

Lesson plan

Main Point: The Disciples were Eyewitnesses

Basic Idea: We can trust the disciples' accounts because they were eyewitnesses.

How we get there: what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands (v1)...we have seen (v2)...what we have seen and heard (v3).

Start out with the activity (see below) to establish what eyewitness testimony looks like. Then transition into their eyewitness account of the disciples:

From John 20:24-31, show the kids not only the eyewitness testimony, but its purpose:

1. Some disciples had seen Jesus (24-25a)
2. But Thomas wanted eyewitness proof for himself (25b)
 - see the imprint of the nails
 - Touch his side
 - Then I'll believe
3. Eight days later, Jesus appears (26)
4. He has Thomas touch and believe (27)
5. Thomas believes because he has seen (28)
6. Jesus states that those who have not seen and yet believe are blessed. (29)
 - How can we believe if we have not seen or felt Him like Thomas?
7. John says he was an eyewitness to many other miracles from Jesus (30)
8. But he wrote his eyewitness account so that we could believe that: (31)
 - Jesus is the Christ (Chosen One of God)
 - Jesus is the Son of God
 - And that life comes by believing in His name (that He can take away our sins)

Activity:

Guessing Game

Using a large, non-transparent bag, place an item inside the bag. Children can take turns feeling the item (but not looking) to try to guess what the object is. Next conceal an object that makes noise from the children's sight, but see if they can guess the object. Find an object that smells (fruit, flower, etc) and either blind fold the kids or have them close their eyes and try to guess the object. Repeat with a few objects each if you like.

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1 John 1:1-4, September 16, 2007



1st 3rd