

## The First Lesson

### Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

#### Lesson Video:

No Video This Week

#### Object Lesson:

A rainbow of sharing and prayer.

#### Materials:

Skittles, a plate and hot water

#### What to do:

Arrange different color skittles around the plate, pour the hot water into the center of the plate until it just reaches the skittles.

#### What to say:

In the early church there was no need of anyone to be without their basic needs. For the ones who had plenty gave to the ones who had little. Each member used their gifts and talents for the benefit of the community so that everyone would be loved and cared for. When they came together in prayer great things happened. They help one another and we can help the people whom God has put in our path as well. In our families and communities we can care for one another. When we do this the community becomes connected. Kindness and mercy spreads and more and more people begin to care about one another. There is room for to grow and help one another, creating a rainbow of color that connects us all in the unity and love of God. We become the hands and feet of our creator. The same power that is in Christ Jesus is in us and like Christ we are love and compassion to those we care for.

#### Game:

**Skittles Game: Compassion, Kindness and Charity**

**Red:** How do you feel when you need help?

**Orange:** What can you do when a person needs help?

**Yellow:** How could you show kindness to someone who needs help?

**Green:** When was someone kind and helpful to you? How did it feel?

**Purple:** What would it be like to receive help from your community when you need help?

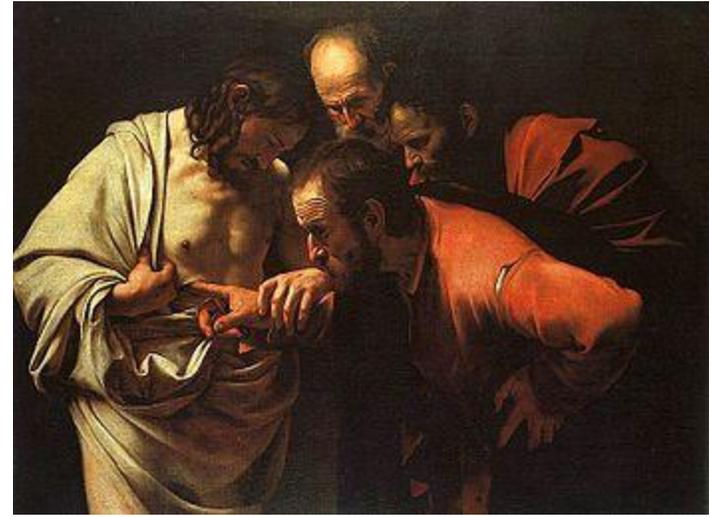


## The Gospel

### John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."



*The Incredulity of Saint Thomas, by Caravaggio, c.1602*

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Lesson Video:** Lumo-Gospel of John Chapter 20:19-31, <https://youtu.be/FxmGFQYHilI>

### Talk About It:

1. What was Thomas's problem? Why do you think he wasn't able to believe?
2. Why were the disciples afraid to go outside?
3. Jesus greeted them saying, "Peace be with you." Why do you think this was his greeting?
4. Are you the type of person to believe things without proof?
5. The author in the last verse of this passage says Jesus did many signs in the presence of them that are not written in the bible. Why do you think they didn't write down every account?
6. In the painting above, how does this image make you feel in terms of being able to relate to Thomas?

