

Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.

Scripture

John 20:24-29

1. Opening Statement

Begin your conversation by asking about this main point:

Faith is the assurance of our hope and the proof of what we cannot see.

This main point is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same session. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

2. Thought From the Study

The core part of the challenge Jesus issued to Thomas was this: "Don't be an unbeliever, but a believer." Thomas had been a loyal disciple of Jesus up to that point, but he needed to exercise faith in the crucified and risen King. Throughout the Gospel of John, we see that faith (belief) in Jesus is necessary for receiving God's salvation and gift of eternal life.

► **Why do you think Jesus singled out Thomas when He appeared to His disciples this second time?**

3. Quote for Discussion

Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?

Faith is a reasoning trust, a trust which reckons thoughtfully and confidently upon the trustworthiness of God. — John Stott

4. Conversation Questions

Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:

1. What kind of doubts does our family struggle with the most—intellectual, emotional, or volitional? How can we help each other deal with these doubts?
2. How would our family define faith and explain it to people who don't believe?
3. What are some analogies and illustrations our family uses to describe faith? How can we use these to encourage each other and share the gospel?
4. How can we, as a family, address our own doubts in healthy ways? How do we respond to one another's doubts in healthy ways?