

City SG—April 24th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: All I Ask (Jesus Appears to Thomas) • *John 20:19-29*

Today's Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.

Monthly Memory Verse: *In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.* John 16:33b (NIRV)

1. Verse-tastic

What You Need: Bible marked at John 16, plastic Easter egg (1 per Group)

What You Do:

- Invite a kid to open the Bible where marked.
- Read the verse aloud, encouraging kids to say it with you if they can.
- Instruct kids to stand in a circle.
- Guide them to turn so that their shoulder is toward the center of the circle and they're facing the back of the kid in front of them.
- Give one kid the Easter egg.
- Guide them to pass the egg over their head to the kid behind them as they say the first word of the verse.
- Lead kids to continue passing the egg and saying the memory verse, word by word. You can call out the verse, too, to help kids remember and learn it.
- Once kids get the hang of passing the egg over their heads, add challenge by guiding them to alternately pass it over their heads and between their legs.

What You Say:

"Jesus told us that we'll have trouble in our lives. Sad or confusing or frustrating things will happen to us. But NO MATTER WHAT happens, we can have HOPE because God isn't finished yet! God is still working! We can also have HOPE because JESUS IS ALIVE! He LOVES you, and He is with you! And we can have HOPE because no matter what questions you may have about God or Jesus, God is bigger than your questions! **[Bottom Line] Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.**"

2. He's Bigger

What You Need: "He's Bigger" Page (1 per kid), markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "He's Bigger" page.
- Ask kids to identify the person (Jesus).
- Invite kids to draw pictures of themselves with Jesus. They can even write or draw a question they have for Jesus.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to help kids understand both the depth of God's love for them and the truth that God is bigger than their questions!

What You Say:

"Was Jesus angry with Thomas because he had questions about Him? (*Pause.*) No, He wasn't! Jesus loved Thomas, and He wanted Thomas to know that it's okay to have questions.

“It’s okay if you have questions about God or Jesus, too! Jesus loves you SO MUCH, and He wants to help you know Him. So if you have any questions about God or Jesus, you can pray about those questions. You can also talk to me, another leader, your parents, your step-parents, your grandparents, or anyone else who loves God and follows Jesus. We’ll be happy to help you understand as much as you can! **[Bottom Line] Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions!**”

3. Question Bingo Non-Reader Option Highlighted Below

What You Need: “Question Bingo” Activity Pages (1 per kid), pens

What You Do:

- Give every kid a “Question Bingo” Activity Page and pen.
- Instruct the kids to walk around to the other kids in their group and ask them ONE question from their “Question Bingo” Activity Page.
- Kids should write each person’s answer in the corresponding square and get the signature of the person answering.
- Direct the kids to continue playing until all of the questions are answered. If there are more questions than kids, instruct them to ask every other kid in the group a question before they ask someone a second question.
- Explain to the kids that the game isn’t timed or a race; it’s just a fun way to ask some questions and get to know each other better.
- **Use one single “Question Bingo” Activity Page and a pen, and individually ask kids a few of the questions on the Bingo Card. Fill in their answers and encourage each response.**

What You Say:

“That was a really fun way to get to know each other! How many of you learned something new about a person in our group? I love to ask questions. Asking questions is how we learn and grow smarter. Have you ever heard the saying, ‘No question is too silly’? We should always be willing to ask questions and be curious. Today in Large Group, we learned what it looks like to ask God questions and ask questions about God. God loves it when we ask questions. He wants to know us, and He wants us to know Him!”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for caring about our questions. You are so big and powerful, but You care about every concern, every doubt, every worry, and every question we have. Please help us trust You and remind us to go to You when questions arise in our world around us. We want You to be our source of truth in puzzling times. Please remind us that **[Bottom Line] whatever happens, God is bigger than your questions.**”