heart even if you can't see with your eyes.**

**On the paper are the lines to follow for cutting.**

Fold the paper in half and cut along the short lines first. Then cut through the line along the fold being sure NOT to cut the end sections. Use the tape if necessary.

**You can demonstrate for family and friends. Ask them if seeing will help them to believe and then you can demonstrate for them.**

**Remember, *\*you can believe with your heart even if you can't see with your eyes.* We don't want to be doubting Thomas' but believing Thomas'.**

Closing Prayer:

Pray for others who may not believe that Jesus is the Messiah or the Promised One because they have not seen him. Thank God for the gift of Jesus we receive through faith.

