



# EASTER

## FAMILY GUIDE TO SERIES OVERVIEW

JOHN 3:16-17 (NIV)

***For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.***

The following elements will be provided:

### Documents

- Word Searches
- Activity Sheets
- Coloring Sheets
- Activity Instructions
- Talk It Over Questions

### Media

- Church at Home
  - Countdown
  - Worship Song
  - Memory Verse Song
  - Animated Bible Story
  - Teaching Video

### Lesson 1

#### The Triumphal Entry

Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11,  
Luke 19:28-44, John 12:12-19

***I will celebrate Jesus as my good King.***

### Lesson 2

#### Jesus' Sacrifice

Matthew 27:32-56, Mark 15:21-41,  
Luke 23:26-43, John 19

***I can believe because Jesus is alive.***

### Lesson 3

#### Jesus Appears Thomas

John 20:24-31

***When I doubt, I can remember Jesus.***

### Lesson 4

#### The Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-49

***I will remember what Jesus did for me every day.***



# EASTER

TALK IT OVER | LESSON 3

Hey parents! Use these questions as a guide to talk over this week's lesson, **Jesus Appears to Thomas**, with your child after they've watched the video service!

1. What was your favorite part of the video?
2. Who did Jesus appear to after He had risen?
3. What would you have done if you were Thomas and you were the only one of your friends who didn't get to see Jesus? Would you have believed them that they actually saw Jesus, or would you have doubted like Thomas?
4. What was the proof Thomas wanted to see and why was that important?
5. What are some things you remember about Jesus that are important to you?
6. What questions do you have about the video, heaven, sin, Jesus, etc.? Discuss their questions together and refer to the Q&A asset provided in the link.
7. Don't forget about the Quarantine Challenge! This week, write a letter or draw a picture for a friend or neighbor.



# EASTER

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY | LESSON 3

## TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE

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Directions:

1. Get together with the people in your house and/or get on a video chat via FaceTime, Hangouts, Zoom, Marco Polo, etc. with friends and family outside your home.
2. Ask each player to come up with 3 statements about themselves: 2 truths and 1 lie.
3. One person will share their 3 statements with the group.
4. All other players will need to decide which statement they think is the lie.
5. Once all players have made their guess, the person will announce which statement was the lie.
6. Continue in this way and repeat with each player.

## TALKING POINTS

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*Get together and talk about how this game helps us think about this week's Bible story.*

- Sometimes it can be hard to tell what the truth is. Sometimes we want to believe but we aren't sure.
- That reminds us about the Bible story from church this week. Thomas had a hard time knowing if what his friends were saying about Jesus was true. How could Jesus really be alive if Thomas didn't get to see it for himself? That caused Thomas to doubt.
  - What are some real things that we can't see? *Wind, electricity, etc.*
  - Do you need to see something for yourself for it to be true?
- It may have been difficult for the disciples to believe that Jesus would really come back from the dead before Jesus actually did. But we see that God's plans are trustworthy.
  - Has there ever been a time that was hard for you to trust God's good plans?
- Do you think it was okay that Thomas doubted the truth of Jesus being alive?
- It's okay to have questions and doubts, but when you do, you need to go to the right source for true answers. Where can you look to find the answers to your questions? Do you have any questions about the Bible story or anything from this week?
  - See the Q&A document available for a list of questions and answers about God, life, sin, etc. to talk about with your child.



**Jesus Appears to Thomas**  
**John 20:24-31**



# Colored by:

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on

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**Hey Parents! We're continuing our Easter series this week with the story of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. Thomas wasn't sure Jesus had risen. But Jesus appeared to him, too. Jesus said we can trust Him even when we can't see Him. Review these questions with your child this week, reminding them that they can trust Jesus even when they aren't sure!**

- 1. What did Thomas see to know Jesus was really alive?**
- 2. What special book can you read with me to find out more about Jesus?**
- 3. How do you know Jesus is alive?**





# EASTER

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY | LESSON 3

## ASK ME ANYTHING – FAMILY INTERVIEW

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Directions:

