LEFC KIDS

SHEPHERD OVERVIEW

Pre-K / K
Nov. 15, 2026
1st Service

Jesus Appeared to His Disciples

Luke 24; John 20

What did Jesus do to save us?

Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

If God is for us, who can be against us?
-Romans 8:31

Story Point:
Jesus proved to His disciples He is alive!

- [ ] Welcome/Intro Activity..... 5 minutes
- [ ] Circle Time and Bible Story (Kindergarten - Large Group Lesson at 9:20)..... 15-20 minutes
- [ ] Movement Activity..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Craft ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Music and Friends From Afar ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Prayer and Bible Verse ..... 10 minutes
- [ ] Snack and Discussion Time ..... 5-7 minutes
- [ ] Group Game ..... 10 minutes

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Today's passage describes the disciples huddled together in a locked room. Without needing a key, Christ appeared to them where they were gathered.

Jesus did not proclaim words of frustration to the disciples for having abandoned Him during His trial and crucifixion, but rather words of peace. He showed them the scars He had received in His sacrificial act to bring reconciliation between God and sinners—the wounds Isaiah had prophesied would bring peace and healing (Isaiah 53:5). Jesus then commissioned the disciples for His Father's kingdom. He sent them out, promising them His Spirit, and extended to them His forgiveness so they could also extend it to others.

Thomas arrived late to their gathering, without having witnessed the resurrected Jesus for himself. Thomas didn't have faith to believe in the good news without seeing the scars with his own eyes and even touching the wounds on Jesus's side. It took a week for Thomas to come face to face with His Savior. When Jesus saw the doubting disciple, He declared words of peace, inviting him to believe rather than to be faithless. Jesus blessed Thomas and declared today's believers even more blessed to have faith without seeing Jesus's resurrected body.

Jesus opened the disciples' minds to understand, "everything written about [Him] in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms," by teaching them how the Old Testament testifies about Him. It's notable that one of Jesus's first post-resurrection teachings involved how to see the Savior in all of Scripture. You are imitating the Savior this way as you help the kids understand the Christ Connection of each week's Bible story.

Before departing, Jesus declared the disciples His witnesses and promised they would soon be empowered by the Holy Spirit. As you lead kids this week, pray that they will respond to the gospel so that they, too, might become Jesus's disciples. Pray that they will trust Him and receive the hope, peace, and forgiveness only He offers.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 8:30-8:40 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

LEFC KIDS

Pre-K/K

KNOW + LOVE + FOLLOW + SHARE

Nov. 15, 2026
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MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

*KNOW that Jesus is alive!

*TRUST Jesus and talk to Him.

*TELL others about Jesus!

As children arrive - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the other children.
Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.
Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.
When most kids have arrived for first service (by 9:05ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



Welcome and Intro Activity

- Colored Crosses
- Dot Stickers

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

Matching Crosses

*Before class - Tape the colored crosses around the room.

Greet the children as they come in and hand them a strip of dot stickers. Invite them to walk around the room and find the matching crosses to their colored dot stickers and place the dots on the matching colors.

SAY: Welcome! Our big picture question asks, “What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.” Can you find the crosses in the room that match the colors I gave you? Jesus died on the cross, but is now alive. Jesus showed His friends His hands and feet and ate fish to show he is alive. Let’s learn more about it today!

ACTIVE MINDS

9:20 - 9:30ish - Kindergarten - Whole Group Bible Lesson in Large Group 3
Pre-K - Classroom Bible Story Time

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite children to join you for a guessing game on the rug. List actions or activities that can be done with various body parts. Encourage kids to guess which body part they would use. Examples include, “With this body part, I can jump.” “With this body part, I can eat.” “With this body part, I can see.” Include both hands and feet in the guessing game.

SAY: You did a great job guessing the body part. Jesus showed His friends His hands and his feet. Jesus showed his disciples He is alive! Let’s read about it now!

BIBLE STORY:

Jesus Appeared to His Disciples

One evening, Jesus’s friends were in a room with the doors locked. They were afraid of the people who were in charge in the city. But Mary had told Jesus’ friends that she had seen Jesus alive.

Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the room! He said, “Peace to you.”

The friends were surprised and scared. They thought, “Is this really Jesus?” They thought He was a ghost, but Jesus showed them His hands and His feet. “Look at Me and touch Me,” He said. “A ghost doesn’t have a body, but I do.” Then Jesus ate some fish to show He was alive.

Jesus reminded them, “I told you the Messiah would die and come back to life. Now it has happened—just like God’s Word said.” Jesus gave His friends an important job: they should tell everyone the good news that Jesus died and rose again!

One friend, Thomas, wasn’t there. When he heard Jesus was alive, Thomas said, “I won’t believe it unless I see and touch His wounds.”

A week later, Jesus appeared again. This time, Thomas was there. Jesus said, “Thomas, look at My hands. Touch My side. Don’t doubt—believe.” Thomas said, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said, “You believe because you saw Me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing.”

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus’s friends had left Him when He was arrested, but He still loved and forgave them. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.



REVIEW AND DISCUSS

- Clip art pictures of hands, feet, mouth and eyes

Place the Bible Story poster where children can see it. Ask kids questions about the story. The answer to each question should be a body part. Invite children to point to the body part that answers each review question. Show the clip part picture of each as you talk about it.

SAY: What body parts did Jesus show His friends to prove He was alive? (hands and feet) Jesus ate fish with his (mouth) to show that He was alive. Thomas said he would not believe unless he saw Jesus with his (eyes).



