



SEEING IS BELIEVING

Lesson 31

BIG IDEA

Thomas, one of Jesus disciples, needed to see to believe that Jesus had really risen from the dead.

KEY VERSES

John 20:24-30

MEMORY VERSE

John 20:29

“Then Jesus said to him, ‘Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’”

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

- Dollar bill
- Two large paper clips
- Lesson script
- Practice the paper clip trick

GAME

- A list of materials needed for the games
- Blindfolds (bandannas or other pieces of cloth)
- 4 chairs, cones, soda bottles or other obvious place marker to use as gate posts.

CRAFT

- Experience Mission provides scissors, hole punch, stapler, staples, rulers
- Large colored paper clips
- Pipe cleaners in various colors
- Small Wiggle Eyes
- Craft glue (such as quick dry Tacky Glue) or Glue Dots

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)
- Photocopies of Work Sheet (domestic communities only)





SEEING IS BELIEVING

BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

lesson 31

This lesson is centered on a simple trick performed with a dollar bill and paper clips (instructions on at end of lesson). Practice prior to presenting this lesson.

Do you find it easy to believe what someone tells you, even if what they tell you seems impossible? For example, suppose I said to you, "I am going to take these two paper clips and connect them without touching them with my hands." Would that be easy for you to believe? It doesn't make sense, does it? How can I possibly connect these two paper clips while not touching them with my hands? You might say, "I'd have to see it to believe it." Well, if I show you and you see it with your own eyes, you would have to say, "I believe it," wouldn't you? After all, seeing is believing.

OK, first I am going to take this dollar bill and fold it into thirds. Next, I will take one paper clip and clip the top section of the dollar to the middle section. Now I will take the other paper clip and clip the bottom section to the middle section. Finally, I will slowly pull on the two ends of the dollar bill. Watch what happens.

Wow! That is really cool, isn't it? The two paper clips are connected! Now that you have seen it, do you believe it? Sometimes we must see something before we believe it, don't we?

On the evening of the first Sunday after Jesus had been crucified, his disciples were together in a locked room. They were afraid that those who had crucified Jesus would also want to put them to death. Suddenly, Jesus appeared there in the locked room with the disciples. It was hard to believe, but they saw him and Jesus showed them his wounds in his hands and his side, so they knew it was him.

One of the disciples whose name was Thomas was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. When they told Thomas that they had seen Jesus, he did not believe them. He had seen him crucified and buried, how could he be alive? Thomas said, "Unless I see the wound in his side and put my finger in the holes where the nails were in his hands, I will not believe it!"

A week later, the disciples were in the locked room again and this time Thomas was with them. Again, Jesus came and stood among the disciples. Jesus, said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas fell on his knees and answered Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

You and I have never seen Jesus with our own eyes. The question is, will we be a doubter, or will we be one of those who Jesus said were blessed because they believe, even though they have not seen?

Dear Father, help us to believe in our heart the truths we find in your Holy Word, even though we have not seen them with our eyes. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



SEEING IS BELIEVING

BIBLE OBJECT LESSON (CONT.)

lesson 31

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does the word doubt mean?
2. Have you ever doubted something?
3. Why do you think Jesus own disciple doubted him?
4. What made Thomas believe?
5. Do we get to see Jesus face to face and see his scars?
6. What word means to believe in something or someone even if you can't see it/him? (Faith)



SEEING IS BELIEVING

CRAFT & GAME

lesson 31

• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: WACKY BOOKMARKS

Make a silly bookmark.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, rulers, hole punches

DIRECTIONS

- Cut pipe cleaners to lengths of your choice.
- Bend three pieces around the end of a large paper clip. Glue in place.
- For curly hair wrap pipe cleaner around thin stick
- Stick on Wiggle eyes.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Large colored paper clips
- Pipe cleaners in various colors
- Small Wiggle Eyes
- Craft glue (such as quick dry Tacky Glue) or Glue Dots

