

Unit 27 • Session 3  
**Jesus Appeared to the Disciples**

**Bible Passage:**

Luke 24; John 20

**STORY POINT:**

Jesus proved He is alive.

**Key Passage:**

John 11:25

**Big Picture Question:**

Where is Jesus now? Jesus ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**Review Questions**

Why did the disciples lock themselves indoors? (*They feared those who had killed Jesus, John 20:19*)

Which disciple wasn't there? (*Thomas, John 20:24*)

What evidence did Thomas say he would need to believe Jesus rose? (*to see and touch Jesus' wounds, John 20:25*)

Was it sinful for Thomas to demand proof? *Discuss Thomas' reaction. Scripture isn't clear on whether Thomas' reaction was sinful or not, but he wasn't just doubtful—he refused to believe. Additionally, Thomas was ignoring the evidence that had already been presented: Jesus told them He would rise again, and when the other disciples told Thomas they'd seen Jesus, he still refused to believe.*

Is it wrong to want evidence before believing something? *Ensure the kids understand that having doubts isn't wrong. Remind them that we shouldn't believe something on blind faith—that is, with no evidence at all. Help them see that we have lots of evidence that the Bible is true, and the Bible itself is evidence*

*that Jesus is who He said He is.*

What should we do when we doubt? *Guide kids to think through whom they can talk to if they have doubts about their faith or the Bible. Remind them that they are not alone. Pray for them to have faith despite occasional doubt.*

Say • **Jesus proved He is alive.** The death and resurrection of Jesus is one of the most well-documented historical events of the ancient world. The Bible provides enough evidence to show that all Jesus' claims are true.

## Activities

*Jesus loves us*

Teach the kids this new version of “Jesus Loves Me.” Sing it together. Consider teaching the kids how to sing it as a round by forming three groups of kids. Instruct the second group to begin singing when the first group reaches the end of the first line, and the third group to begin when the second group reaches the end of the first line.

“Jesus loves us—This we know.

Gave His life to tell us so,

On the third day rose again,

Then appeared to all His friends.”

SAY • Jesus' death and resurrection showed His incredible love for us. Then, Jesus appeared to His friends, the disciples. Today we will learn more about that!

*Prove it!*

Write a different animal on each of five different index cards. Make one set for every three kids. Kids will play in groups of three by each drawing one card from the set of five. Kids will take turns making animal noises. They can choose to make the noise of the animal on their card or any noise they want. If any kids in the group think the kid

is making the wrong animal noise, they can say, "Prove you are a \_\_\_\_." If the kid was bluffing, he must swap his card for one of the two leftover cards. If not, the challenger must swap cards. Play as time allows.

Say • In that game, you often had to prove what animal you really had on your card. Today we will learn how **Jesus proved He is alive.**

### *Circle of trust*

Invite the kids to sit in a circle. Ask the kids to discuss people and facts they trust easily, and the people or things they may not trust. Be prepared to share about ways or times you struggle to trust God. Remind the kids that God is always 100 percent trustworthy. Close the time by allowing the kids to pray for one another to trust God more each day.

Say • Sometimes trusting God can be difficult. We cannot see God, and we may feel tempted to question Him at times. It's OK to feel doubt. When we do, we can pray to God about it. We can ask the Holy Spirit to help us feel God's presence. We can read the Bible to remind ourselves what is true about God and about ourselves. If you are wondering about God, speaking to an adult you trust, like a pastor, your parents, or church leader, is a great way to learn more about God so you can trust Him more.