Kidz World's Church at Home 'LEVEL UP' – Doubting Thomas

FUN TIME: "Can You See It?"

What You Will Need: Prepare two balloons: one inflated and one deflated.

What You Will Do: Ask, "Which one of these balloons has air in them? How do you know? (Allow for responses) That's right. We know because the balloon with air in it is bigger and can float around the room (Bounce the balloon around among the kids and have the kids join in).

BIBLE TIME:

So, even though we can't see the air in the balloon, we knew and believed the balloon had air in it because of what it did, inflate the balloon. Today, we're going to talk about how we can know and believe in Jesus even though we can't see Him walking around. Being able to see is very important. But the thing is, we don't need to see to believe in Jesus! Let's take a look at our Bible story and learn about a man who had trouble believing without seeing something.

READ: John 20:19-20, 24-29

Familiarize yourself with the Bible passage and summarize it for your younger children. Read it with older children. For toddlers and preschoolers, simply share the answers to these questions with them as you summarize the Bible story. Keep it short and sweet for them .

- 1. When Jesus appeared to the disciples after being in the tomb, who was missing?
- 2. How did this disciple react when the other disciples told him about Jesus?
- 3. Who helped him believe? How?
- 4. How do you think you would have reacted if you were Thomas?
- 5. Are there things about God or the Bible you don't really understand? What are they?
- 6. What can you do when you have questions about God or the Bible?

REAL TIME: Today, we are continuing our series, 'Level Up'. We want to grow and get stringer and better in our faith. We may start off like Thomas did, needing to see something in order to believe in Jesus and the Bible. But **Jesus helps us to believe.** Just like He didn't fuss at and punish Thomas for having doubts and questions, God will not do that to us. He will help us to believe too. We should not stay that way though. Our job is to trust Him. We must grow and 'level up' in our faith.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NCV). Things always change. People change. But God never does. We can depend on Him to keep His promises. So, we can believe and trust God no matter what we see around us.

Everything we think, say, feel and do should be based on our faith in God and His Word. When we choose to believe God no matter what, we will have and enjoy the victory Jesus gained for us. Let's pray.

PRAYER TIME: "Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for reminding us that even when we doubt or have questions, that doesn't change how much You love each of us. Thank You for surrounding us with others who pray for us and encourage us. Help us to grow our faith and believe in You. In Jesus' Name, amen!"

"We live by what we believe, not by what we can see." 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NCV)