

Kindergarten, Quarter C

Amazing New Testament Heroes

Additional Activities

1. Welcome Baby Jesus

Happy Birthday Jesus (10 minutes)

This snack helps children understand that Jesus' birth was also His birthday. **Supplies:** birthday cake, water, napkins, plastic knife, plastic forks, candles, matches

Bring a birthday cake to class. Place candles on it, and light them. Have the whole class sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. As you cut and pass out pieces to students, discuss where they were born, and compare Jesus' birthday with their birthdays.

Welcome Baby Jesus (10 minutes)

This game helps children anticipate the coming of a baby.

Supplies: baby doll, CD player, praise music

Have children sit in a circle so that they are each facing away from the circle. When you play the music, have them pass the baby doll around the circle. When the music stops, the child with the baby should say, "Welcome, baby Jesus!" and then turn to face inside the circle. Continue playing until all children have had a chance to welcome the baby Jesus.

No Room at the Inn (15 minutes)

This drama helps children re-enact Jesus' birth. **Supplies:** 2 baby dolls; box to be used as a manger; towels, sheets, and belts for

costumes for Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, angels, and shepherds

Divide the class into five groups. Have the first group (3 people) show the angel telling Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus and Mary visiting Elizabeth until John is born. Have the second group (3 people) show Joseph telling Mary that they have to go to Bethlehem and the two of them traveling. Have the third group (3 people) show Mary and Joseph finding a stable and Mary placing the doll in the manger. Have the fourth group (many people) be the angels singing glory to God and telling the shepherds where to find baby Jesus. They could sing a simple praise song, like "Praise Ye the Lord." Have the fifth group (many people) show the shepherds worshiping baby Jesus with Mary and Joseph watching.

2. Baptizing God's Son

SPARK INTEREST—Sweeter than Honey (5 minutes)

This snack illustrates one of the foods that John the Baptist ate.

Supplies: honey, bread, jar of live grasshoppers

Give each child a napkin, cup of water, and piece of bread with honey on it. As children eat, explain that John the Baptist

would eat honey without the bread. Suggest that you couldn't find dried locust (like grasshoppers) for them to eat for a snack, but show them the live grasshoppers in a jar. Discuss how they would feel about John's locust and honey diet.

You can also make a game out of this snack by using honey sticks. Hold a honey stick in one hand behind you, and the jar of grasshoppers in the other. Ask the each child, **Do you want what is in the right hand or the left hand?** until everyone eventually gets a honey stick.

Honor Board (15 minutes)

This drawing activity prompts children to think of ways they can honor God. **Supplies:** butcher paper

Write across the top of a large piece of butcher paper, "We Honor You, God." Put the paper on a desk or on the floor, and let students draw with markers and crayons. Discuss the term "honor," and explain that when they honor someone, they happily obey or do things to show respect. Let the children think of ways they can honor God in their lives, and draw pictures of those activities. Hang the poster in the classroom when finished. Praise the children on their ideas and creations, asking about what they drew and why.

Replaying John and Jesus (25 minutes)

This drama emphasizes the roles of John and Jesus in this Bible passage. **Supplies:** sheets, towels, and robes, belts

Divide the class into groups of two. Let them dress up in Bible-times costumes. Let them decide which person will be John and which will be Jesus. Have them spread out throughout the classroom. As you read the following, let the children act it out. If a character says something, let the students say it after you.

John said, "Repent! Many people repented. John baptized them. One day Jesus came to the Jordan River where John was baptizing.

"Will you baptize me?" asked Jesus.

"You should baptize me," said John. John baptized Jesus even though Jesus did not need to repent. Jesus had not sinned. John baptized Jesus to honor Him. What Jesus did honored and pleased God. A voice from heaven said, "You are My Son whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

Have students switch roles and repeat the story.



