



## Here We Come!

Play a game of “Did You See That?” Let the children look at a picture for a few minutes and then take it away. Ask a question such as “Did you see a bird?” When they have decided yes or no, bring the picture back to check. The game can also be played by covering and uncovering a collection of objects. A witness is not just someone who tells about what they saw. If you see it, you are a witness.

## Scripture Words and Worship

Use illustrations from a Bible coloring book to create assorted people for a crowd. These become the “We” in the scripture verse. The words “have seen” can be printed on cut outs of glasses. “The Lord” should be a picture of Jesus the children would recognize.

## We Are Witnesses

We believe the words of those who said they saw Jesus.

### Scripture Words

We have seen the Lord.  
—John 20:25

## Sense-ations

Our sense of touch helps us in many ways. It can identify hot or cold, hard or soft, rough or smooth. Place objects in a bag and let the children take turns identifying what they can feel. The child reaches in, chooses an object, names it by feel, and removes it to see if that was right. If not, the object is returned to the bag and the activity continues.

## Story Talking

There are lots of ways to identify people. Sometimes the message comes from a recognition signal sent to the brain by the eyes or ears. When it's someone we know well, it is easy. But with strangers, it may take a little longer. We look for things people have common. Spend some time doing matches with the children by hair color, eyes, colors in the clothing, shoes, even likes and dislikes.

We may not always know what people are thinking (as in what they like or dislike) but we learn a lot by watching them. Sometimes we can tell if a person has been hurt. Talk about skinned knees, cuts, and scrapes. Let the children show their scabs and scars. What stories are behind the hurts? How did it happen? How did it feel? How was it cared for?

## Live and Learn

There are many reports from those who saw Jesus after his resurrection in the New Testament. At first they just told one another. Later the stories were written down so no one would ever forget.

The story from John 20:19–23 takes place on the evening of the day when the women first saw the empty tomb. When they ran back to town to tell the disciples that morning, some of them ran out to see for themselves. But others stayed behind in locked rooms, hiding in fear that those who killed Jesus would also come for them.

Use the classroom as a setting for the story. Ask the children how people get in and out of the room. Is there any other way besides coming through the door? What does it mean when the door is locked? Who can get in and out then?

- Some of Jesus' disciples were in a room with the door locked. They were hiding. They were afraid.
- There were no windows. Anyone who came in would have to knock on the door. The disciples would ask, "Who's there?" If it was a friend, the door would be opened to let them in. If it was someone they didn't know, the door would stay locked.
- The disciples didn't know what to do. People were saying that Jesus was alive and that they had actually seen him and talked to him. But these disciples had been there the night the bad people killed Jesus and poked holes in his hands and feet and in his side. They couldn't see how he could be alive again after that.
- Then the strangest thing happened. No one knocked. The door didn't open. It was still closed and locked, but there was Jesus, standing in the middle of the room, right in front of them! The disciples were frightened. How could this be?
- Jesus knew they were afraid. He spoke kind words to them. "Peace be with you."
- They could hardly believe their eyes and ears! Was this the same Jesus they had followed? Was this the same Jesus who was put to death?
- Jesus smiled at them. He knew they needed to be sure. "Touch me and see," he invited. "See the holes in my hands and feet and in my side. You were there when it happened. You saw me die. But now I am alive and standing here in front of you. Touch me and see."
- The disciples couldn't explain it. They didn't know how Jesus appeared in the room. They didn't know how he could be dead and come back to life. But they had to believe what they could hear and see and touch.
- Jesus blessed them and told them what he wanted them to do. He wanted them to go everywhere and tell people what they saw.
- "You believe now because you have seen me. But there are people who will believe when you tell them, even if they haven't seen me for themselves."
- (Take turns asking the children, "\_\_\_\_\_, do you believe Jesus is alive?" The child answers, "Yes, I believe Jesus is alive!" and everyone claps and cheers.)

## Moving Music

- "Hands on Shoulders" (page 19)
- "This Little Light of Mine" (page 40)

## Up and at 'Em

Choose an activity that requires large muscle movement.

## There We Go

Give each child a copy of the picture of the children in the pattern section, page 53. Add eyes to each face. Encourage them to share the picture and scripture, "We have seen the Lord," with family and friends



Add eyes and draw yourself in the picture.



We have seen the  
Lord!—John 20:25