

JOURNEY

ADVOCATES

PARENT GUIDE

LESSON 1.2: FAITH

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20:19-31

SUMMARY:

To many, the Christian faith is a blind faith. They think Christians are supposed to believe in spite of, or even against, evidence. However, this idea of faith is not the biblical model. In the Bible, there are many times where we see that to have faith is to place one's trust in Christ because of what we know, not in spite of what we know. Thomas is one example of this and was the focus of our study this week. Thomas believes in Jesus' resurrection because he meets and sees the risen Lord (vv. 24-28).

Jesus gives the disciples and Thomas good reasons to believe. This is why Jesus appears to the disciples (vv. 19-20).

The biblical model of faith is to investigate what people have claimed about God and test it against the evidence. It is not a wishing belief or a blind hope. Instead, a true seeker will be blessed by looking at the evidence and trusting in God based on what they know.

CORE VERSES

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 20:30-31

CORE CONCEPTS

Understanding biblical faith enables me to relate to God more deeply and accurately.

FAITH:

Trusting God in light of the evidence

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Talk to me about the most interesting thing you learned from this week's lesson.
- Is there an area of your life where it is difficult to trust God?
- Of the Christians you know, whose faith is the most impressive to you?
- What are your reasons for believing in God?
- Describe your next steps based on what you've learned. How can I help?