Honor God Mosaic (15 minutes)

This craft relates to the people's desire to honor God by repenting and being baptized. **Supplies:** construction paper, markers, glue, different-colored art sand, food coloring, bowls

Before class, obtain different-colored art sand from a hobby store. During class, give each child one piece of construction paper with "Honor God with Your Life" written across the top. Help children trace one open hand on it. Then they can smear their construction paper hand with glue and pour different colored sand over it. As it dries, talk about how John learned to be obedient to God while he was in the desert. Students can put these hands in their bedrooms to remind them to be obedient to God and to their parents.

3. The Sick Need a Doctor

Coins (5 minutes)

This snack portrays a little of what Matthew had to give up to follow Jesus. **Supplies:** golden, round vanilla wafers, napkins, water, paper cups

Give each child a cup of water and vanilla wafer cookies on a napkin. Discuss how these cookies are like the gold coins on Matthew's tax-collecting table. Let children describe how hard it would be to leave their snack. Remind them that Matthew felt the same way about his money, but he knew that Jesus was more important than all the money in the world.

Following (5 minutes)

This matching activity illustrates what happens when one thing follows another. **Supplies:** index cards, envelopes, marker

Before class, write each child's name on an index card in large letters with a marker. If children have the same name, write their names in different colors. Then write the names on the index cards, using the same colors, on envelopes.

When children arrive, give them an index card with their own name on it. Have them sit in a circle. Mix up the envelopes and put them in the middle of the circle. **These envelopes want to follow their cards. When I say go, match the letters of your name and the color of your name to the letters and color of your name on an envelope. Go.** Let children go to the center of the room and try to find the envelope that matches their name. When they have found the envelope, they can sit back in the circle and hold up their cards and their envelopes.

Good. When something follows something, it goes to the same place. Have students put their index cards in their envelopes and use them as name markers to show where they are sitting in the classroom today. You can suggest that their names are following them.

Testimony (5 minutes)

This testimonial reveals how God still asks people to follow Him.

Supplies: someone who will give a testimony about how they became a part of God's family

Before class, ask someone you know to give his or her testimony of how he or she became part of God's family. Explain that you will be studying how God called Matthew to follow Him. Ask your friend to briefly tell how God asked him or her to follow Him.

During class, explain that God called Matthew to follow Him while Matthew was still a sinner. Tell how God calls everyone, even today, sometimes while people are still making big mistakes. Introduce your speaker. When your speaker has finished, let the class ask questions if they have any.

4. The Chosen Few

On the Road (5 minutes)

This snack familiarizes students with food the disciples may have eaten with Jesus. **Supplies:** Hawaiian bread, water, paper cups, napkins

Make sure children have clean hands before this snack. Set napkins at one table, cups at another, and a large loaf of Hawaiian bread at a third. Let students go from table to table, getting their napkins, cups, and bread. Instead of cutting the bread up, let children break off a handful like Jesus' disciples may have done when they were with Him. Pour out water at a final station, and discuss how these men did not have a lot of dishes or places to cook food. Let children get a better understanding of what life on the road with Jesus may have been like.

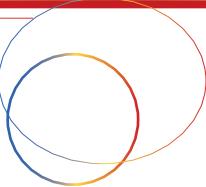
Pray First (10 minutes)

This listening activity illustrates what is important to children.

Supplies: butcher paper, markers, thumbtacks

Hang a piece of butcher paper at the front of the classroom, and write "Pray First" across the top. Ask children what decisions people think are important. When they give you an answer, such as how to spend time or money, choosing friends, choosing activities, etc., have that person come to the front of the room and draw a picture of that decision on the butcher paper. Do not wait for the child to finish her drawing before calling on someone else. Continue until every child has drawn at least one thing on the butcher paper. Discuss how we should always pray to God before making decisions that are important, just like Jesus did when He prayed about choosing His disciples. Let the poster be a reminder to pray.

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Different Disciples (20 minutes)

This matching activity introduces the differences between five of the disciples. **Supplies:** poster boards, markers, thumbtacks

Divide the class into twelve groups. Give each group a poster board.

