Children’s lesson: Resurrection Part 2—How do we live in light of the resurrection?

“Live by FAITH, not by sight”

Believers are told to “Live by faith, not by sight,” in 2 Corinthians 5:7. But what does that look like in our lives? What is faith, and what evidences should be present as followers of Christ?

OBJECTIVE: To learn how evidences of faith should be present in a believer’s life.
MAIN IDEA: Walking in faith means relying and trusting in God when we don’t understand our circumstances. Others should be able tell we are believers because of our faithful actions.
SCRIPTURE PASSAGES: *Hebrews 11:1, Matthew 17:20, Hebrews 11:7, Genesis 9:9-11, 2 Corinthians 5:7*
MATERIAL(S): mustard seeds, very small glass bottles with corks, hot glue, colorful twine or yarn, small wooden plaques, paint pens, glitter pens, markers
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**Introduction** (10 minutes)
OPENING PRAYER: “God, give us faith to follow you no matter what. Amen.”
ICE BREAKER: Prepare by placing one mustard seed in a small bottle.

**Say**, “Last week was Easter Sunday. Jesus is ALIVE!! So…what does that mean for us? How are we to live in light of the Resurrection? Paul tells us believers are to “Live by faith, not by sight,” in 2 Corinthians 5:7. But what does that look like in our lives? What is faith, and what evidences should be present as followers of Christ?

Today we are talking about faith. Let’s read the biblical definition of faith found in *Hebrews 11:1*.” After reading the verse, ask the following discussion questions:

1. What is something we know exists but can’t see (air, wind, gravity, etc)?
2. How do we know it exists (because we see the evidences of its presence)?
3. What evidences of faith are in our lives? Can others even tell we are believers?

Tell the children that Jesus said nothing would be impossible if we have faith even as small as a mustard seed (*Matthew 17:20*). Give a mustard seed to each child *(or show them a picture if you don’t have one available)*. Say, “These small mustard seeds become trees after extended times of growth. Therefore, if we want to grow in faith, we must keep moving forward in our relationships to Christ.” Tie the twine or yarn around the necks of the bottles and allow the children to keep the mustard seeds as reminders of the power of faith.

**Lesson** (15 minutes)

1. Read *2 Corinthians 5:6-7*.

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, [**7**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-7.htm)for we walk by faith, not by sight.

1. Tell the children about a time in your life when you “lived by faith, not by sight” and emphasize the assurance you received when God finally revealed his plan. Say, “Living by faith means trusting God’s promises and that he has a good plan **even when things don’t seem to be going right**. **(LIKE NOW—in our quarantine!!)** Our faith, even if it is as small as a mustard seed, will grow when we continually **choose to obey God**.” Further discuss actions that increase our faith such as prayer, reading the bible, serving others, and leading others to Christ. Add that it is impossible to walk in faith if you’ve never trusted in Jesus Christ.
2. Read *2 Corinthians 5:14-21*

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; [**15**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-15.htm)and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

[**16**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-16.htm)From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. [**17**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-17.htm)Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. [**18**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-18.htm)All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; [**19**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-19.htm)that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. [**20**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-20.htm)Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. [**21**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-21.htm)For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1. **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

What does it mean to say we are a ‘new creation’?

Why do we need to be made new?

How does Jesus make us new?

What does it mean when it says ‘the old has gone’?

Do you follow Jesus? Why/why not?

If you follow Jesus now, what things did you used to do before you followed Jesus? Was anything different?

How has Jesus changed your life?

We are also told to be ambassadors for Christ. What is an ambassador? *(An ambassador is an* ***official who represents the country/ruler that sent him into a foreign land****, and his message is derived from the sending ruler.)*

If WE are to be Christ’s ambassadors, that means we are to represent HIM—to live FOR HIM, to speak for Him.

**Review:** We are to

1. WALK BY FAITH (v. 7)
2. LIVE FOR CHRIST WHO DIED FOR US (v.15)
3. BE TRANSFORMED (v. 17)
4. BE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST (v.20)

**Conclusion** (5 minutes)
SAY: Walking in faith requires daily obedience, trust, and prayer. When we live our faith others will be able to see that we believe in Jesus.
CLOSING PRAYER: “Lord, we believe in you through faith. We trust your plan and ask you to help us walk in faith and lead others to Christ. Amen.”

**“Walk by Faith” Craft:**

* Trace your child’s foot on a piece of colored cardstock or construction paper
* Print the foot with verse *(open link for the pdf and print in landscape)* [*file:///C:/Users/Melissa/Documents/Parks%20Church%20PCA/Children's%20Lessons/We%20walk%20by%20faith%20craft--verse.pdf*](file:///C%3A/Users/Melissa/Documents/Parks%20Church%20PCA/Children%27s%20Lessons/We%20walk%20by%20faith%20craft--verse.pdf)
* Have child cut the verse and glue it to his/her footprint.



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