1. Take sometime to get together with the people in your life. Begin with people in your household, then maybe reach out to other people in your life via FaceTime, Hangouts, Zoom, Marco Polo, etc. with friends and family outside your home.
2. Tell them you just heard about a story in the Bible about one of Jesus' disciples, Thomas, who had doubts that Jesus was really alive after He had died. But Thomas knew about his friend and knew what question to ask that would help him know for certain it was his friend Jesus who had just come back to life!
3. Use this activity as a fun way to see how well you know the people closest to you. As you listen to one another, you just might learn something new about them.
4. Have fun and be honest!

## TALKING POINTS

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*Here are some questions to ask to get you started.*

- Who is your hero/biggest influence now or when you were the age of the child?
- Do you believe in Jesus?
  - If yes, when did you start believing and what are you learning about Jesus now?
  - If no, what questions do you have about Jesus?
- What are some things that cause you to doubt like Thomas? How do you overcome your doubts?
- If Jesus was right in front of you, what is one thing you'd ask or tell him?
- If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would you choose?
- What is your favorite part about your job or school?
- What makes you laugh the most? What makes you angry? What makes you happy?
- What did you want to be when you were the age of the child? When you grew up?
- What are you most proud of?
- What is one thing you are thankful for today?



## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY? – Q&A

### Directions:

- Look over the following questions with your child.
- Have them pick a question that they would like to know more about.
- Go through the answers together using the guide below.
- You may choose to look up the scripture references and research the topic more together.
- Throughout the week, you can pick additional questions to discuss together

### QUESTIONS

### ANSWERS

**1. Does God love bad people?**

Yes! God created everyone for a special purpose and He loves them all very much - enough to send His Son, Jesus, to die for us on the cross! But, God does not love sin. God can separate the person from his/her sin which means He still loves us even though He hates our sin. He loves you unconditionally, even though you make bad choices and sin, too (John 3:16-18).

**2. Who made God?**

No one! He was not made or born (Revelation 1:8). He has always been there (Genesis 1:1). I know it's hard to understand because we think of time in hours, minutes, days, and years, but the Bible tells us that God exists outside of time. Time is different for God, so it makes sense that He has always existed because He is eternal (Revelation 1:8; John 14:6)!

**3. How does God watch over everyone at the same time?**

God can be everywhere at the same time because He does not have a physical body like you and I do. He doesn't work on the same timeline as humans, either, so minutes and hours and days are different for Him. Imagine being in an airplane and looking down on the Earth beneath you. You can see so much more because you are on a different level than if you were on the ground. God is on a different level than us - time and space don't mean anything to Him because He has His own time

and space. He can see everything and everyone at one time (Jeremiah 23:24)!

- 4. Is there anything really wrong with getting angry?**

Feeling angry is not wrong, but how we ACT when we are angry can be wrong. God gave us emotions for a reason and anger is an emotion He gives us. When we feel angry or mad, we have a CHOICE of how we are going to RESPOND or express our anger. When we know why we feel angry or mad, we can address the real issue. Sometimes when we do not look for the reason, we may REACT by verbally attacking someone or physically acting out. This is not pleasing to God and we generally get into trouble at home or at school because of that choice (Ephesians 4:26-27)!
- 5. Why did God put the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the garden if He didn't want Adam and Eve to sin?**

God gave Adam and Eve free will. That means He wanted them to be able to choose right or wrong. They would have the choice whether or not they would obey or disobey Him. Without free will, we would not be able to make our own choices. We would be like robots! Even though God didn't want Adam and Eve to sin, He wanted them to be able to make their own choices (Genesis 2:16-17). Unfortunately, they chose to sin. But that's why God died on the cross - to save us from those sins!
- 6. Does God love people who don't love Him?**

Yep! God loves all people, even if they don't love Him in return! But He wants them to choose to follow Him and love Him (2 Peter 3:9).
- 7. If God is good, why do bad things happen?**

