Resurrection Expression Masks

Ref: 4.12

Expression Masks:

Help the children each make a set of three ‘mouth masks’. Show them how to hold these over their own mouths. Let them look at their faces in a mirror to see the effect of being happy, sad, puzzled or surprised.

While this is happening, or straight after, review the events of today’s story.

As you tell the Bible story, pause to let the children select which mouth mask to hold. Give them time to look at each other or in the mirrors.

*Story:*

Jesus’ friends thought they would never see Jesus again. *(Sad.)* They were in a room together, but Thomas was not there. Suddenly Jesus was in the room with them! *(Surprised.)* Jesus spoke to them. He was alive! He was real! How do you think they felt now? *(Happy.)*

Thomas was not there. So he did not know Jesus was alive. How did he feel? *(Sad.)*

Jesus’ friends said to Thomas, ‘We’re so happy. We’ve seen Jesus! He’s alive. He spoke to us! He’s real!’ How do you think Thomas felt? *(Surprised.)*

‘I have not seen Jesus,’ said Thomas. ‘I have not touched him. I do not know he is real.’ *(Sad.)*

A week later, Jesus’ friends were in a room together and Thomas was there too. Suddenly Jesus was in the room with them! (*Surprised.)* Jesus spoke to them. He was alive! He was real! How do you think the friends felt now? *(Happy.)*

But what about Thomas? *(Surprised.)* Jesus said to Thomas, ‘Look at my hands.’

Thomas looked. *(Surprised.)*

Jesus said, ‘Come and touch my side.’

Jesus said, ‘Stop doubting and believe!’

Then Thomas knew that Jesus was alive and real. How do you think he felt then? *(Happy.)*

Repeat the story, using just one of the mouth masks. Help the children listen for and identify each ‘happy’ moment. If they enjoy this, you could do it again with the ‘sad’ and ‘surprising’ events.

Conclusion: ‘We can know that Jesus is real today. He sees us and knows us. He hears us when we speak to him. He wants to be our friend. He looks after us. He loves us.’

Let the children use the mouth masks to make their own response to what you are saying.