- Have the first group make a picture of Peter with a megaphone representing being outspoken.
- Have the second group make a picture of James with a thunder bolt representing “the sons of thunder.”
- Have the third group make a picture of John with a heart representing “John the Beloved.”
- Have the fourth group make a picture of Andrew fishing.
- Have the fifth group make a picture of Philip introducing Nathanael to Jesus.
- Have the sixth group make a picture of Bartholomew with something that is true.
- Have the seventh group make a picture of Matthew leaving his tax table.
- Have the eighth group make a picture of Thomas declaring Jesus to be God.
- Have the ninth group make a picture of James being a short man.
- Have the tenth group make a picture of Thaddeus with question marks around him.
- Have the eleventh group make a picture of Simon with a sword.
- Have the twelfth group make a picture of Judas turning his back on Jesus.

When each group has finished, hang the pictures at the front of the classroom with thumbtacks.

Point to each picture and allow the children in each group respond by saying their person’s name. Repeat a couple of times helping the children to get familiar with the names of the disciples.

5. A Leader of Israel

First Star I See (5 minutes)

This snack helps children remember that Nicodemus came to Jesus at night. **Supplies:** star cookies with glittery frosting, cups, water, napkins

Pass out star cookies for children to eat. As they eat, discuss how stars only come out at night. Imagine all the stars that must have been in the sky on the night that Nicodemus went to find Jesus.

Questions & Answers (10 minutes)

This question-answer activity demonstrates how to know people better.

Before class, make a list of eight questions about yourself. During class, ask the first question. Let the children try to guess the answers. Once all the questions have been answered correctly, explain that one way we get to know each other is through asking each other questions and finding the answers.

Presents (10 minutes)

This comparison activity shows children the gift that Jesus was to others. **Supplies:** one small present for each child (i.e., pencil, bookmark, etc.), wrapping paper, ribbon

Before class, prepare the A,B,C cards from *Explore Scripture* and wrap them along with one small present for each child. Set the presents at the front of the classroom in full sight of all the children. Let them know that they will each receive a present before the end of class. Let the anticipation build.

During class time, you can give one present to each child. As you do, explain that God gave each one of them a much greater gift. He gave His Son to die for their sins. Let children open their presents. Remind them of how the A,B,C cards help them say “Yes” to Jesus. Discuss how Nicodemus started opening the gift of Jesus by asking questions.

The Wind Blows Where it Pleases (15 minutes)

This craft creates a visible reminder of invisible wind. **Supplies:** cardstock, crayons, scissors, string, tape, paperclips, fan (optional)

This craft makes a spiraling wind hanger that kids can take home. Download the pattern found at DiscipleLand.com/downloads (enter the keyword “**Messiah**”). Print out one pattern for each student on cardstock. Let children color their patterns in any way they want, on both sides of the paper. When they are finished coloring, cut the pattern along the gray lines. Tape string to the center of the spiral. Attach and tape a paperclip near the outer edge of each spiral if they do not hang down properly. If you want, bring in a fan to show children how the wind will spin their hangers. Discuss how the hanger lets them “see” the wind, even though it is invisible. Even though we can’t see God, we can see Him working in our lives and in the lives of others.

6. Good Friends

The Perfect Plate (10 minutes)

This snack portrays how God wants children to talk with Him.

Supplies: wafers or brightly colored candy, paper plates

Give each child at least eight wafers and a paper plate. Have the children arrange the wafers on a plate. Tell them there is only one perfect way to arrange the wafers. When students think they have the perfect way, let them raise their hands. Go to them and look at their plates. Marvel at their design but say that it is not the one perfect way to arrange the wafers. After 3-4 attempts, let the children eat their wafers. **Aren't I being silly! Is there a perfect way to put wafers on a plate? Martha was making herself unhappy trying to make Jesus the perfect meal. There is no such thing as a perfect meal. You were trying to make the perfect wafer arrangement. There is no perfect way to arrange those wafers. Instead of trying to be perfect, you should always try to do your best.**

Listening Friends (15 minutes)

This movement-based activity demonstrates that children need to listen to follow God.

