

**LIFE OF CHRIST**  
from the gospel of  
**Mark**

**LESSON 46**

**LITTLE FAITH**

**MARK 16:9-14**

# Life of Christ

## Little Faith

## Mark 16:9-14

### Younger Verse

Without faith no one can please God.

Hebrews 11:6

### Older Verse

Without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that He rewards everyone who searches for Him.

Hebrews 11:6

### Lesson Goals

**Remember that Jesus rose from the dead after three days in the tomb**  
**Learn that Jesus appeared to several people, including the disciples**  
**Learn that the disciples had to see Jesus to believe He was alive**

### Opener

Have you ever had a hard time believing something? Why was it hard to believe? Today we will learn about a time the disciples had a hard time believing what they heard. Let's listen!

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week, we talked about Jesus' death and resurrection. We talked about all that Jesus went through so that we could be saved from our sins. He did all that for us because He loves us.

Three days after Jesus died on the cross, two women (both named Mary) were going to visit the tomb. When they arrived at the tomb, the large rock had been rolled away and an angel told them that Jesus was alive! He also told them to go and tell the disciples the Good News. The women were afraid and chose to say nothing.

Jesus began to make appearances to many people. Why do you think He needed to show Himself? Let's find out. First, He appeared to Mary Magdalene. (John 20:10-18) Jesus had helped Mary in a special way. He had removed some evil spirits from her body! How do you think Mary felt when she saw Jesus again?

Jesus told Mary to go and tell the disciples the Good News that He was alive. The disciples and the others that had been following Jesus were very sad and had been mourning. They still thought Jesus was dead. What do you think happened when Mary told them that Jesus was alive? The disciples did not believe her. Why did they not believe? What did Jesus tell them three different times before He died? He told them He would die and come back to life.

Then Jesus appeared to two people walking in the country. When they realized Jesus was alive, they too, ran to tell the disciples the good news. What happened when those men told the disciples? They did not believe them either. The disciples seemed to be forgetting

what Jesus had taught them. What do you think it took for the disciples to finally believe He was alive?

Later, Jesus appeared to the disciples, too. What do you think He talked with them about once He appeared to them? He scolded them for not believing what He had told them would happen. He told them they should have believed Mary and the two people when they reported He was alive. Their faith was weak and their hearts had been hard.

It is easy to say we would have believed that Jesus rose from the dead right away. But that's because we already know how the story ends! Every day, we face things that test our faith. We must choose to obey God's ways, even when we don't know the end of the story.

God knows the end of the story. It is in the Bible. One day, Jesus will come back and take all the believers to be with Him in Heaven. Will you be ready to be with Jesus? If you want to know more about accepting Christ, please talk with me.

#### Review Questions

1. Who did Jesus appear to first after He rose from the dead? (Mary Magdalene)
2. Who did He appear to next? (Two people walking on a road)
3. When Mary and the two people told the disciples that they had seen Jesus, what did the disciples do? (They did not believe them.)
4. What did Jesus tell the disciples when He appeared to them? (That they should have believed that He was alive.)

#### Prayer Time

Thank God that we can trust Him. Pray that we will have more faith to follow and obey Him, even if no one else is.

#### Life Application

Faith is like a muscle. The more it is used, the stronger it gets. We can strengthen our faith by following God when it seems like no one else is. Maybe you are the only one in your family who believes in Jesus or goes to Bible Study. God can give you strength and courage to tell your family about His great love. The more you share your faith with others, the easier it gets. Just like exercise—the more you do it, the easier it gets!

Planning for Lesson 47  
Jesus' Last Instructions  
Mark 16:15-20

## **Preschool Lesson for Little Faith**

Have you ever had a hard time believing something? Why was it hard to believe? Today we will learn about a time the disciples had a hard time believing what they heard. Let's listen!

Jesus died on a cross and then three days later, He came back to life. When Jesus did this, He showed us just how much God loved us. Once Jesus came back to life, He wanted to show the people that loved Him He was alive. First, He showed Himself to a lady named Mary. She had been one of Jesus' friends and followers. She was very excited and went to tell the disciples. But when Mary told the disciples, they did not believe her!

Then Jesus showed Himself to two people taking a walk. They, too, were very excited. So they ran and told the disciples. Now how do you think the disciples felt? They still did not believe that Jesus was alive! Why did the disciples not believe Jesus was alive?

Later, Jesus appeared to the disciples, too. What do you think He talked with them about once He appeared to them? He scolded them for not believing what He had told them would happen. He told them they should have believed Mary and the two people when they reported He was alive. Their faith was weak and their hearts had been hard.

It is easy to say we would have believed that Jesus rose from the dead right away. But that's because we already know how the story ends! Every day, we face things that test our faith. We must choose to obey God's ways, even when we don't know the end of the story.

God knows the end of the story. It is in the Bible. One day, Jesus will come back and take all the believers to be with Him in Heaven. Will you be ready to be with Jesus? If you want to know more about accepting Christ, please talk with me.

