



BIG IDEA

We can believe without seeing.

JOHN | EXTRAVAGANT | WEEK 4 OF 4

Appearance

GOD STORY

Jesus Appears
John 20:19–29

KEY VERSE

Lead a life of love, just as Christ did. He loved us. He gave himself up for us.
Ephesians 5:2a (NIRV)

LEADER TIPS

- The teaching videos are usually 12 to 15 minutes long. Map out your time and plan accordingly! Make sure you can complete the full activity after the video at the very least.
- This week, emphasize that even those closest to Jesus had doubts—and doubts are okay! Like Thomas, we can take our doubts to Jesus.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

To lead into the lesson, chat about things the kids believe in even though they've never seen them.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Play a game in which someone who's blindfolded must decide whether to believe a leader's description of what the rest of the group is doing.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss them together.

My Story

4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Look for a hidden message on an activity page and draw something that will help the kids remember what they learned today.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Read and discuss John 20:29, then pray together.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



BIG IDEA

We can believe without seeing.

My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- As the kids arrive, welcome them and find out how their weeks have gone.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone together.
- Ask:
 - What are things you believe in without seeing them, such as wind or Antarctica?
 - If you can't see them, how do you know these things are real?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **We can believe without seeing.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Blindfold

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone to stand in a large circle.
- Invite one person to be blindfolded and stand in the middle.
- Strike a pose! Direct the kids to copy what you're doing without giving any specific instructions out loud for the blindfolded person to hear.
- Decide whether to be truthful and say, "We are [describe the pose]," or make up something.
- Ask the person in the middle of the circle, "Do you believe me without seeing it for yourself?"
- Once they decide, remove the blindfold to reveal how the group posed.
- Repeat with other kids in the middle and do a variety of fun poses.
- To wrap up, remind the group that **we can believe without seeing.** Faith is believing something without proof. We can have faith in Jesus—even without seeing him!



BIG IDEA

We can believe without seeing.

JOHN | EXTRAVAGANT | WEEK 4 OF 4

God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- You don't have to be able to answer every question the kids ask. Model that it's okay not to know it all!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Jesus Appears, John 20:19–29)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (When Sean left university to pursue acting, he trusted that God had a plan for him.)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - What stood out to you in today's Life Story?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - Is there anything about Jesus, God, or church that you have questions about?
 - What's the Key Verse for this series? (The first part of Ephesians 5:2)

My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- Frame activity pages
- Markers
- Pens

LEADER TIP

- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Give everyone an activity page.
- Place the markers and pens where everyone can share them.
- Review the page together.
- Challenge the kids to find the message hidden in the picture frame.
- Direct everyone to draw a picture inside the frame that represents something they cannot see but know is real. Encourage the kids to think creatively (i.e., What might wind look like? Could you draw a picture of hope, joy, or love?).
- Encourage the kids to share their work with one another.



BIG IDEA

We can believe without seeing.

JOHN | EXTRAVAGANT | WEEK 4 OF 4

My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

INSTRUCTIONS

- Remain in your small groups.
- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Guide the kids step-by-step to look up John 20:29.
- Read it together.
- Discuss:
 - What did Jesus mean in this verse?
 - What does this mean for us?
- Invite the kids to pray with you. Pray that when doubts swoop in, they would have faith in Jesus and know that **we can believe without seeing**.

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

LEADER TIP

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- Give everyone a weekly take-home card.
- Offer a Key Verse card and a colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.