

# Jesus Appears to His Disciples

## Card 16

### 2 Read Aloud

John 20:24-25

### 1 Review Activity

### 3 Storytelling

Pass out Card 16. Share the story.

- After they found the tomb empty where Jesus was buried, the disciples (Jesus' closest followers) were hiding in a locked room. Jesus appeared to them. The disciples were afraid and thought they were seeing a ghost.
- Jesus said, "Why are your hearts filled with doubt? Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me." Doubt means to not be sure if something is real or true.
- Thomas was not there when Jesus appeared to the other disciples, but they told him that they saw Jesus. He did not believe them. He said, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."
- Eight days later, the disciples were hiding again in a locked room, and this time Thomas was with them. Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you."
- Then Jesus turned to Thomas and said, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"
- Thomas believed and said, "My Lord and my God!"
- Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."
- Jesus told the disciples, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me everywhere in the world." After Jesus had said this to the disciples, he was taken up into a cloud to heaven.\*
- Some of us might be like Thomas; we have a hard time believing that Jesus is alive. But Jesus tells us to not doubt; we are blessed if we believe even if we haven't seen him with our own eyes!

\*Note - paraphrased from John 20:19-29, NLT

### 4 Discussion Questions

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do so they wouldn't doubt anymore? (look at his hands and feet, look at the nail holes)
2. How did Thomas react when Jesus showed him his wounds? (he believed, he worshipped)
3. What did Jesus tell the apostles before he ascended into heaven? (Holy Spirit will give you power, tell everyone about me)

### 5 Memory Verse

John 20:29

**You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.**

### 6 Activity: Charades

The teacher chooses one child to come to the front. The teacher whispers to her a clue from the stories they have already covered. The child has to act out the clue for the other children to guess. The first person to guess is the next person to act out the next clue. When acting out a clue, the child must get the other children to guess what phrase (s)he has without making any sounds or saying any words. Clues can include Bible characters or stories. For larger crowds, either separate the group into several small groups or have half of the crowd turn to the back of the room and play their own game.

## Teacher Background

### Review Card Set

**Scripture:** Luke 24:35-53,  
John 20:19-29, and Acts 1:4-11

**Theme:** doubt

### 7 Learning Point

It can be confusing trying to guess what someone is acting out. You may have doubted you had the right answer. You may also feel confused and doubtful about Jesus. It can be very difficult to believe something or someone we have never seen. Jesus tells us that if we have faith, believe in him and don't doubt, then we will be blessed. Do you doubt that Jesus is real? Ask God in prayer to give you faith so that you will believe. But like in the game, you just have to look closely; you will see him working in your life. God will begin to show you through the Bible and through your life that he is real, and that he is with you. There is no need to doubt!

### 8 Review Card Set

