

THE PERSON AND LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Lesson Fourteen

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (2)

Scripture reading: John 20:19-29

Burden to Impart:

The Lord Jesus was raised from the dead with a resurrected body that could be seen and touched, yet He could also mysteriously disappear. Sometimes the disciples could see Him, sometimes they could not. He did not want them to believe He was with them simply because they saw Him. He wanted them to believe because of faith. Today, although we do not see Him, He is always with us, and has promised to be with us until the end of this age (Matt. 28:20). After we believe in Him and He lives in us, we must enjoy and practice knowing Him in His invisible presence.

Memory Verse: "Jesus said to him, Because you have seen Me, you have believed, Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29).

Facts to Teach:

1. Before His crucifixion the Lord told His disciples that He would only remain in death for three days and that He would then be raised from the dead. But none of the disciples understood what He was talking about (John 20:9).
2. Even though on the morning of the third day, the Lord appeared to Mary (John 20:14) and other women (Matt. 28:9), when they told this to the Apostles they did not believe them. They thought they must be crazy (Luke 24:11).
3. However, in the evening when all the disciples were gathered together behind shut doors for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst (John 20:19). He breathed into them the Holy Spirit. By doing this He came into them as the life-giving Spirit to live within them, as He had promised them on the night before His crucifixion (John 14:17-20).
4. One apostle was missing that night, Thomas. When the other ten apostles told him that they had seen the Lord he would not believe them. He said, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will by no means believe."
5. Eight days later, when they were gathered together again, Thomas was with them. Jesus appeared to them again in the room, and had a special talk with Thomas. He had been there invisibly and had heard every word Thomas had said in unbelief when the apostles testified to him about Jesus' resurrection. Jesus said to Thomas, "Bring your finger here and see My hands, and bring your hand and put it into My side, and be not unbelieving, but believing."
6. Thomas was overwhelmed by the reality that was standing before his very eyes. The Lord Jesus had truly risen from among the dead! He said to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"
7. Jesus told Thomas, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
8. We are much more blessed than Thomas, because we have never seen Jesus with our eyes, or touched Him with our hands, but we believe in Him and even more, we love Him (1 Pet. 1:8).
9. Jesus appeared to His disciples and disappeared again many, many times for a total of forty days (Acts 1:3); over a whole month! One time He appeared at the beach when they were fishing (John 21) and another time He was with them at the mountain (Matt. 28:16). On another occasion, when more than five hundred brothers and sisters were meeting together, He appeared to them (1 Cor. 15:6).
10. In this way, the Lord Jesus trained His disciples to know that He was always with them. Whether He was visible or invisible, He was there with them. Now, although the Lord remains with us in an invisible way, His presence is always with us.

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Songs for Lesson Fourteen

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Hymns, #639.

D G D
Death cannot hold the resurrection life,
G D E A⁷
The life of God eternal manifest;
D 7 G Em
'Tis uncreated, indestructible,
A D A⁷ D
'Tis Christ Himself, unconqu'erable, expressed.

Death cannot hold the resurrection life,
All of God's fullness it will manifest;
God's righteousness and holiness it yields,
His glorious image by it is expressed.

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Character Lesson Fourteen

GENUINE

Definition:

A person who is genuine is one who is real and who shows on the outside how he feels on the inside.

Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. Genuine leather belt vs. fake leather belt.
2. Fool's gold vs. real gold.
3. "GENUINE" picture from *Children's Character Book* published by Living Stream Ministry.

Verse:

"... *the genuineness also of your love.*" 2 Corinthians 8:8b

Craft Ideas:

1. Have the children make **genuine** fingerprints of their fingers using an ink pad.
 2. They can add whiskers, eyes, legs, etc. when the ink dries to create little fingerprint animals, objects, etc.
- [Materials needed - Stamp pad, paper, fine line markers or pens]

