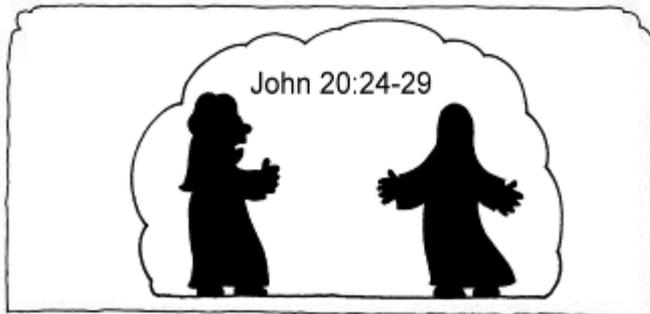


THOMAS needs to see

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By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



Thomas was one of Jesus' followers. He had seen Jesus die. So, when others began to say that Jesus was alive again he doubted their story.



"Jesus is alive we saw him!" Jesus' friends told Thomas. "I won't believe you until I see Jesus with my own eyes," he said



When the friends met the next week, everyone was happy, except Thomas. "How can anyone rise from the dead?" he argued. "Unless I see his hands and feet I will not believe!"



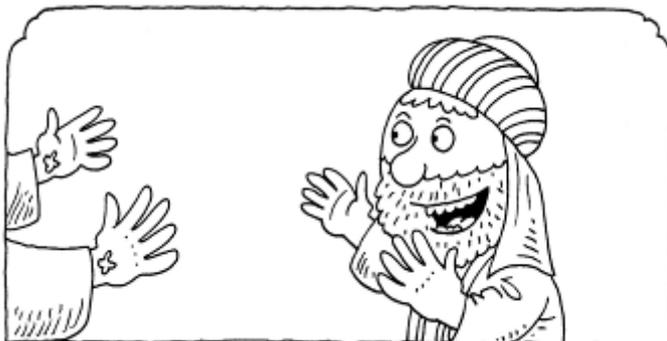
Suddenly Jesus was standing right there in the room, even though the door was shut! Everyone was surprised to see him, especially Thomas.



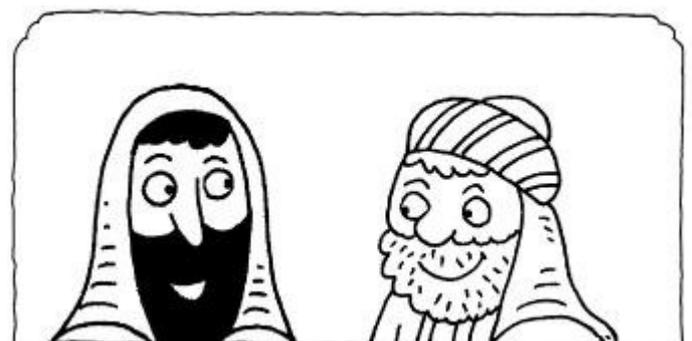
"Don't be frightened," Jesus said, "It really is me. Thomas, touch my hands and see that I am alive."



Then Thomas knew that Jesus HAD risen from the dead and he believed because he had seen Jesus himself.



"Thomas, you are glad now," Jesus said, "You believe I am alive only because you have seen me with your very own eyes."



In days to come, God's favour will be on many people who will believe in me, although they have never seen me.