



Use this guide to help your family learn about hope.

**First, watch
this week's
video!**

**Hope: Believing
that something
good can
come out of
something bad**

Memory Verse

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world."
John 16:33b, NIV

Bible Story

Jesus Appears to Thomas
John 20:19-29

Bottom Line

Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.

Activity

Sink or Swim

What You Need:

Bathtub or sink (or large, clear storage tub), and items that will sink or float (examples: coins, cups, toys, etc.). Be sure to include some large items that will float (empty gallon milk jug, piece of wood).

What You Do:

Pour water into the tub until it's about two-thirds full. Hand your child one item at a time, and let them guess whether it will sink or float. After your child guesses, let them drop the object in the tub of water. Continue until you've tried all the items.

Wrap up by saying: "You'd think some of those objects would sink because of how big they were, but they ended up floating! Sometimes our questions seem really big . . . when, in reality, they aren't that big to God. After all, God is bigger than everything, because God *created* everything."

Talk About the Bible Story

How do you think Jesus' friends felt when they heard that Jesus' body was gone?

Why was Thomas doubting, even after his friends confirmed that Jesus was really alive? (*Thomas needed to see Jesus' wounds with his own eyes and touch Jesus himself.*)

Read what Jesus said in John 20:29. How is that true of us today?

Did Jesus make Thomas feel badly about doubting and asking if He was really alive? (*no*)

How does this make you feel about asking God your own questions?

Parent: Share about a time when you had a big question for or about God. How did that change or shape your faith?

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for caring about our questions. You are so big and powerful, but You care about every concern, every doubt, and every worry we have. When we have questions, please help us trust You, and remind us to go to You and to other wise people who trust You. We want You to be our source of truth when we feel uncertain. Please remind us that whatever happens, You are bigger than our questions. Amen."