



Lesson 36

1st-4th

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

April 26 & 27

JESUS IS ALIVE



LESSON GOAL:

Background: After Jesus rose from the grave, He appeared to His disciples to show them that He was alive. When Jesus appeared to them, one disciple, Thomas, wasn't with them. Later, when they told Thomas they had seen Jesus, he didn't believe them. He said he needed to see the wounds in His hands for himself. Jesus told Thomas he needed to have faith in Him without having to see Him. He wants us to do the same.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that followers of Jesus are called to have faith in Him. This means believing Jesus is alive even though we haven't seen Him.

John 20:24-31

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

City Serve (Saturday, May 3)
woodmenvalley.org/acts

Kids Camp (June 9-12)
woodmenvalley.org/kidscamp

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:
Archaeologist



KEY VERSE:

"But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8 (NIRV)

MISSION FOCUS:

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Our teachers do so much for us—they help us learn, encourage us, and show us kindness. So, for the whole month of April, we want to show *them* how much we appreciate all they do for us.

Here's how you can be a part of it: First, think of a teacher in your life—maybe at school, here at church, or even your coach. Then, choose **one kind act** to show them appreciation—maybe a kind note, a picture or just saying 'Thank you for all you do!'

Most importantly, we're going to pray for our teachers, asking God to encourage them and give them wisdom, strength, and joy!



25
min

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.



I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**!

Grab today's **Lesson Card**. Look up the Bible passage in your own Bible or a classroom Bible and leave your card there as a bookmark. Then, you can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

20
min

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



DISCUSS: Jesus is Alive!

Help kids connect relationally by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.



Let's take turns sharing 3 words about our week. I'll go first!
Share your 3 words then invite the next child to share.



Today, we are learning about how **Jesus is Alive**. This story comes from the Bible in **John 20:24-31**. Can you open your Bible to the passage with me so we can read it together?



Read the Bible passage aloud or pick a child to read it aloud.



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by thinking through the Big 3 questions and how the lesson relates to them, personally.



SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!

1. Who is our story about today?

Jesus & Thomas

2. What is the problem?

Thomas didn't believe Jesus was really alive until he saw Jesus

3. What will God do?

Jesus said faith is believing even when we can't fully see

Encourage kids to think about why this matters and how they can apply it to their own life as they listen to the story!



MAKE: Cross Craft

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: scratch cross, drawing stick, ribbon, God statement sticker



DO:

Pass out 1 scratch cross and drawing stick per child. Allow them to color and decorate their cross using the stick. Then add a ribbon to the top and add the God statement sticker.



SAY:

Jesus is alive! Even though we cannot see Him, we can trust Him and remember that He wants us to share Him with others. He died for us on the cross and saved us from our sin. Jesus wants us to follow Him. Let's make a special craft to remind us of this truth.



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.



Craft Example



25
min

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



EXPECTATIONS

As kids transition to Large Group time, play the expectations video.



HOST MOMENT

After the Large Group expectations video is finished, the Host should welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.



SAY:

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Let's take a few minutes to look at our Missions project for the day and our Key Verse.

MISSION FOCUS

Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.

KEY VERSE

Introduce the key verse then have the kids watch the Key Verse video.

PRAY FOR WORSHIP & BIBLE LESSON



WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

SONG 1: My Jesus

SONG 2: There is a Savior



LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet time of responding to what God is teaching them.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

May you believe that Jesus is really alive! He conquered death once and for all because He is God!



TRANSITION

After the blessing, the Host should dismiss the kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.

WORSHIP RESPONSE



REFLECT: Jesus is Messiah!

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Worship Response Station

Supplies: none



SAY:

After Jesus rose from the grave, He appeared to His disciples to show them that He was alive. When Jesus appeared to them, one disciple, Thomas, wasn't with them. Later, when they told Thomas they had seen Jesus, he didn't believe them. He said he needed to see the wounds in His hands for himself. Jesus told Thomas he needed to have faith in Him without having to see Him. He wants us to do the same. Followers of Jesus are called to have faith in Him. This means believing Jesus is alive even though we haven't seen Him.



DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
 - ***Jesus is alive! Sometimes it can be hard to have faith because we don't actually see Jesus right next to us.***
 - ***Faith means believing even when we can't see.***
 - ***Close your eyes and pretend Jesus is sitting right next to you.***
 - ***Be very quiet as you listen for Jesus to talk. If there's something you want to ask Jesus or tell him, you can do that too.***
 - Give the kids a few moments to be still. Then invite kids to share what they experienced.
 - ***Next time you are struggling to have faith, you can do this activity again to remind yourself that Jesus is alive and with you!***
- Close the time by praying over the kids.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.



SAY:

May you believe that Jesus is really alive! He conquered death once and for all because He is God!

15
min

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



APPLY: Why Does it Matter?

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.



SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!

1. Who was our story about today?

Jesus & Thomas

2. What was the problem?

Thomas didn't believe Jesus was really alive until he saw Jesus

3. What did God do?

Jesus said faith is believing even when we can't fully see

4. Why does this matter to me?

God wants me to have faith, just like Jesus told Thomas to have faith

5. How can I apply this to my own life?

Example: I can put my faith in Jesus as my Savior even though I can't see Him



PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together. Use the Prayer Tags from Check-In to write down prayer requests to take home and pray for during the week.



SAY:

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud.



DO:

Invite kids to pray for each other, then the leader closes in prayer.

5
min

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing them the announcement card and ensuring they take their weekly **Lesson Card**.