Movement Activity

Move Your Hands and Feet

- Strips of paper with movement prompts
- Basket

Place the strips of movement papers in a basket. Movements include ways to move your hands and feet such as:

- clapping
- snapping
- wiggling
- waving
- jumping
- stomping
- tiptoe-walking

Invite a child to choose a strip of paper and lead his friends in doing the movement. Continue until children have tried all the different movements. Challenge kids to do one movement with their hands and another movement with their feet at the same time.

SAY: There are so many ways to move your hands and feet. Jesus showed His hands and feet to His friends. The friends were in a locked room. Jesus had died, so the friends were afraid. Mary said she had seen Jesus alive and risen from the dead. Suddenly Jesus appeared and said, “Peace to you.” The friends were scared. But Jesus showed them His hands and feet. Jesus showed His disciples He is alive.

See His Hands Craft

- Worksheet with John 20:29
- Heart cut-outs
- Glue Sticks
- Pencils
- Markers
- Colored Pencils

Pass out the worksheet with John 20:29 across the bottom: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Give eaech child a pencil. Have them place their hand on the paper and trace the outline of their hand. Then, have them switch hands and trace the other.

Pass out 2 heart cut-outs to each child. Have them glue their heart to the center of each handprint. Allow them to color their handprint if time allows.

SAY: After Jesus’s death, His disciples hid. They feared being killed by those who crucified Jesus. But JESUS PROVED TO HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE. Jesus offers us hope, peace, and forgiveness like He did the disciples. We can trust in Jesus as our risen Lord!







Music

- Activity page

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you would like! You may distribue the Activity page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

You will find today’s activity for Friends From Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month’s Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are invluded. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.

Prayer

Use these words, or your own, to pray about today’s Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well.

God, thank You so much for Jesus and His sacrifice for our sins. | am so thankful that through Jesus’s death and resurrection, we receive peace and forgiveness when we believe and follow Him. Help (Say each child’s name.) believe and follow Jesus. Help us tell those around us the good news about Jesus. Amen.



Bible Memory Verse

- None

Memory Actions

Read the verse aloud - Romans 8:31.

Have the children stand up and do some motion on each of the words. The first one is, “Let’s clap on each word.” Then, say the verse together and clap on each word. Depending on time, do about 5-7 repetitions of this with different actions each time. The actions are:

- Clap
- Snap
- Pat Your Leg
- Touch Your Nose and Whisper
- Stomp Your Feet



Snack and Discussion Time

- Snack (Pretzels) located under the sink cabinet

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

- What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story?
- What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story?
- Who was in the locked room at the beginning of the story? (Jesus’s friends)
- What did Jesus do to show He is alive? (He appeared to His friends and ate fish.)
- What did Jesus first say when He appeared to His friends? (“Peace to you.”)
- What job did Jesus give His friends? (They should tell everyone the good news that Jesus died and rose again.)
- What did Jesus do to save us? (Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.)

SAY: JESUS SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE. Jesus wanted them to tell all people how He offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.



Group Activity

Believe Without Seeing

- Blindfold
- Small objects around the room

For this game, you will need a blindfold and small objects such as toy cars, blocks, or stuffed animals that you can find around the room.

Blindfold one child and have them sit on the floor. Place an object in the blindfolded child's hand and have them guess what it is without seeing it.

You may suggest an answer and ask if they believe you or not.

SAY: Some things can seem hard to believe. Thomas, one of the disciples, doubted that Jesus was really alive. He wanted to see to believe. Many times, we also want to see something to believe it, but Jesus tells us in the Bible that “blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

There are other things we cannot see, yet believe. For example - what about the wind? We can see it, yet we feel it and know it is there. What about air? We can’t see it, but we breathe it in every time we take a breath and trust that it will continue to keep us alive.

Sometimes it’s hard to believe without seeing. Let’s pray that God gives us eyes to see and hearts to feel His love - that we too would believe in Jesus and trust Him.



Additional Activities:

- None

PLAY HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES, AND TOES
Explain to kids that you will call out different body parts in a random order. Instruct the kids to touch the body part you name. Continue playing as time and interest allow. SAY Wow! That was so much fun! You all listened so well. Like we touched our head, shoulders, knees, and toes, Thomas said he needed to touch Jesus's body to believe that Jesus was alive. When Thomas saw Jesus, He believed that Jesus is alive and said, 'My Lord and My God.'

STAMP HANDS IN PLAY DOUGH
Give each child a small ball of play dough. Demonstrate how to use a rolling pin to flatten the dough. Show the kids how to press their hands and fingers into the flattened dough to make handprints and fingerprints. Encourage kids to smooth the play dough and press again to make more prints. Collect the play dough when finished. SAY These handprints look great! JESUS SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES HE 1S ALIVE when He showed them the wounds in His hands and feet. When you look at your handprints, you can remember that Jesus is alive. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.

GUESS EMOTIONS
Play out different emotions and encourage the kids to guess which emotion you are showing. Then allow each child a turn to play out an emotion, while the other kids guess. Display emotions like fear, surprise, happiness, sadness, and anger. SAY _ You showed some big emotions! In our story today, we will learn how surprised and scared Jesus's friends were when He appeared to them. | can't wait to tell you the whole story!

UNWRAP AN ITEM
Choose several small items in the room such as a crayon, marker, scissors, glue, a block, and other small toys. Wrap the items in separate sheets of paper by crumbling the paper around each individual item. Display all the wrapped items. Encourage the kids to unwrap the items to see what appears. SAY It was fun to see what appeared when we unwrapped each item. Who appeared in our Bible story today? (Jesus) When Jesus appeared, He said, 'Peace to you.' At first Jesus's friends were surprised and scared. But Jesus showed them His hands and His feet and ate fish. JESUS SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE. Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him. He wanted His disciples to share this truth then, and He wants us to share it today!