## **Hands-on Activities for Little Faith**

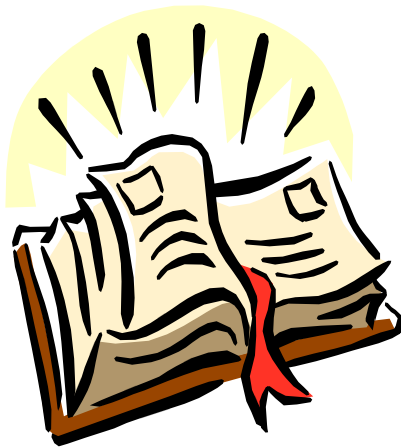
Bring a small set of hand weights. Have the kids take turns lifting them. Talk about how we need to exercise our faith like we would our muscles. We may start with a small “faith muscle,” but we grow it by using it!

Trust fall—Choose some of the younger children to try falling backwards for you to catch. Make sure you are ready to catch them—try counting to three first.

Sing “Faith, Faith, Faith, Just a Little Bit of Faith.”

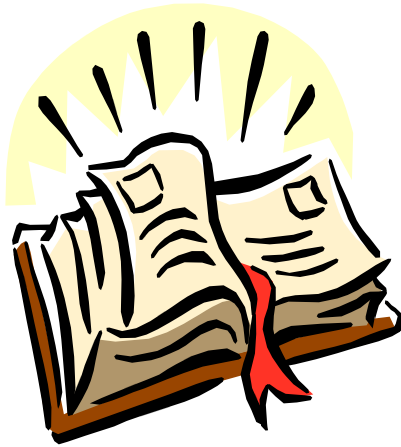
With older kids, look at Hebrews Chapter 11—the faith chapter. Have them list some of the people who had faith in God. It is really inspiring!

**Without faith  
no one can  
please God.  
Hebrews 11:6**



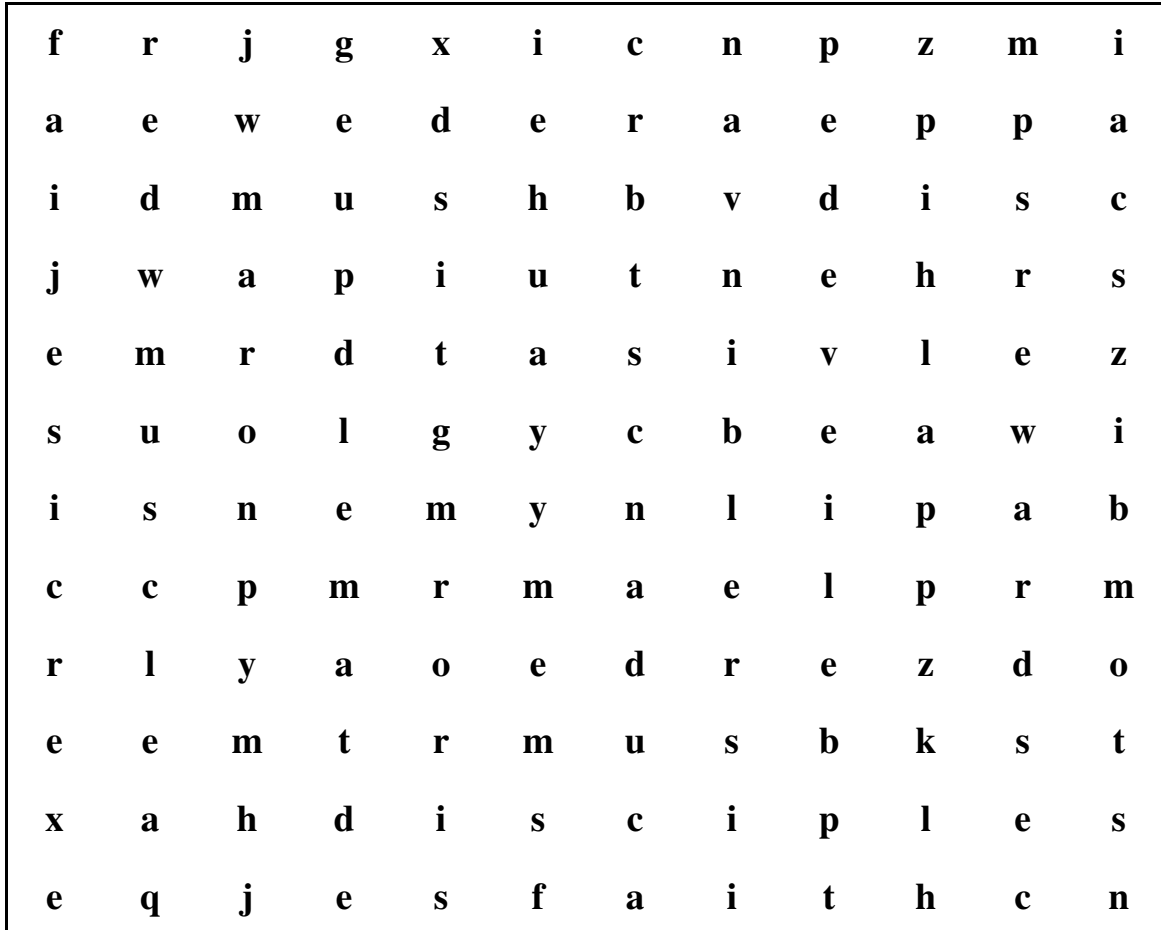
Without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that He rewards everyone who searches for Him.

