

46. Jesus Appears to His Disciples

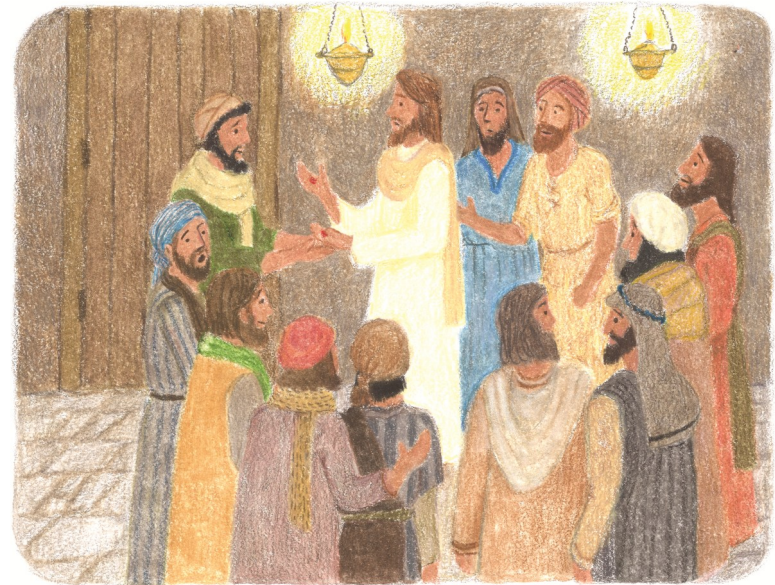
The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

46. Jesus Appears to His Disciples

- a) Emphasize that the disciples had shut the doors, and yet the Lord could suddenly appear in the room. How amazed they must have been!
- b) The Lord showed the disciples His feet and hands where the nails had been driven in. There were still the prints of the nails, and yet He was standing up, not in pain.
- c) Emphasize His wonderful words, “Peace be to you.” Then He breathed on them and said they had received the Holy Spirit. Many Christians believe that these disciples were thus made the first ministers of the Christian Church. But it also meant that the Lord’s spirit was with them.
- d) Note that Thomas wouldn’t believe all the other disciples. He said he had to see it for himself. You might ask children if they’ve ever been tempted to say they wouldn’t believe something unless they saw it themselves. Remind children that we now have a phrase called “doubting Thomas.” It comes from this story, and it means people who won’t take other people’s word for things unless they see it themselves.
- e) Note how kind the Lord was. He came and showed Thomas what he said he wanted to see—the print of the nails in His hands and also the hole in His side where one of the soldiers had pushed a spear into it. Add that the Lord was not in pain from these things any longer.

- f) Thomas’s belief in the Lord was very special. He called Jesus his God. Well, Jesus was God, but it took many people a long time to see that. Thomas saw it, perhaps first.
- g) Note what Jesus said, “Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed.” That is all of us. We didn’t see the Lord rise from the dead, but we believe He did.



Text simplified by Carol Bongers Buss
Pictures by Dianna Echols Synnestvedt
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The Lord Shows His Disciples That He Is Alive

Then, on the same day in the evening, the disciples were gathered together in a room. The doors were shut, for they were afraid of the Jews.

Then Jesus came and stood in the middle of them and said, “Peace be to you.” Then He showed them His hands and His side. And the disciples rejoiced at seeing the Lord. Then Jesus again said to them, “Peace be to you. As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And saying this He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

But Thomas, one of the twelve disciples, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the prints of the nails, and put my finger into the prints of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

Eight days later the disciples again were in the room, and Thomas was with them, and the doors were shut. Then Jesus came and stood in the middle of them and said, “Peace be to you.”

He said to Thomas, “Bring your finger and see My hands. Bring your hand and thrust it into My side; and do not be unbelieving but be believing.” And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God.”

Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, Thomas, you have believed. Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed.”

John 20

