



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of April 24, 2022: John 20:19-31

Memory Verse

John 20:21: *Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*

A Time to Pray

Wakeup Prayer:

Good morning, God! Help me to show your love to all today. Amen.

A Bedtime Blessing:

Cuddled up, snug in bed
 Dreams of love lay ahead
 God is with you day & night
 Sleep little one, till morning light.

Craft Corner:

Behind The Door age 3-5

You will need: sheets of cardstock placed landscape, folded in half like a greetings card (prepare two of these for each child), crayons, glue or glue sticks, strips of...



The Story: Missing Out

Have your friends ever talked about something that happened to them when you weren't there?

Can you describe a time when you felt left out from something that was going on?

How did that feel?

Maybe you had been sick when there was something exciting happening at school. Maybe you missed watching a match where your favorite team won.

People will often try to describe what an experience was like, and some people are really good at doing that, but it is not the same as being there.



There is a story in the bible about a man called Thomas who missed seeing Jesus.

Most of Jesus' friends were in a room together on the first Easter Sunday evening. Jesus came to them and talked with them and showed them that he really was alive. But Thomas was not there.

However much everyone told Thomas that Jesus was alive, Thomas did not believe them. He told them that unless he saw Jesus for himself, he could not believe

...paper in a variety of colors that are the same length as the front of the card (these when stuck to the front along one edge will form a door).

Give each child two folded cards and ask them to stick strips of paper onto the front so that these look like pieces of wood forming a door and then to draw a mailbox, handle and door knocker on each. Ask the children to draw Thomas on his own with a sad face on the front cover behind the door on one card so that when the door is opened it reveals a sad Thomas. Repeat with the other card but this time ask the children to draw Thomas with a happy face meeting Jesus.

Talk about the story and the different emotions Thomas had. Talk about how happy Thomas was to see Jesus and to hear the words "Peace be with you". Talk about the good news of Jesus being alive still makes people happy today.

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that Jesus had come back to life.

It was a long week before Jesus came back to see his friends, and this time Thomas was with them. Jesus talked with Thomas, and Thomas was happy because he had seen Jesus and he knew for himself that Jesus was alive.

Sometimes Thomas gets called 'Doubting Thomas' because he doubted what his friends told him about Jesus being alive. That seems a bit unfair because the bible also tells us that the other friends of Jesus were doubters too. They did not believe the women who had found Jesus' tomb empty.

Perhaps all of us in that situation would have questioned and doubted. Maybe we still do. That's just fine.

Craft Corner: Heart Hands (age 6-8)

You will need: sheets of cardstock in a variety of colors, pencils, scissors

Ask the children to choose a sheet of card in a color they like. Ask the children to place the card in front of them in the landscape position and then to fold the card in half like a greetings card. Ask the children to place a hand, open fingers on the card with top of thumb and index finger touching the folded edge. Ask the children to draw around their hand in pencil and then to cut around the shape they have drawn, making sure that they do not cut through the folded edge at the place where their thumb and index finger met the edge. When the card is opened, there should be a pair of hands with a heart shape visible. Ask the children to decorate the hands with words from the story or with drawing of Jesus and Thomas.

Talk about the story and Thomas wanting to see Jesus and to experience what his friends had experienced. Talk about Jesus showing Thomas his hands and saying "Peace be with you". Talk about the good news of Jesus being alive was for more than one day, it is for every day and for us today.