Hebrews 11:6



# Word Search

## Little Faith

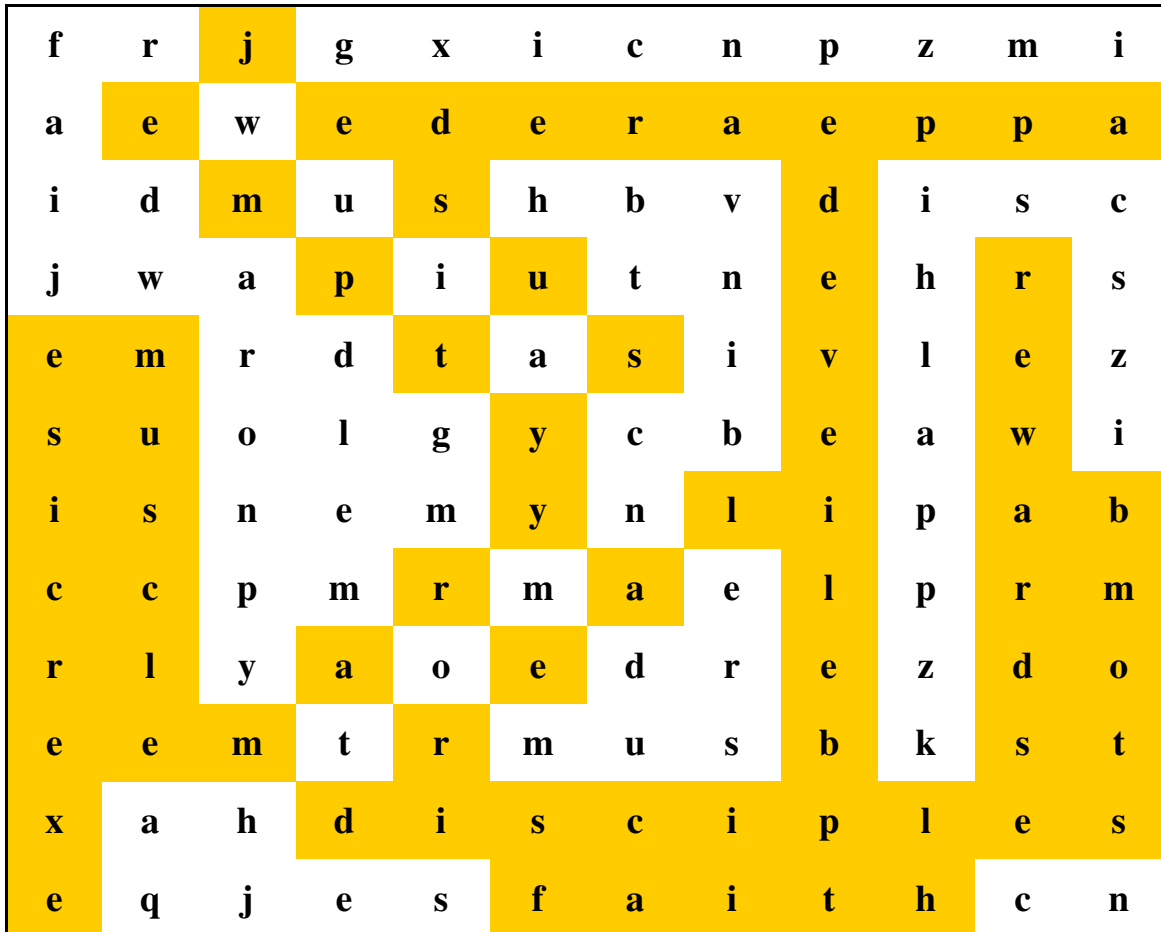


<b>faith</b>	<b>Mary</b>	<b>tomb</b>
<b>empty</b>	<b>appeared</b>	<b>believed</b>
<b>disciples</b>	<b>muscle</b>	<b>exercise</b>
<b>Jesus</b>	<b>real</b>	<b>rewards</b>



# Word Search

## Little Faith



faith	Mary	tomb
empty	appeared	believed
disciples	muscle	exercise
Jesus	real	rewards

Without

FAITH

it is impossible to please God.

We need to exercise our faith  
like a m\_\_sc\_\_e!!!

