

## **April 28, Second Sunday of Easter, Believe in Me**

### **John 20:19-31**

#### Time   Description of Activity

Historically, Lent was used as a season of preparation and discipleship for interested Christians, and they would be baptized at the Easter vigil service. The season after Easter was focused on teaching Christian doctrine. Our “Living” and “Loving” series both come out of this historical understanding of the Easter season. They follow the gospel texts in John, where Jesus is trying to teach the disciples how to live as his followers. You can ask the same questions in your worship: “What does it mean to live as a follower of Christ? What does it mean to believe in Jesus?”

#### 10 min **1. Ice Breaker:**

True or False:

Say something like “I am going to read a statement and you have to decide if you believe it or if you doubt it. If you believe it, you will move to the right, if you doubt it, you will move to the left.” Anyone standing on the incorrect side after each statement will sit down and we will play until there is only one or a small amount of people left.

#### **Statements to read:**

Lightning can strike in the same place twice. (True)

The universe is not expanding. (False)

The sun is a medium sized star as compared to other stars. (True)

Humans are genetically related to bananas. (True)

You cannot smell when you are sleeping. (True)

Adults can breathe and swallow at the same time. (False)

An octopus has three hearts. (True)

The Feta cheese variety originated in Italy. (False)

#### 5 min **2. Read Scripture**

Have students take turns reading John 20:19-31 out loud.

#### 15 min **3. Discussion**

Spend time discussing some or all of the following questions as a response to the scripture reading.

- How were the disciples feeling before Jesus showed up?
- How did Jesus’ arrival change that?
- How does Jesus’ bring peace to your life?
- Why do you think it was so difficult for Thomas to believe that Jesus was really alive?
- Has anything ever caused you to doubt Jesus?
- What things have led you to believe in Jesus?
- How has it been hard to believe in Him without seeing Him?
- In what ways have you seen Jesus at work on earth?

**20 Min 4. Activity and Discussion**

Get your students' bodies and imaginations engaged with this lesson using the activity Minefield from the YouthWorker Collective at <https://youthworkercollective.com/minefield/>

Close in the manner that is typical for you. Consider taking joys/concerns from the students, then asking for a volunteer to close in prayer.

**50 min**

**NEEDED RESOURCES:**

Blindfold

Chairs and other objects to set up a small obstacle course

Optional:

Writing utensils

Journals or paper