Jesus had many friends. They loved to listen to Him tell interesting stories that explained about God and important matters. They listened very carefully so that they did not miss anything He had to say. Let's play a game that will help us practice using our listening ears. Friends, go to the back of the room. Let children respond. **Friends, go to the bulletin board.** Let children respond. **Friends, go to sleep.** Let children respond. **Friends, follow me.** Walk around the room and let children follow you. **Friends, stay close to me.** As you walk, remind your students that it is important to listen to God like Mary did, so that they will know what to do and become better friends with Him.

Listening Through the Noise (15 minutes)

This listening activity teaches children how to listen carefully.

Supplies: masking tape, bell or buzzer

Before class, make three masking tape lines from the back of the room to the front of the classroom.

Have the children face you. **I am going to give you directions. I'd like each of you to turn away from me and talk as loud as you can. When I ring the bell stop talking. Ready? Start talking now.** Whisper the following lines and directions: **Jesus made the whole world—He is strong. Jesus loves us so much He was born as a little baby to be near to us. Jesus can hear every word we say and every thought we have. Jesus is so big that He carried every sin upon His shoulders. Jesus is so amazing He knows many important truths. Each of**

you should go to one masking tape line at the back of the room. Follow it to the front so you will be near me. Then sit down in your seats.

Ring the bell. In a loud voice say: **Did anyone hear me?** Children will say no. Let's try again. **This time plug your ears. Ready? Go.** Repeat the lines and directions again. Ring the bell. In a loud voice, say again: **Did anyone hear me this time?** Let children respond. Have them turn around and face you. **That did not work either. No one knows what I want them to do. Let's try this again. This time, be quiet, and everyone look at me.** Wait until everyone follows your directions and sits back down. Whisper the lines and directions again. **To get to know Jesus better as a friend, it is important to listen to Him like Mary did.**

7. Above the Crowd

Practice Your Manners (15 minutes)

This snack will give students the opportunity to practice being a good host. **Supplies:** table, chairs, crackers, and paper towels or napkins

Pick half of the students to be the guests, and the rest to be the hosts. The hosts can direct the guests to sit at tables. If possible have one guest for each host. Have them set the table with the paper towels or napkins and ask the guests if they would like a snack. Choose a snack like crackers, which would be easy for the students to serve to one another. Help them use words such as, "Yes, please," and "Thank you for your hospitality." Once the guests have been served, have the hosts and guests switch roles and repeat the process. **Zacchaeus was kind by serving Jesus in his home. He showed hospitality.**

Give and Take (10 minutes)

This hands-on activity promotes hospitality among students.

Supplies: one toy per child, CD player, music

Instruct each child to choose one toy and hold it in his or her hands. Turn on the music. Tell the students that they are to go to one another and ask, "Can I have your toy?" When a child is asked, he must give the toy to the other child and then receive that child's toy. Have everyone repeat this process until the music is turned off. Then they can see which toy they are left holding. Repeat several times.

You have shown hospitality to one another by giving up your toys. Today's Bible passage is about a man who showed hospitality to Jesus.



What is it? (10 minutes)

This role-play activity mimics how Zacchaeus tried to see Jesus.

