

ACTIVITY TIME!!!

Activity

Materials:

Bowls, Cloths, Household objects/ materials to put into bowls (water, paper scraps, salt, marbles, small toys, etc.)

After Jesus came back, he visited most of his disciples and they saw him and spoke with him. Thomas, however, missed out, so when he heard what had happened, he didn't believe it. He needed to have an experience with Jesus himself to help him believe, and Jesus gave that to him. He met with Thomas, spoke with him, and even offered to let Thomas touch his wounds. Jesus accepted Thomas just as he was—full of questions and doubts— and helped him reach a place of understanding and belief.

Sometimes, in order to understand the world around us, it helps to ask questions and explore. Similar to Thomas, we can learn through our senses, our questions, and our interactions. Let's explore that today with Belief Bowls.

The leader will prepare bowls with different touch-safe household objects and materials and then cover them with a cloth so participants can't see what's inside (as best as possible, try to make sure there are enough bowls for all participants). The first participant can put their hand inside the bowl to feel what's inside. The participant can describe to the rest of the group what they feel, and everyone is allowed to ask the leader questions about what's in the bowl. When someone guesses what's inside the bowl OR when the group decides they want to see what's inside the bowl, the leader can remove the cloth and show everyone the contents. Everyone can have a turn looking at what's inside for themselves and seeing it with their own eyes. The process repeats for each bowl.

Alternate Activity

When Jesus came back to see his disciples, he didn't leave them questioning if it was him. He spoke to them, interacted with them, and even showed him his hands and side. Thomas wasn't with the other disciples when this happened, but Jesus made sure Thomas wasn't left with questions, either. Although Thomas didn't believe when the other disciples told him what happened, Jesus came to Thomas, spoke to him, and even offered for him to put his hand on his side. After, there were no questions left: Thomas believed!

Practice having your questions answered by playing ***The Question Game***. Have one person in the group think of a food, color, or person in the Bible. Once they announce their category, everyone else in the group gets to take turns asking them "yes or no" questions to help guess what that person thought of. When someone guesses the correct answer, a new person gets to select the next thing for people to guess. The game ends when everyone has had a turn or ten questions have been asked, whichever is higher.