

LESSON FOR TODDLERS TO PRESCHOOLERS

Approach: Teaching Bible Truth Blended with Basic Learning
(Alphabet and Phonics; Numbers; Shapes and Colors)

Lesson: Recognition of the Letter **Tt**; How it Sounds and How to Write It.

Main Emphasis: Thomas was reluctant to believe in the truth of the resurrection without seeing Jesus himself, until he saw him with his own eyes. Jesus said that those who believe without sight are truly blessed, and that includes us today! We don't see the Lord physically, but trust that He is with us always.

Bible Connect: **Blessed to Believe**

Bible Story: John 20:19-31

Memory Verse: John 20:29

"Blessed are those who believe without seeing me"

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this session, the students must be able to:

1. Recognize the Letter **Tt**
2. Introduce Tabitha by explaining that she was a disciple, which means she followed the teachings of Jesus
3. Talk about how Tabitha was known for her good deeds and how she used her talent for sewing to help those in need
4. Explain that many people were saddened by her death because they loved and appreciated her kindness.
5. Share how God used Peter to bring Tabitha back to life, showing His power and love. This also led to many believing in Jesus.
6. We should use our gifts to bless others.
7. We do good because we are disciples.
8. God has the power to give life.

Clearing of Difficulties

- **Doubt** feeling uncertain or unsure about something, like not knowing if something is true or possible, or having a hard time believing something
- **Disciple** means a "follower of"; a personal follower of Jesus during His life.
- **Follower** means someone who agrees with the beliefs of others, or listens to the lead or commands of another.

Pre-Session Activity

- **Believe without seeing**...Have students reach into bags blindfolded, and identify various items based only on touch, sound, or smell. Explain that sometimes we figure things out without seeing them visually.
- **Can you believe that?** Describe several hard to believe world records or events, and back them with pictures or descriptions
- **Hide and Seek Disciples** - Talk about how the disciples were hiding then Jesus appeared to them. Play a simple game of hide and seek. Talk about things we try to hide from. Talk about how Jesus always knows where we are and cares for us.
- I believe true or false - asking kids with these statements
 - God created the world
 - Some dogs can fly
 - Jesus rose from the dead
 - The moon is made of cheese
 - Jesus is the Son of God who came to save us from sin.
 - We should always tell the truth
 - Dinosaurs still exist today.

Bible Story

Talk about how Jesus died on the cross and His disciples were very sad and scared, and they felt like they needed to hide. Share how sometimes we might feel scared too. Have the child share some things which scare them. When we feel scared, we might feel like hiding or running away. It's important to remember that we can talk to Jesus about our fears and ask Him to help us feel safe.

Share how Jesus appeared to His disciples after He rose from the dead, they were filled with joy and amazement. How do they feel now? Happy, excited? How the disciples might have felt when they saw Jesus again.

Thomas wasn't there when Jesus appeared to the other disciples and that Thomas didn't believe them.

"Jesus is alive we saw him!" Jesus' friends told Thomas.

"I won't believe you until I see Jesus with my own eyes," he said.

When the friends met the next week, everyone was happy, except Thomas. "How can anyone rise from the dead?" he argued. "Unless I see his hands and feet I will not believe!"

Suddenly Jesus was standing right there in the room, even though the door was shut! Everyone was surprised to see him, especially Thomas. "Don't be frightened," Jesus said, "It really is me. Thomas, touch my hands and see that I am alive.

Share how Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" when he saw Jesus. Talk about how we must confess Jesus as "My Lord, God, Saviour..Then Thomas

knew that Jesus HAD risen from the dead and he believed because he had seen Jesus himself.

Thomas, you are glad now," Jesus said, "You believe I am alive only because you have seen me with your very own eyes

Life Application

You know kids even though we can't see Jesus with our own eyes. He is always there for us. He wants us to believe what He did on the cross is because He loves us all. He rose from the dead for us and that is the power of God. Only God can do that!

We sometimes feel fear and doubt but God wants us to believe in His word. Jesus didn't leave Thomas in his uncertainty; He showed up. For those who believe will be blessed. Let's recite our memory verse.

"Blessed are those who believe without seeing me"

Evaluation

1. How did Jesus prove to the disciples that he was really alive?
2. Who was missing?
3. Why didn't Thomas believe what his friends told him?
4. What did Thomas want?
5. What changed his mind?

Enrichment Activity