LEFC KIDS

SHEPHERD OVERVIEW

Grades 3-4
Nov. 15, 2026
2nd Service

Jesus Appeared to His Disciples

Luke 24; John 20

What did Jesus do to save us?

Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all.
-Romans 8:31b-32a

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

PREPARE HEARTS

- [ ] Starter Activity - Welcome and Question of the Day
- [ ] **11:00 - Kids Worship**

ACTIVATE HEARTS

- [ ] Lesson Review - Jesus Appeared to His Disciples
- [ ] Discussion Questions
- [ ] Group Activity: Towel Demonstration

ENGAGE HEARTS

- [ ] Group Game: Silent Ball
- [ ] Share and Care Prayer Time
- [ ] Group Activity: Questions of Doubt
- [ ] Group Activity: Knock the Cups Review Game

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 10:20 - 10:30 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

LEFC KIDS

GRADES 3-4

KNOW + LOVE + FOLLOW + SHARE

Nov. 15, 2026
2nd Service

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

*KNOW that Jesus is alive!

*TRUST Jesus and talk to Him about about their questions and doubts.

*TELL others the good news about Jesus!



As you arrive and children come and go - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the others.
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 2nd service (by 10:50ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.
Option - Pen Pal Kit!!



PREPARE HEARTS

Starter Activity

Welcome and Question of the Day

Question of the Day:

Which of these things can you see and touch? Give a thumbs up if you can see and touch and a thumbs down if you can't, but they are still real.

- Air / Book / Gravity / Hand / Flower / Love / Wind / Eyes / Electricity / Ball / Pencil / Radio Waves

Today's Bible story shows us another exciting moment when Jesus appeared to His disciples. They were scared, hiding behind locked doors, unsure what to believe. But JESUS PROVED TO HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE. He spoke peace to them, showed them His hands and feet, and even ate with them. Jesus wanted His followers to know without a doubt that He truly lives.

Hole in Hand Illusion - https://www.youtube.com/shorts/ks4OwPRuuXU

Watch this 30 sec. clip to see how to give the illusion that you have a hole in your hand! Have the children roll up their activity sheet and use it for this demonstration.



KIDS WORSHIP

11:00 **Kids Worship for Pre-K - 4th Grade in LG2.**

ACTIVE MINDS

You can use the REVIEW VIDEO on your TV and / or use this lesson as a review of what was taught 1st service.

Jesus Appeared to His Disciples

Bibles,
Review Video -
Bible story on TV

Open your Bible to Luke 24 or John 20. You can use the Kids Sermon Outline as you go through the story.

KIDS SERMON OUTLINE:

Jesus met His disciples in their fear and gave them peace. (John 20:19): The disciples were hiding and afraid, but Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace to you." Jesus comes close to us even when we feel scared or uncertain.

Jesus proved He was truly alive by showing His wounds. (Luke 24:39-40): He invited the disciples to see and touch His hands and feet and even ate with them. Jesus gave clear proof that He had really risen from the dead.

Jesus helped Thomas believe and blesses those who believe without seeing. (John 20:27-29): Thomas wanted to see Jesus with his own eyes. Jesus met Thomas in his doubts and encouraged him to believe. Jesus invites everyone to trust Him today.

One evening, on the first day of the week, Jesus's disciples were gathered ina room with the doors locked. They were afraid of the people who were in charge in Jerusalem. They didn't want to be killed like Jesus had been killed. But Mary had reported seeing Him alive. Was it true?

Suddenly, Jesus appeared among the disciples and said, "Peace to you."

The disciples were surprised and afraid. They wondered, "Is this really Jesus?" They thought they were seeing a ghost!

Jesus showed them His hands and His feet. "Look at Me and touch Me," He said. "A ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, but I do." Then Jesus even ate some fish to show He was alive.

Jesus told them, "Remember how I told you that the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead? Now it has happened, just as the Scriptures said." Then, Jesus gave the disciples an important job: they should share with everyone the good news that Jesus died and rose again.

One of the disciples named Thomas wasn't there when this happened. When Thomas heard Jesus was alive, he said, "I won't believe it unless I see and touch His wounds myself."

