

Doubting Thomas: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: I am a witness for Christ.

SuperVerse: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere.” Acts 1:8a (NLT)

Bible Story: Matthew 27:57–65, 28:1–20; Mark 16:1–20; Luke 23:44–56, 24:1–53; John 20:1–30

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today we begin a new Superbook adventure titled “Doubting Thomas.” In this video, you will meet one of Jesus’ disciples who simply could not believe what other followers of Jesus told him.

- Chris and the children are on a mission trip, when some kids aren’t interested in the Good News Chris is trying to share with them.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to Jerusalem just after Jesus is crucified. Roman soldiers say His body was stolen from the tomb. Why should Thomas believe Jesus’ other disciples, who say He is alive? And who is the mysterious traveler on the road to Emmaus? The children discover that Jesus is always there—for everyone.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Centurion Shuffle (15 minutes)

Objective: *Play a game to hide from the Roman Guard.*

- Thomas hid Chris and Gizmo from the Roman soldiers. Although this isn’t an actual Bible event, it was dangerous to be a follower of Christ after He rose from the dead.

Game Instructions:

- The Roman Centurion will slowly count to 10 with eyes closed. You will quietly move to one of the signs in each corner of the room. With eyes closed, the Centurion will shout, “I think someone is hiding at sign number ____ (1, 2, 3, or 4). If you are hiding in that corner, you have been caught and must sit near the centurion for the remainder of the game.

Teaching: Power With a Purpose (15 minutes)

Objective: *Discuss how God helps us to be His witnesses.*

- To be a witness for Christ isn’t just a task, it is a privilege He gives to each of us. He provides the power to be His witnesses and to be a bright light in a dark world.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- The craft is the Heart and Flame Challenge Pages. Learn Acts 1:8a. Pray daily for opportunities and power to witness. Glue a flame in the heart as you share the Good News of Christ.

SuperVerse: Superbook Witnessing (5 minutes)

Objective: *Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.*

- Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit to fill them with power. This power gave them strength and boldness to be effective witnesses for Him.
- Divide children into two groups. Assign a line of the SuperVerse to each group. Each group will learn their line and add motions to it. Groups will then present their verse lines to each other.

Prayer: Witness Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: *Communicate with God.*

- Jesus calls us to be witnesses for Him right where we are, in our homes, our neighborhoods, and our schools.
- In our prayer today, we are going to make ourselves available to God and ask Him to fill us with His power to share the most important news in the world—that Jesus died for our sins and rose again to give us eternal life!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Drawing Activity: Quickly draw and share Bible story scenes. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

Active Game: Play a game to share the Gospel. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Maze Activity: Choose the paths to share the Gospel. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Activity: Discuss a woman who changed a village with her witness! | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Four Sign Pages
- Painters tape or masking tape

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Flashlight with batteries
- Bible or device with the Superbook Bible app

Discipleship Challenge materials:

- Heart Challenge Page
- Flame Page
- Cardstock—2 sheets per child, plus extras
- Children’s scissors
- Glue sticks to share
- Pencils
- Optional: orange, red and yellow crayons, colored pencils, or washable markers
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible app

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- Marker
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible app

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bibles or the Superbook Bible app