God is good and all powerful (Psalm 100:5; Jeremiah 31:18b)! And when He created the world, He said "It is good" too (Genesis 1:31)! But sin entered the world when God gave Adam and Eve the choice to eat fruit from the bad tree in the garden. He wanted to give everyone the choice to love Him or ignore Him (2 Peter 3:9). He didn't want us to all be robots. So, some people choose not to love Him and make bad choices instead. The world we live in is broken, not because of God - He wanted the world and humans to be perfect - but because Adam and Eve brought sin into it and passed sin on to the rest of humanity (Genesis 3:23; Romans 5:12). But God still cares about us and wants to help us through the hard times (Matthew 11:28).
- 8. Is there anything I can do that would make God stop loving me?**

No! Bad choices pull us farther away from God, but we will never be ripped away from Him. Our bad choices make Him sad, but they don't make Him stop loving us. The Bible says, "Nothing can separate us from God's love" (Romans 8:38). We are special creations of God. God created us to be His friends and take care of the world. God knew we would sin, but He also gives us a choice on how we deal with our sin. The choice is to believe and follow Jesus by accepting the free gift of



eternal life by asking Jesus to be our Savior. It's a choice that honors and glorifies God. God wants us to stop doing bad things when we realize we've messed up. He'll never stop loving us, but He wants us to ask forgiveness for our sins and start making better choices (Acts 3:19; Romans 8:38-39).

**9. Did Jesus ever sin?**

Nope! But, Jesus was tempted to sin by Satan (Luke 4:1-13). This means that He thought about sinning and maybe even wanted to sin, but He decided not to. Jesus was perfect and lived a sinless life. Being tempted is not a sin, but giving in to temptation is! Jesus knows what it's like to be tempted and He understands when we are tempted (Hebrews 4:15-16).

**10. When is Jesus coming back?**

Jesus will come back, but no one knows when. The only person who knows when Jesus will come back and take believers to Heaven is God (1 Thessalonians 4:16a; Matthew 24:36).

**11. What happens if we forget to pray?**

Forgetting to pray is not bad, it just means you missed a chance to talk to God. He always wants to talk to us, which is why the Bible says to never stop praying. But that doesn't mean you have to pray every second of every day; it just means that God is always ready and willing to talk to you! He wants to hear about what is happening in your life (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

**12. Why doesn't God answer my prayers?**

God always hears your prayers, and He will always answer them in His own way. Sometimes, this is not the way that we want or expect. Sometimes, He answers prayers with a "No" or "Not right now." Prayer increases our faith and brings us closer to God, even if we don't always get what we want. God will always answer prayer in a way that's best for us and part of His plan (Proverbs 15:3; Revelation 1:8).

**13. Were dinosaurs real?**

God created every kind of animal, which means He created dinosaurs! He existed before the dinosaurs, and they were part of His 7 days of creation when He created land and sea animals (Genesis 1:20-30).

**14. How can I know for sure I am going to Heaven?**

If you've admitted your sin to God (1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19), believed in who Jesus is and that He died for you (Romans 10:9), prayed to Him asking Him to be the boss of your life (Acts 2:21), then you will be in Heaven. It's that simple!

**15. If a baby dies, will they go to Heaven?**

Yes! God gives all of us free will to make the choice whether or not we want to believe in Him. But babies and children are too young to make choices, so God holds a special place for them in Heaven. He loves

children and wants them in Heaven with Him (Matthew 18:1-5)! In the Old Testament we read that when King David's young son died, David understood he would see his son again in heaven (2 Samuel 12:23).