A week later, Jesus appeared again. This time, Thomas was with the disciples. Jesus said, "Thomas, look at My hands. Reach out your hand and touch My side. Don't be faithless, but believe." Thomas answered, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said, "Because you have seen Me, you believe. But even more blessed are those who believe without seeing."

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus's disciples had left Him when He was arrested, but Jesus died and rose again to give them hope, peace, and forgiveness. Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.

When Jesus appeared to His disciples, they were afraid and unsure of what was true. But Jesus showed them His hands and His feet, the same wounds from the cross. He even ate with them so they would know He wasn't a ghost—He was truly alive! Jesus reminded them that everything written in the Scriptures about His death and resurrection had come true. He was the Messiah who suffered, died, and rose again to save sinners. Jesus's disciples had left Him when He was arrested, but Jesus died and rose again to give them hope, peace, and forgiveness. Jesus offers peace and forgiveness to everyone who trusts in Him.

The Bible tells us in John 20:19, "Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace be with you."

Jesus didn't wait for His disciples to be brave—He came to them with peace. When you feel afraid or unsure, how does knowing that Jesus is alive help you trust Him? [Allow responses.] (Read Romans 10:9.) Jesus's resurrection is the proof of His power and the foundation of our hope.



Discussion

Discussion questions listed here

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

How did the words Thomas spoke, 'my Lord and my God,' show his belief? Explain that his response confesses Jesus's identity as God, as well as the faith Thomas held in Jesus as Lord. Share that John's Gospel was written so that people would confess Jesus as Lord and God, just as Thomas did. (Optional: Choose a volunteer to read John 20:30-31.)

What comfort does Jesus offer to those struggling with doubt? Share that just as Jesus graciously invited Thomas to see the proof of His resurrected body, He has provided us with His Word to assure us when we doubt. Explain that Jesus is not afraid of our doubts. In fact, God has provided the testimonies of the Gospel writers so that we would believe and confess Jesus as Lord. (Optional: Choose a volunteer to read 1 John 4:13-14.)

How does the reality that Jesus is alive give believers peace and hope? Answers may vary. Encourage kids to remember that because of Jesus's resurrection, He promises that believers have not only been raised to new life spiritually, but one day they will be raised to new life physically with Him. (Optional: Choose a volunteer to read Philippians 3:20-21.)



Towel Demonstration

Before the session, hide a familiar object under a towel. Tell the kids you have something important to show them, but they can't see it yet. Let them guess what it might be. Then slowly lift the towel revealing the object. Explain that seeing the object themselves helped them believe what was really there.

- Object
- Towel

SAY: When we started, you couldn't see what was under the towel. You heard me talk about it, and you made some really good guesses, but you still weren't completely sure. No matter how many clues you had, nothing could replace actually seeing the object for yourself. Once the towel was lifted and the object was revealed, you knew the truth with confidence—there was no more guessing. The disciples experienced something very similar. After Jesus died, they had heard reports that He was alive—Mary said she saw Him, some remembered His promises—but they were still unsure. They were hiding behind locked doors, afraid and confused, wondering what was real. Then everything changed. Suddenly, Jesus stood right in front of them. John 20:19 says, "Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace be with you." Jesus didn't wait for the disciples to be brave—He came close to them in their fear. But He didn't stop there. In Luke 24:39, Jesus said, 'Look at My hands and My feet ... a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see | have.' Jesus showed His wounds, talked with them, and even ate food to prove He was truly alive. Lifting the towel helped you believe what was underneath. In an even greater way, JESUS PROVED TO HIS DISCIPLES HE IS ALIVE and His disciples could believe with confidence.



Silent Ball

- Ball

Instruct the kids to stretch out into a large circle. Toss a small indoor ball to someone to begin the game, and from that moment on, no one is allowed to talk.

Players gently toss the ball from person to person across the circle, trying to keep it from touching the ground. If a player drops the ball, makes a wild throw, talks, or distracts others, that player steps out for the round and sits aside quietly.

The game continues until only one player remains or until it's time to reset and start again. Encourage kids to stay focused, pay attention to who's ready to catch, and keep the ball moving smoothly.

SAY: Great job! In this game, you had to pay close attention because no one was allowed to talk. You watched carefully, stayed focused, and noticed every movement so you wouldn't drop the ball.

