Upper Elementary Apply-It Options



Supplies

• Bible

I Wonder...

Remember this part of the Bible story?



Read aloud Mark 15:29-30.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, many people cheered for him. A few days later, they had turned against him!

I wonder...why did the people change their feelings about Jesus so quickly? Tell about a time your opinion shifted, such as about a type of food. Have you ever changed your opinion of something? Invite kids to share in pairs.

Let's see how our opinions can switch with a game of Would You Rather?

Would you rather live in the forest or on the beach? Direct kids to move to different sides of the room based on their answers.

You made your decision, but I didn't finish the whole story!

Would you rather live in the forest in a tent or on the beach in an igloo? Have kids move if opinions changed.

Continue with more scenarios, adding more detail after each initial vote to allow kids to change their minds. Play as many rounds as time allows.

Some of you changed your mind when you heard the whole story. The people changed their attitude toward Jesus because his actions weren't what they expected. The truth about Jesus hadn't changed, but people's opinions had.

What could we do differently? Instead of turning away from Jesus when things don't go the way we thought they would, we can...(Invite responses from kids.)



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 copies of the Optical Illusion handout (1 per person) Make It Real

Today we're discovering Jesus gives hope...in unexpected ways. (Wow! Thank you!) **Let's make this truth a little more real.**

Have you ever looked at something one way and then been surprised when you suddenly see it differently? See what happens as you look at this picture.

Give each kid a handout, and allow kids to hold it however they like.

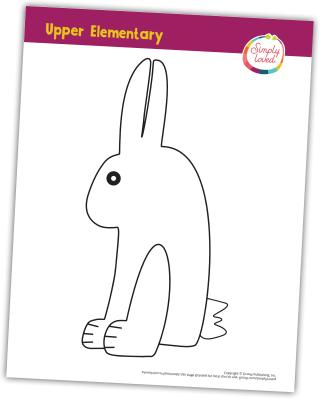
What do you see in the picture?

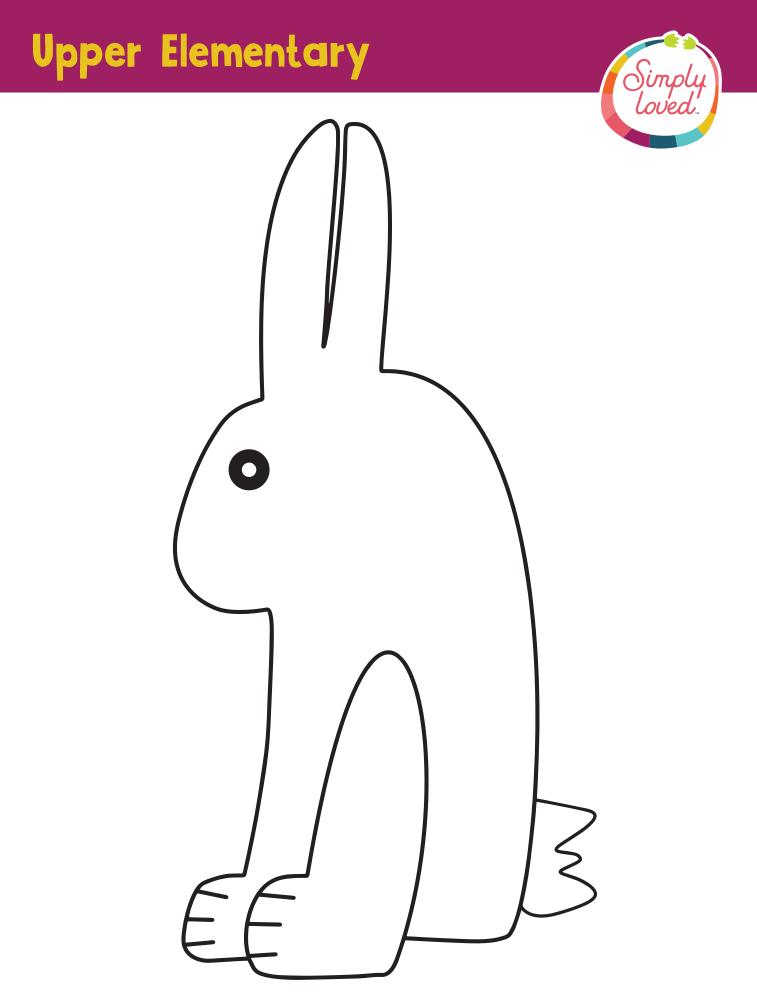
If there are differing answers, invite kids to explain what they see and why. Invite them to hold the paper in different ways and notice if they see something they didn't at first. (Note: If held horizontally, the picture looks like a duck; vertically, a rabbit.)

Changing *how* you look at something can change what you see. The way people saw Jesus changed because he didn't do what other kings at that time did. So the people misunderstood Jesus and his actions because they were stuck thinking the King of kings would only act like other kings.

When have you been misunderstood and wished someone could see the truth about you? Share a kid-friendly example of your own first, then invite answers from everyone.

Misunderstandings happen because we all understand or expect things differently. But the truth about Jesus is *always* true, even when we or other people have a hard time seeing it. Jesus gives hope...in unexpected ways. (Wow! Thank you!)







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