

Thomas Believes – Bible Story

9a

The disciples spent three years with Jesus, learning from him and following his instructions. They heard Jesus talk about what was going to happen to him, but they didn't really understand.

But in one short week, all of those things were revealed to the disciples. Their master had gone from being praised as king to being arrested and crucified. And now, their Lord had risen from the grave just like he told them he would.

After Jesus' resurrection, he appeared to his disciples and others several times. The disciples had seen and talked to Jesus, but one of the disciples, Thomas, was not with them.

They told Thomas, "We have seen the Lord!"

Thomas struggled to believe what they were saying. He told the others, "Unless I see Jesus myself, I won't believe he is alive."

Eight days later, the disciples were all together. Jesus appeared to them and spoke to Thomas.

Jesus said, "Peace be with you. Thomas, look at me. No more doubting. Believe!"

Thomas knew the risen Lord was standing in front of him. He said, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence. These things were recorded so that all would believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and have life in his name.

(Based on John 20:24-31)



9b Thomas Needs to See – Puzzle (Preschool)

Thomas wasn't with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared to them. They told Thomas about it, but he had trouble believing them. Glue some eyes on Thomas, so he can see Jesus.



Find the Words – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

9c

Look for six words in the puzzle that you can find in John 20:24-31. The letters to the words are scrambled. Unscramble the words and write them in the blanks below.

A	D	N	H	S
Y		L		S
P	C	A	E	E
P		I		J
H	E	S	O	U

Across

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Down

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

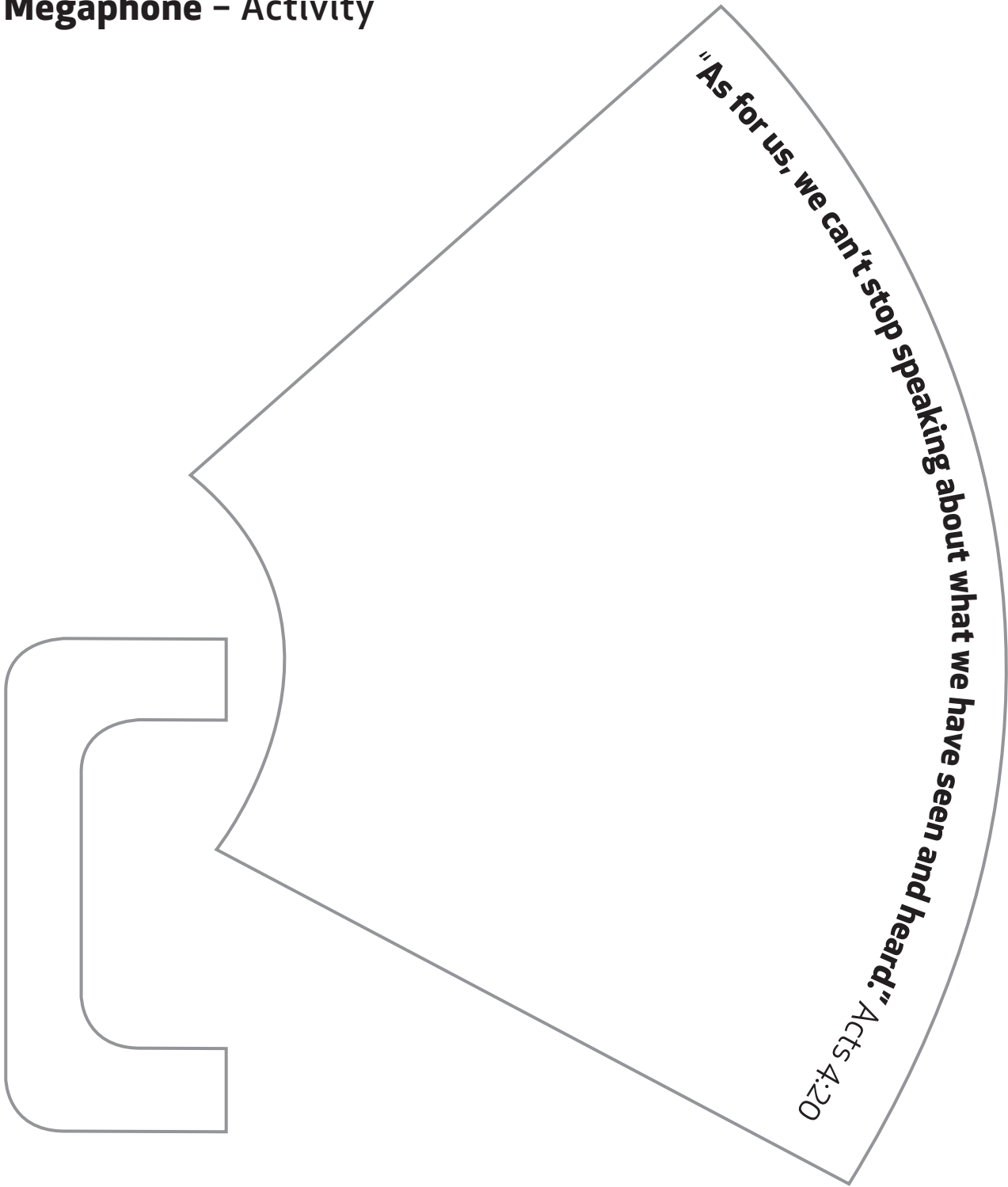


9d Dropped Letters – Puzzle (Older Elementary)

All of the letters have fallen out of the grid, but they stayed in the correct columns. Can you work out how to put them back again? When you place the letters correctly, they will spell words that Jesus said to Thomas and Thomas said to Jesus. For help, look at John 20:24-31.

Tip: Put the short words in first.

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



Thomas Believes

John 20:24-31

The disciples were sad and scared when Jesus died, but those feelings changed when Jesus appeared to them. Thomas wasn't with the others when Jesus first appeared to them. They told Thomas that they had seen Jesus. He was alive! But Thomas had trouble believing their words. He needed to see Jesus for himself. So later Jesus appeared to the disciples again and Thomas was with them. Jesus showed himself to Thomas so he wouldn't doubt anymore. Then Thomas knew Jesus was alive. He said, "My Lord and my God!"

Verse of the Month

"Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Mark 11:9

What Do You Think?

What do you think the disciples thought would happen after they saw the resurrected Jesus?

How do you think you would have felt if Jesus had appeared to you?

Family Activity

Talk about things that you wonder about Jesus. Who do you go to when you have questions?

Jesus gave Thomas what he needed to believe. Do you know someone who doesn't believe Jesus rose from the grave? What do they need to believe? How can you help them?

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for giving us what we need. We praise you as our living God; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.