The disciples also had a moment where they needed to pay close attention. When Jesus appeared to them, He didn't just say He was alive—He showed them His hands and His feet. He let them see and even touch His wounds. Jesus gave them clear, undeniable proof that He had really risen from the dead.

You had to watch closely in our game, and the disciples watched closely when Jesus appeared. And because of what they saw, they believed the truth: Jesus is alive!



Share and Care Prayer

Spend some time as a class sharing about:

- Our Global Partner Family of the Month (**The Karthak Family**)
- Specific prayer requests from any of the kids about something going on in their own lives.

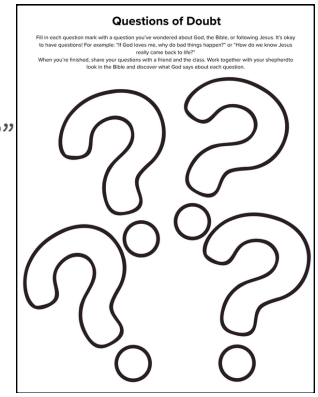
Have the class sit in a circle as you share and care for one another's needs. Ask for and share requests with one another. Review and follow up with any prayer requests from the chain made the week before. Use the Global Partner of the Month spotlight sheet (In the Pen Pal Kit) to talk about prayer requests from the Karthak Family



Questions of Doubt

- Questions worksheet
- Pencils

Pass out the Questions worksheet to each child. Have them Fill in each question mark with a question they have wondered about God, the Bible, or following Jesus. For example: “If God loves me, why do bad things happen?” or “How do we know Jesus really came back to life?”


Questions of Doubt

Fill in each question mark with a question you've wondered about God, the Bible, or following Jesus. It's okay to have questions! For example: "If God loves me, why do bad things happen?" or "How do we know Jesus really came back to life?"

When you're finished, share your questions with a friend and the class. Work together with your shepherdto look in the Bible and discover what God says about each question.

Remind them that it’s ok to have questions! God can handle any of our questions.

After a few minutes, have them share their questions with a friend and the class. Work together to look in the Bible and discover what God says about each question. If you don’t know the answer to a question, that’s ok too! Acknowledge that it’s a good question and that you will have too look into it and get back to them…. and then remember to follow up the next time you are there!



Knock the Cups Review Game

- 15 cups
- 2 bean bags
- Masking Tape
- Review Questions

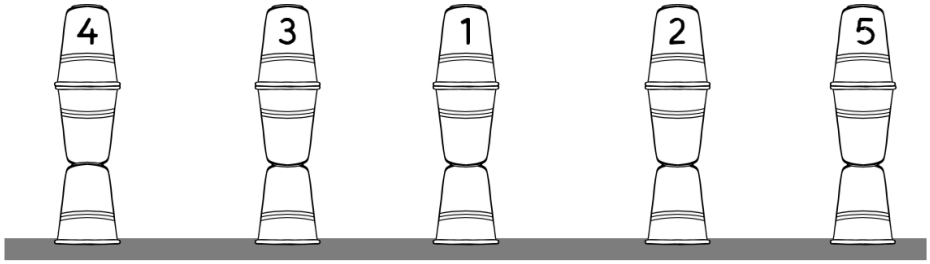
Make a 3 cup “tower” on the table by placing a styrofoam cup upside down on the table. Place a cup right side up on top of it. Finish with a 3rd cup upside down on top. Make 5 of these towers, placed apart so kids can only hit one tower at a time. If desired, you make mark the top cup with different points so that some towers are worth more points than others.

Place a “Throw” line on the floor at a good distance from the table so that the cups are challenging but not too hard for your students to hit with the bean bag or ball.

To Play:
Divide your students into two teams. Have the teams stand in a line, with the first person in each line facing the cup towers.

Ask “Team 1” a question. If the team answers the question correctly, the first person in line can throw a bean bag or ball three times, attempting to hit a cup tower. If he or she hits a tower, his or her team gets that number of points. After throwing three times, the front person moves to the back of the line. Rebuild the Cup Towers.

Ask “Team 2” a question and continue play.
** Large class? Have the first three students on each team throw one time instead of having one student throw three times. This will help to make sure that everyone gets a chance to participate.



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