**16. Why did God create the Devil?**

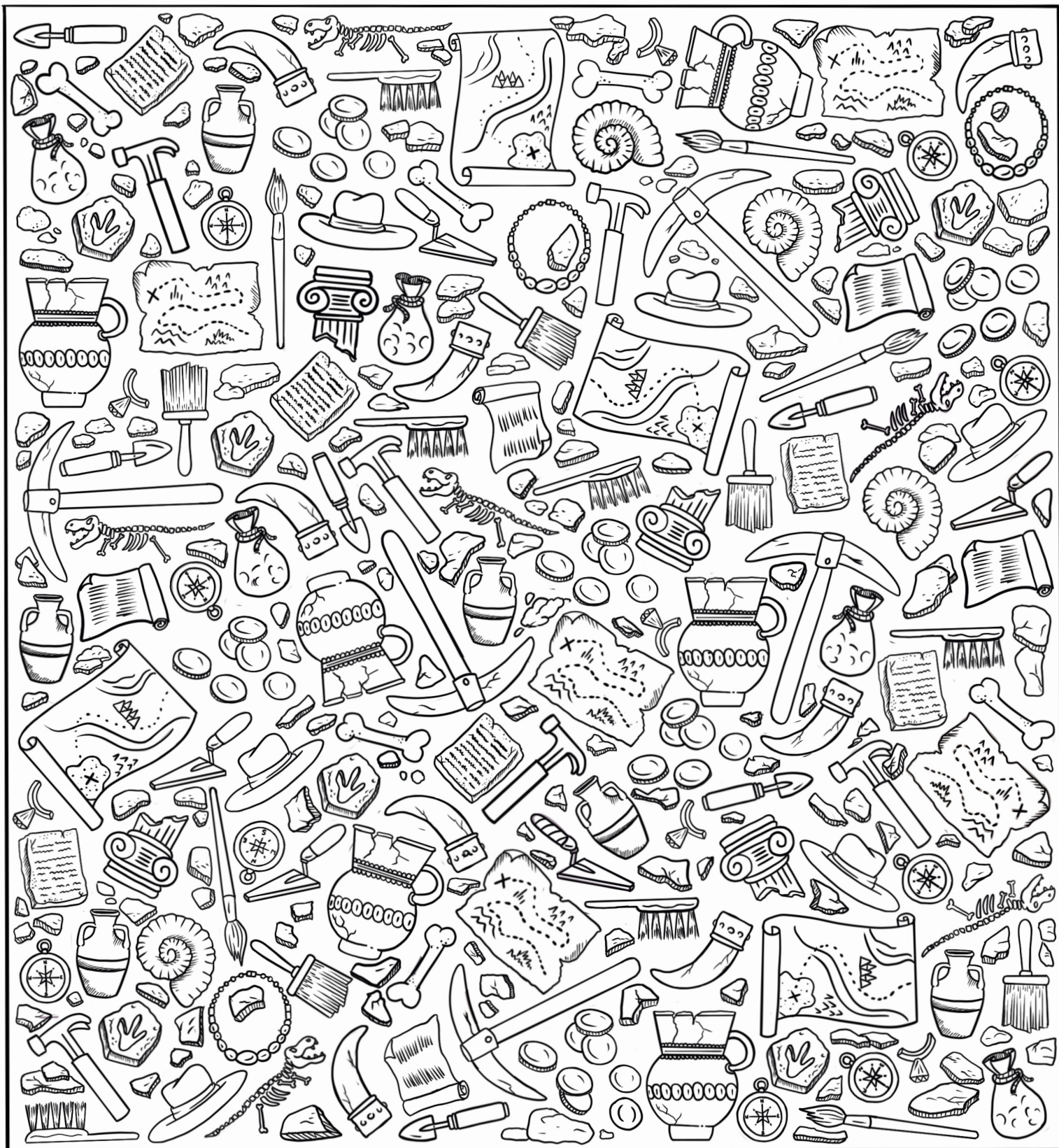
God created angels, and Satan was actually an angel! His name was Lucifer and He was one of God's most important angels, but Lucifer rebelled against God because he wanted to be more powerful (Ezekiel 28:15-16). Lucifer's sin of pride resulted in him being separated forever from God, and many other angels became followers of him (Jude 1:6; 2 Peter 2:4). He has a few names in the Bible, like Satan, Lucifer, the Enemy, and the Devil.

