

## Little Wonders, Ages 5 and younger

This week's Bible story is from John 20:24-31.

Tell the children the story, "Thomas Believes" (*Deep Blue Bible Storybook*—pp. 435–437).

Download the Deep Blue Bible Storybook App here: <https://www.deepbluekids.com/free-stuff/free-app-for-deep-blue-bible-storybook>

Watch the Deep Blue Adventure video for Session 9 on [amplifymedia.com](http://amplifymedia.com).

Today's Bible story is about Jesus appearing to his friend, Thomas, after Easter.

Thomas did not believe his friends when they told him Jesus was alive. Thomas wouldn't believe that Jesus was alive until he saw Jesus for himself.

**ASK:** Have you ever not believed something your friends said?

**SAY:** Thomas finally believed that Jesus was alive. Today we have lots of things that remind us that Jesus is alive.

**ASK:** What is your favorite way to remember Jesus is with us?

**PRAY:** Thank you, God, for being patient with us when we do not believe. Amen.

### I Believe Art

Write the name *Jesus* in white crayon on the top half of a piece of white paper; write the word *Believe* in white crayon on the bottom half of the white paper.

- Mist the paper just before coloring.
- Color the top half of the paper with watercolor crayons or markers.
- Color the bottom half of the paper with watercolor crayons or markers.

**SAY:** The paper looked blank at first. After you colored the paper, you saw the words *Jesus* and *Believe*. We can't see Jesus, but we still believe in Jesus. When we believe in something we can't see, it is called faith.

**ASK:** Do you believe in Jesus, even if you can't see him?

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Spring 2020 Preschool Session 9



## Wonder Kids, Grades K-5

Read John 20:24-31

Watch the Deep Blue Adventure video for Session 9 on [amplifymedia.com](http://amplifymedia.com).

In today's Bible story, the men walking on the road did not know they were walking with Jesus. They realized it was him by his actions. Sometimes our actions are more important than our words.

**ASK:** Why do actions speak louder than words? What important actions does Jesus teach us to do?

**SAY:** Jesus teaches us so much. We can remember Jesus when we are kind and loving toward others.

**PRAY:** Dear God, help us to believe in you and your Son, Jesus. Amen.

### I Believe Writing Activity

Check out some of the creeds of our faith. Talk about what they like in the creeds or what is confusing.

Apostle's Creed – <https://www.umc.org/en/content/apostles-creed-traditional-ecumenical>

Nicene Creed - <https://www.umc.org/en/content/glossary-nicene-creed>

The United Methodist Church Social Creed - <https://www.umc.org/en/content/our-social-creed>

**ASK:** What do you believe about God?

**SAY:** Write or draw about what you believe as a Christian.

### Gravity and Wind Science Activity

Supplies: 1" x 8 1/2" paper strips (two per person).

- Distribute two paper strips to each person. Direct children to place the strips with the long edges at the top and bottom. They are to slide the top strip about 1" left and tape it to secure the two pieces at the short edge of the top strip. Turn the strips over and tape to secure together.
- Invite each child to hold the paper strips by the center of one of the strips of paper and toss it upward into the air. The paper strips should open up and spin as the paper floats to the ground.

**ASK:** What is separating the two strips of paper and making them spin? Why do the paper strips eventually fall to the ground instead of floating up to the ceiling? (gravity)

**SAY:** We cannot see air or gravity, but we know they exist because we see their effects.

## Blessing – Affirmation of our Faith

Say together an affirmation of our faith. This is a reminder of who we are called to be as Christians.

- Have one person be the leader, and the rest of the family repeat each line.

I believe in God, who loves me and wants me to love others.

God is the Creator of all things.

I believe in Jesus, who shows me God's love.

He hoped for a world where everyone could live in peace.

I believe in the Holy Spirit—a Spirit that we cannot see but feel.

The Holy Spirit helps me know God is everywhere.

God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit teach me that I can be the Church, reminding everyone of God's power and grace. Amen.

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Spring 2020 Middle Elementary Session 9



## Praise, Pray, and Blessing

Sing together a favorite praise song or hymn. Maybe a song you remember from Wednesday Night Worship, VBS, or summer camp. Teach it to your family if not everyone knows the song.

Stand or sit in a circle. Share prayer requests with each other.

Teach each other the American Sign Language for 'Jesus' 'lives' and 'loves.' One at a time, turn to each other and say and sign, "Jesus lives, and Jesus loves (name).

Pray: Thank you, God, for showing us your love and power by making Jesu again! Amen.



Adapted from Bible Story Basics, Spring 2020 Session 7



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