Supplies: masking tape, various objects from around the room, table

Put a line of tape on the floor going across the room at one end. Split all but two students into two equal groups. Have one group stand on the tape and link arms. Have the second group stand right behind them and do the same thing. Have them stand closely together. Pick two children to be "Zacchaeus." Instruct them to get behind the line of students. Place an object across the room without the two students seeing it. Instruct the students behind the "double wall" to try to find a way to see the objects. They can peek through cracks, jump, or look over shoulders, but they cannot go around the "wall of people." As soon as they see the object and name it, pick two new students to get behind the "wall" and put a new item on the table. Repeat the game until everyone has had a turn to be "Zacchaeus." **Zacchaeus was a small man, but he still found a way to find Jesus.**

8. Sons of Thunder

Let Me Serve You (10 minutes)

This snack provides an opportunity for children to practice letting others go first. **Supplies:** trail mix, cups, water

Pour water into cups. Pour trail mix into cups. Divide the class into pairs. **We are going to practice serving our friends. I would like one person from each pair to get yourself and your partner a cup of water. I would like the other person to go and get yourself and your partner a cup of trail mix. God wants us to serve each other. The more we practice, the easier it will be.** Let children enjoy eating their snack.

Topsy Turvy (15 minutes)

This imagination activity shows how God's ways are best.

Supplies: dress up clothes

Before class, place dress up clothes, enough for each child in your classroom to wear, in a large pile at the front of the classroom. **I would like you all to get dressed in these clothes. When you do this, I want you to put these clothes on in a way that is not normal. For example, you may put one of the hats on your foot or a skirt on your head. Ready, set, go.** Remind children to share and help each other. When they are finished, go from child to child and point out the silly ways that they are dressed. Everybody should have a good laugh. Let children remove the dress up clothes and sit down. **The way you dressed yourselves seemed silly, didn't it? In our world, we use certain clothes for certain things. Shirts do not go on our legs, and socks do not belong on our ears.**

Did you know that sometimes God's ways are different than our ways? Sometimes, they are completely different than what we are used to doing here on earth. But God's ways are best. That's what today's Bible passage is about.

Elephant, Elephant, Cow (15 minutes)

This game emphasizes that sometimes God's ways seem backwards to the world.

Have the children sit in a large circle. **We have talked about how sometimes God's ways seem backwards to people, so we are going to play a backwards game. Instead of "Duck, duck, goose," We are going to play, "Elephant, Elephant, Cow."** Instruct the children that whoever is the "Cow" will need to walk backwards around the circle. When they tap someone's head and say, "Cow," that person will get up and follow the person around the circle, both walking backwards. If the person makes it around the circle and back to the other person's seat, the person is safe. If the person is tagged, then that person must sit in the middle of the circle for one turn.

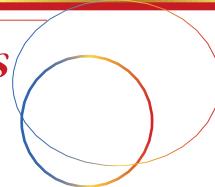
9. A Man Who Speaks Out

Our Hearts (15 minutes)

This snack teaches children about Jesus' church. **Supplies:** small oyster crackers, pressurized can of cheese spread, paper plates, sandwich baggies, plastic knives

Before class, put thirty oyster crackers in a baggie for each child. During class, give each child a paper plate, a baggie of crackers, and a plastic knife. Use the spray cheese to make an outline of a circle or heart on the children's plates. Then they can stick oyster crackers to the cheese. Jesus loves you so much that He wants you to be a part of His church. As children eat their snack, discuss how the church is not a building but people who have committed their hearts to serving God.

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Boldly Sharing (10 Minutes)

This sharing activity encourages students about themselves and each other.

Sit your class in a circle. Peter spoke the truth. Now it's my turn. Go through each member of the class and give an encouraging truth about each child. (Jonathan has a nice smile; Leona was a good helper in class; Mary makes me laugh, etc.) **I just spoke the truth about each of you. Let's try it with each other.** Have each child say something nice about the child to the right. **Great job! Let's all choose to speak the truth about Jesus this week.**

Jesus is the Key (10 minutes)

This game reveals how Jesus unlocks the kingdom of heaven for each child.

Hold hands and make a circle with eleven of your children. Then form that circle into a square. Have the rest of the children stand on the outside of the square. **If you want to be like Peter, you can say that Jesus is God. When you do, you will be let into the square.** Let children on the outside of the square say, one-by-one, that Jesus is God. When a child says it, those in the square should unlock their hands so the child can easily walk to the center of the square. Continue the game until everyone has a turn.

