

## Sunday Club – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021

The following is one way of delivering this session with children. This week we explore how we come to believe.

### Opening activity: “I don’t believe it!” – an imagination game

Sit in a circle – the first person describes something they are imagining is in the middle of the circle. e.g., “Look there is a pink frog!” Somebody else then replies, “I don’t believe it!” “What do you see then?” says the first person. The new person must then describe something even more impossible. See how imaginative and ridiculous you can get with your descriptions! This game reminds us of Thomas who wouldn’t believe that Jesus was alive until he could see him!

### Opening prayer:

Jesus, you said, ‘Peace be with you’ to your disciples.  
Please help us experience your peace  
as we gather to learn more about you. Amen.

### Open the Bible at John 20.19-31

Give your child(ren) three small card circles and invite them to draw a happy face, a frightened face and an upset face on them. Read the story and get the children to hold up the appropriate face at certain points in the story: frightened at the start, happy when Jesus appeared, upset for Thomas who wasn’t there, happy at the end when Thomas believes.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+20.19-31&version=ICB>

### Stop and share

Ask your child(ren) what they understand by the word ‘sin’. Talk about sin being the bad things that people do, that go against what God wants.

### Talk Together:

- What is it that makes you believe someone when they tell you something?
- What are the signs that Jesus did something special in this story?
- What can we learn from this passage to help share our Christian belief with others?

### Craft Activity - Transforming hands

Understand how Jesus can help us change

You will need: A4 card, strips of card (30cm x 4cm), pencils, pens, scissors, double-sided sticky tape.

Give each child a piece of card and a pencil. Ask them to draw round both their hands, then cut the shapes out.

Talk together about how Jesus transformed the way the disciples were feeling and how he can help us change, too.

On one of their card hands, ask the children to write negative words, e.g., frightened, upset, angry, selfish, jealous, holding a grudge. On their other card hand, ask them to write the positive equivalents, e.g., comforted, happy, peaceful, kind, trusting, forgiving.

Give everyone a strip of card and help them write ‘Jesus transforms us’ on it.

Concertina the strip and attach each end to a hand with a piece of sticky tape, so both palms are connected.

Praise Song:

This I Believe (The Creed) - Hillsong Worship

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRzI\\_FbWTkg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRzI_FbWTkg)

Sing and dance along!

Closing Prayer:

Jesus, sometimes we are like Thomas,  
We want more evidence before we believe in you.  
We are sorry when we don't believe your Word  
or those who share your good news with us.

God of truth:

For those who doubt: give them certainty.

For those in darkness: give them light.

For those who need to see: give them living proof.

**Amen.**

Other ideas for family worship:

An alternative is provided by Hull minster (John 20.19-31)

<https://hullminster.org/family-resources>

Kid's Church (Yet to be updated) This is great fun and very interactive.

Beforehand, you can read the details which shows you the resources that will be required.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqok2LkCLGZpavyftfcRrQA>

Please note that the Rochester Diocese's Ministry at Home has now ceased.