

ALLEY SG – April 26 - 27, 2025

Today's Bible Story: All I Ask (Jesus Appears to Thomas) • *John 20:19-29*

Today's Key Question: What questions do you have for God?

Today's Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.

Monthly Memory Verse: *"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world."* John 16:33b (NIRV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Set up two designated areas in your group space: one for "True" and the other for "False."
- Explain to the kids that you will read a series of Bible Story review statements.
 - If the statement is true, the kids should quickly run to the "True" side.
 - If the statement is false, kids should quickly run to the "False" side.
- After each statement, reveal whether it was true or false and briefly discuss why.
- Continue reading all the statements, allowing the kids to move between the "True" and "False" sides.
- Gather the group together to discuss.

Review Questions:

1. John, one of Jesus' disciples, wrote his Gospel so that others could believe that Jesus was God's Son. (*True*)
2. Mary Magdalene never saw the risen Jesus. (*False*) – *Mary Magdalene did see the risen Jesus and ran to tell the disciples.*
3. The disciples locked the doors because they were afraid of the Roman soldiers. (*False*) – *The disciples locked the doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders.*
4. Jesus appeared to the disciples in a locked room and greeted them with, "May peace be with you!" (*True*)
5. Thomas was with the disciples the first time Jesus appeared to them after the resurrection. (*False*) – *Thomas was not with the disciples the first time Jesus appeared to them.*
6. Thomas said he would believe Jesus was alive only if he could see and touch the nail marks in His hands. (*True*)
7. Jesus appeared to the disciples again, but Thomas was still not there. (*False*) – *Thomas was present during Jesus' second appearance to the disciples.*
8. Jesus asked Thomas to put his finger in the nail marks and his hand into His side. (*True*)
9. Thomas refused to believe even after seeing Jesus face to face. (*False*) – *Thomas believed and declared, "My Lord and my God!"*
10. Thomas is sometimes called "Doubting Thomas" because he initially had questions about Jesus' resurrection. (*True*)
11. Thomas was one of the first disciples to boldly declare Jesus as both "Lord" and "God." (*True*)
12. Historical accounts suggest that Thomas traveled to places like modern-day India to share the good news about Jesus. (*True*)
13. Jesus told Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (*True*)
14. Jesus never addressed Thomas' questions or doubts directly. (*False*) – *Jesus addressed Thomas' questions directly by inviting him to see and touch His wounds.*
15. Thomas' questions led him away from Jesus. (*False*) – *Thomas' questions ultimately led him to believe in Jesus.*

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Index cards, pens, box with a top

What You Do:

- Invite your group to sit in a circle.
- Place the box in the center of the circle.
- Give each kid an index card and a pen.
- Direct the kids to quietly think of a doubt or question they have and write it down on their index card.
- Lead a group discussion:
 - What might be holding you back from asking God your questions?
- After some time, invite the kids to place their index cards into the box.
- Share with kids that Jesus met Thomas right in the middle of his questions. Even though Thomas had questions, he still trusted Jesus!
- As kids place their index cards in the box, encourage them to silently say, "Jesus, I trust You with my questions."

3. Discussion Questions

- Have you ever felt like Thomas, unsure about something? How did it feel?
- What questions do you have for God?
- How does knowing God can handle all of your questions give you hope?
- What can you do when you have doubts? Who can you talk to?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, "I've Got Questions" Cards (2-3 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible and a set of cards from the "I've Got Questions" Cards.
- Share with kids that each person in the group will look through the cards and select one question they have for God.
- Prompt the groups to work together to look up the verses that correlate with their questions.
- Once the groups are finished, bring them together to discuss.
- Share with them how the Bible, which is God's Word, can help us with our questions!
- Ask:
 - Who else can we talk to when we have questions?
- After the discussion, encourage the kids that God loves them and wants to hear from them—we can trust God with our questions!
- Invite the kids to write down/remember the verse that really stood out to them.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

“Dear God, thank You for bringing us together at church. Help us remember that You are bigger than any question we have. Let us feel Your love and comfort whenever we’re worried. Thank You for being a safe place we can always turn. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.”

- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to explain to the adult who “doubting Thomas” is from the Bible.