10. Giving What Was His

INSPIRE ACTION—Burial Spices (10 minutes)

This demonstration gives children an idea of the burial customs of ancient Israel. **Supplies:** white cloth, paper cups, sweet smelling herbs/spices such as ginger, dill, oregano, lavender, etc.

Tell the children that during Bible times, people had different customs when someone died. They would wrap the body in a large cloth and then put lots of spices and perfumes in the cloth.

Have students come to the table at the front of the classroom to smell and comment on the different spices that are in small containers. Explain that Joseph used myrrh and aloes on Jesus' body, which are also spices. After children have had a chance to explore the smells, spread out a one-yard square of muslin or white cloth. Ask volunteers to sprinkle a dash of one spice each on the cloth. After every child has had a chance to sprinkle something, roll the cloth. Explain that when Jesus was buried, Joseph and Nicodemus brought many pounds of spices to place on Jesus' burial cloth. Children can smell the rolled cloth if they desire before they sit down.

Spicy Treats (15 minutes)

This snack gives children spicy smelling snacks to better understand what spices are. **Supplies:** gingersnap cookies, cold herbal tea such as peppermint or apple spice, paper cups, napkins

Pass out cookies and tea. As the children eat, invite them to enjoy the aroma of both the tea and cookies. Let them try to describe each smell. Then remind them that Jesus' tomb smelled good from the spices Joseph and Nicodemus had brought.

Put Others First (20 minutes)

This listening activity reminds children to think of others first.

Divide the classroom into two lines that face the front of the class. Count off each line: first, second, third, fourth, etc. If your class has more than ten children you might want to divide them into more lines so the game will not take as long. The two teams then face each other with about four feet between them. When you call out an action, the designated children will go to the other side and complete the action, then return to their place. Call out actions for the children to do based on their position in line:

- 1) Person #2 in each line should shake hands with each other.
- 2) Persons #5 & #8 in each line should twirl with one another.
- 3) Person #4 in the each line should go to each other.
- 4) Person #6 & #7 in each line should skip around their lines.
- 5) Person #1 should take the hand of the last person in their own line give them the first place and the old first person should now take the second place.

At this point, everyone's number has changed. Go down the lines and reassign numbers to each child. Then you can repeat the actions above until each person has had a chance to be the first person in line. If you get tired of those activities, ask students to hop, pat others on the back, say something kind, giggle, etc.). Remind students that God likes it when they think of others first.

Jesus Is Alive (15 minutes)

This activity reinforces what Joseph of Arimathea did for Jesus.

Supplies: blue construction paper, white cloth, spices and herbs, paper, markers, glue

Have students draw a large cave on their sheets of blue construction paper. Give them a half sheet of white paper. They should color it with grey, black, and brown to look like a large stone and then crumple it into a ball. They can glue it next to

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the entrance of their cave. They can then glue a small piece of fabric inside the cave and sprinkle a spice over glue on the fabric. If there is time, children can draw Joseph of Arimathea outside of the cave. Remind them that Joseph was willing to sacrifice for God and that God made the biggest sacrifice of all.

11. She Has Seen the Lord!

SPARK INTEREST—Called By Name (10 minutes)

This circle activity reminds children that Jesus calls them by name. **Supplies:** large picture of numerous people, such as a sporting event, concert, or city scene

Have the children form a circle. Hold up the picture. **We are going to see if we can make up a name for all the people in this picture. I will go around the circle and each of you will think of a name for the person I point to in this picture.**