EXAMPLES



• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: GATE GUARDIAN

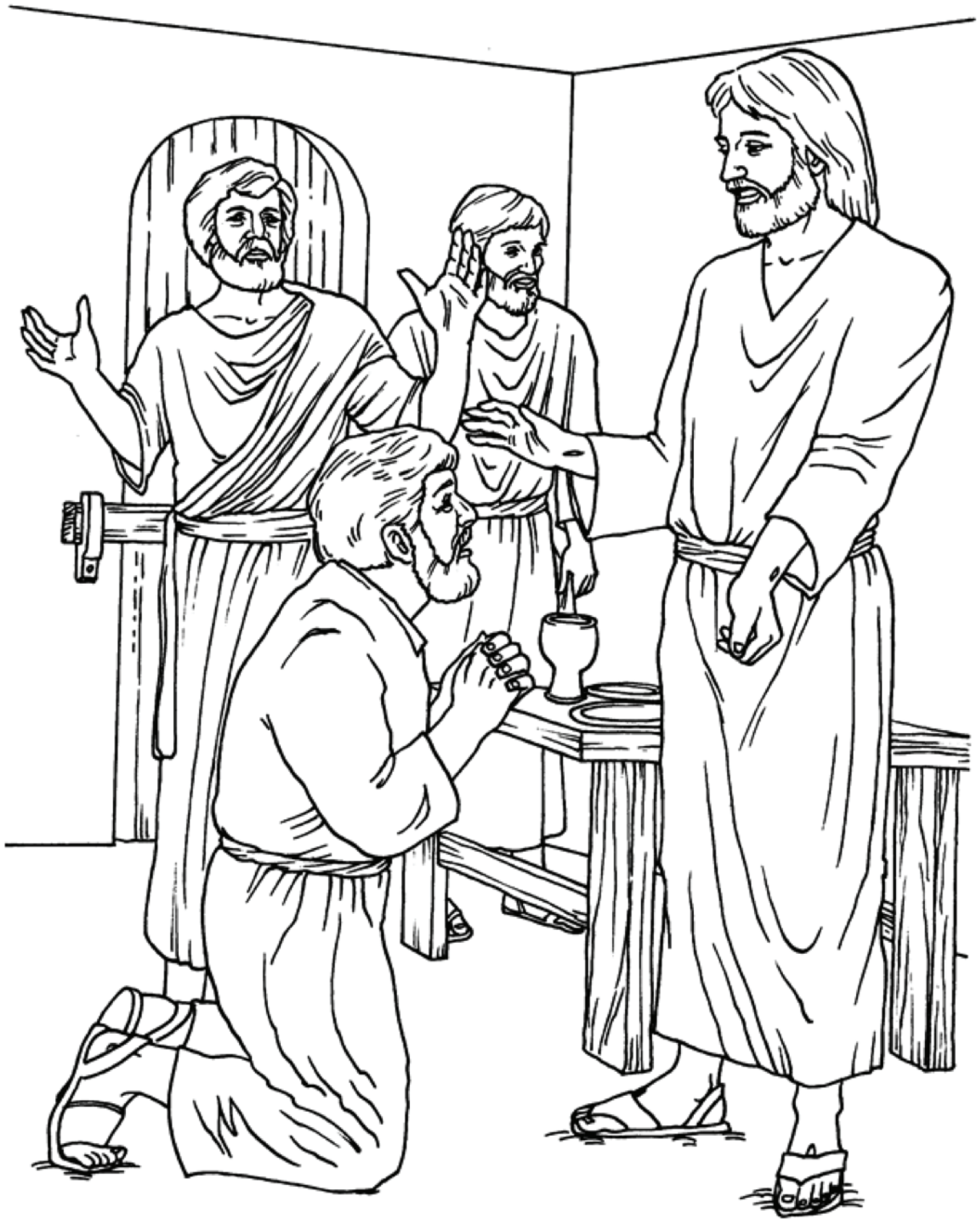
Teams try to get past the opponent's gate without being touched by the gate guard.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Blindfolds (bandannas or other pieces of cloth)
- 4 chairs, cones, soda bottles or other obvious place marker to use as gate posts.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the group into two even teams
- Set up two "gates" by placing the chairs (or other marker) about 6 feet apart.
- Choose one person from each team to be the blind gate guardian. Place blindfold on the guardians and set them between their gate posts.
- Line up each team across from their opponent's gate
- One at a time players attempt to cross through their opponent's gate without being touched gate guardian.
- If they are touched by the blind gate guardian they must go to the back of their team line and wait for another try
- First team to get their whole team across wins
- Options: 1) Teams may help their blind gate guardian by telling him where side the players are attempting to cross. 2) Teams may not help their blind gate guardian and must not give any hints.





Seeing Is Believing

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



K	I	A	F	C	M	D	W	B	G	Z	X	N	U	S	L	T	Q	Y	O	H	J	R	P	E	V
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 7-2-15-5-2-24-16-25-15 _____
- 7-20-20-23-15 _____
- 16-20-5-1-25-7 _____
- 21-3-13-7-15 _____
- 15-2-7-25 _____
- 17-21-20-6-3-15 _____
- 7-20-14-9-17-2-13-10 _____
- 17-20-14-5-21-25-7 _____
- 9-25-16-2-25-26-25-7 _____
- 7-2-15-5-2-24-16-25-15 _____

DOUBTING	DISCIPLES	LOCKED	SIDE	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	HANDS	DOORS	THOMAS	BELIEVED

HOW TO CONNECT TWO PAPER CLIPS WITHOUT TOUCHING THEM

This is a pretty cool trick. It works, it requires minimal materials and no setup, and it is super easy to do. Amaze your friends by connecting two paper clips without touching either one.

1. Obtain two paper clips and a piece of paper.
A dollar bill is about the right size, or you can use any long, narrow piece of paper.



2. Fold the piece of paper into thirds so it looks like a flattened "Z."
You should have a top layer, a middle layer, and a bottom layer.



3. Clip top layer and the middle layer together from the side, as shown.
Put the clip towards the loose end.



CONECTING PAPER CLIPS (CONT.)

4. Clip middle and bottom layers together with the other paper clip.
Put the paper clip towards the loose end.



5. Pull the ends of the paper apart.
If you've clipped the paper clips together correctly, they will move towards each other.



The paper clips will join together and pop off the paper.



WATCH A "HOW-TO" VIDEO: www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEbx1aW7r3M