

Doubting Thomas

Mother's Day Sweet Treat – adapted from Spark: Activate Faith curriculum

Bold parts are meant to be spoken aloud.

Ingredients – brownie mix or family recipe, powdered sugar, cherry pie filling

Enjoy the process and time and making this special treat together. Once they have cooled, cut them into pieces large enough to lay a hand on for the lesson.

Have everyone wash their hands as you begin.

Jesus appeared to the disciples in a locked room. When Jesus saw the disciples, he said, “Peace be with you!” Give everyone a hug. **Jesus share time with his friends as we share these brownies together.** Give everyone a brownie – or you can decorate the brownies while in the pan and cut smaller pieces once they are done. This is what we did, and it had a really neat visual with all of our hands together.

The disciples touched Jesus to make sure it was really him. He showed them his hands and side. Have everyone gently lay their hands on top of the brownie without pressing down.

Jesus breathed on his friends to give them the power to tell the world about him and his love. The love of Jesus was all around them. Help one another sprinkle powdered sugar thickly around their hands. Then demonstrate how to lift your hand straight off the brownie, leaving behind a handprint. **Jesus' love leaves a print on our lives. Wherever Jesus is, he leaves a mark of love.**

Uh-Oh! Thomas missed the visit from Jesus! Jesus did not want to leave Thomas out, so he came back to visit with Thomas and the disciples one week later. Poke your finger in the center of your brownie hand, digging a nail-hole where Jesus was nailed to the cross. **When Jesus came back, Thomas touched Jesus' hands and side to know for sure it was him.** Scoop a small spoonful of cherry pie filling in the hole. **Jesus' wounds proved to Thomas that it was not a joke or a story that his friends made up. As you fill in the hole on your brownie hand, say what Thomas said when he believed, “My Lord and my God!”**

This all happened a very long time ago. We were not there. We did not get to see Jesus or Touch Jesus hand. But Jesus said, “Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe.” We still see the evidence of his love and breath all around us. Just like the powdered sugar, the love of Jesus is everywhere! As you enjoy the brownie treat together, talk about where each of you see the love of Jesus in your daily lives. Encourage kids to talk about their doubts and fears, but remind them of their victories, as well.

Closing prayer:

**Dear Jesus,
We cannot see you, but we know that you see us.
We cannot touch you, Jesus, but your love touches us.
My Lord and my God! We have faith in you!
Amen**