Begin with yourself and give some of the people in the picture a name. Encourage the children to think of funny as well as common names. Go around the circle a few times until the students are having trouble thinking of names. **We made up names for the people in this picture, but we can't know their real names. Who knows all the names of the people in the whole world?** Let children respond. **God knows your name and everything about you. The Bible says He even knows how many hairs are on your head! He knows all your thoughts and all the things that are special to you. You can tell Him anything. He will never forget your name.** Go around the circle and tell each child, [Child's name], **Jesus calls you by name. He loves you.**

A Surprise (10 minutes)

This snack reminds the children that the tomb was empty when Mary came. **Supplies:** frozen patty shells or éclair shells, jam, water, plates, cups, napkins, plastic knives, spoon

Before class, bake the patty or éclair shells according to package directions. During class, pass out the tableware, cups of water, and give each child a shell. When they open the shells they will see they are empty inside. Remind them that when Mary came to the tomb, it was empty. She was very surprised and thought Jesus' body had been stolen. She was so happy to find out the tomb was empty because Jesus is alive. Give children spoons of jam to spread on their shell and enjoy.

A Special Name (15 minutes)

This craft gives the children a reminder that Jesus knows their name. **Supplies:** construction paper, markers, glitter, small pieces of ribbon, glue, stickers of the face of the Jesus

Before class, make a page for each student that says at the top “[place for Jesus sticker] Calls,” and at the bottom, “By Name.” In the large middle space, write each child’s name in large block letters that can be colored by the child. Be sure to prepare a few extra sheets for visitors.

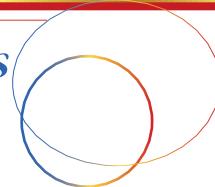
During class, pass out each student’s paper, the Jesus sticker, and, as they put on the sticker, read the paper out loud to them. Encourage the children to make their name as beautiful as they can with the decorations and markers. Tell them to place these where they can be reminded that Jesus knows all about them and loves them.

Garden Tomb (15 minutes)

This craft reminds the students of the story of the empty tomb.

Supplies: green and grey construction paper, tissue paper, small strips of white cloth, markers, glue

Before class, cut out cave and large stone shapes from the grey paper, one for each student. During class, pass out the paper and cave shapes and help the children glue them onto one side of the paper. Add the entrance stone to the side. Tell the children to draw a garden around the tomb. Show them how to crumple tissue paper and glue it to the paper to make flowers or small plants. Have them glue the strips of cloth into the cave to represent the empty funeral cloths that John, Peter and Mary found when they looked into the tomb. Encourage your students to draw Jesus and others from the Bible passage they heard today.



12. A Man of Doubt

Trust Me Treats (10 minutes)

This snack will show the children how hard it is to trust someone else. **Supplies:** napkins, cups, lemonade, crackers, grapes, small chocolates

I have a great snack for our class today. I want everyone to close their eyes and trust me. As you set up the snack, remind the children not to peek.

After you have set it up, allow the children to see their snacks and start eating. **How many of you peeked? It is hard to completely trust someone, isn't it. Who can we always trust?** God.

Seeing is Believing? (10 minutes)

This observation activity demonstrates that what they see is not always real. **Supplies:** a book of optical illusions, or download optical illusions from the Internet

Sometimes our eyes can play tricks on us. We can't always believe what we see. Look at the optical illusions. Spend as much time as you need on each picture. Our eyes can play tricks on us. **Who is someone who will never trick us?** God.

Who is someone whom we can always trust? God.

Feelings (15 minutes)

This drawing activity illustrates the emotions Thomas had during this time. **Supplies:** paper, markers, crayons

Pass out papers, and have children fold them in half. **When we are sad it is sometimes hard to believe that things are going to get better. Thomas and his friends were very sad. They had just lost their best friend and their teacher. They had learned so much from Jesus, and then He was killed. How would that make you feel? Draw a picture of how you would feel.** Give them time to draw a picture on the left side of the paper. **How would you feel when you heard that Jesus had risen from the dead and that He is God, just like He had told you? Draw a picture of how you would feel on the other half of your paper.** When the children finish, allow them to share both of their drawings with the whole class.