**17. Do animals go to Heaven?**

We don't know! The Bible doesn't tell us, but we know that God loves all of His creation and has a special plan for them like He has a special plan for us. We can trust that God has a special plan for animals.

**18. Do people of other religions go to Heaven?**

It's not the religion that matters, it's the personal relationship with Jesus. If they have admitted their sin and asked Jesus to be the boss of their life, they will be in Heaven with Jesus for eternity. If not, they will spend eternity separated from Jesus (Acts 11:26; 1 John 5:11-12).



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6



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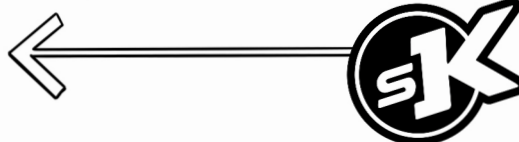


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How many  
artifacts can you  
find and color ?







I F  
V W  
J T  
Z C  
P G  
Z G  
R R  
T C T S F P N X  
Y W B P D D D O U B T  
Q Q N J S J Z Y S O  
B R T L E G F L L X U S  
T E T M S S B X O T P O  
G C T E T Y H R U T R D I S C I P L E S  
T X S X O A O U S D E B E L I E V E E C  
Q P M H T S M G E U Q P  
N P A A R J E O U E E C  
E S H U J M D H F X  
A G U S L B J T W J R  
Y R O T A E H H N Z  
B Z V R H Q  
L O G M C E  
L N  
S Q

APPEAR  
BELIEVE  
DISCIPLES  
DOUBT  
GOD  
JESUS  
REMEMBER  
THOMAS  
TRUST

WHEN I DOUBT, I  
CAN REMEMBER  
JESUS.

# Can you see it?

There are some things we can see and some things we can't see. Let's sort those things together. Remember that even though we can't see Jesus, he is real! Jesus says that we are happy if we believe even though we don't see him.

THINGS WE CAN SEE

THINGS WE CAN'T SEE

Cut out the pictures and put them in the bucket where they belong.



Love



Balloon



Cheeseburger



God



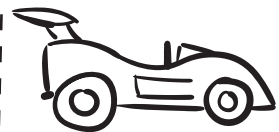
Happy



The Wind

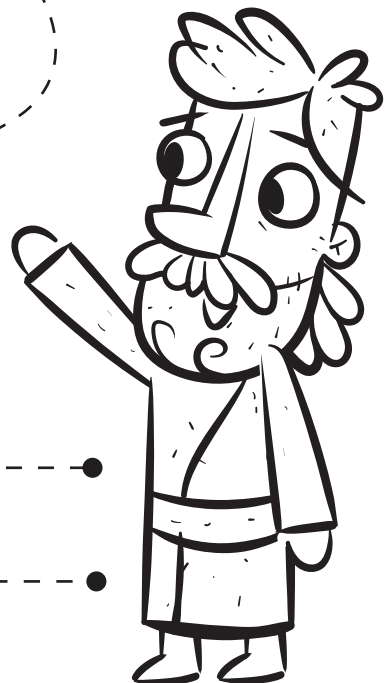
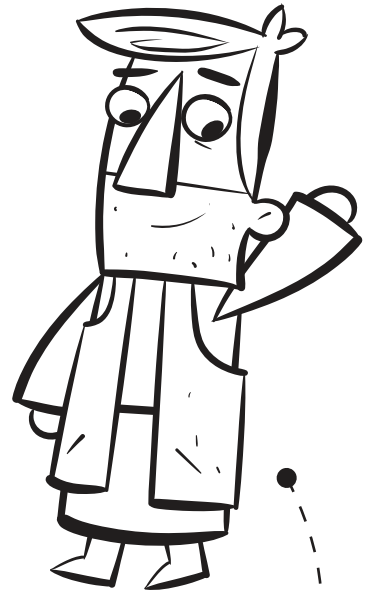


Lion



Race Car

# I can trust Jesus!



Trace the lines from the disciples to Jesus.