

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What are some ways Paul changed after meeting Jesus?
- What are some ways Jesus changes people today?
- Do you know anyone who treats Christians badly? How can you respond to that person?



Paul's Conversion and Baptism

Acts 9:1-25

MAIN POINT: JESUS SAVED SAUL FROM HIS SINS AND CHOSE HIM TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL.

Saul wanted to put an end to the church. He went into the believers' homes, dragged them out, and put them into jail. Many believers fled the city.

Saul headed to Damascus to arrest believers there, but on the way, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

"Who are You, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus," He replied. "Get up and go into the city. Then you will be told what you must do."

Saul got up and opened his eyes, but he couldn't see! So the men who were traveling with Saul led him by the hand into Damascus.

Ananias lived in Damascus. The Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision. He told him to go to the house where Saul was staying. The Lord said, "I have chosen this man to take My name to Gentiles, kings, and the Israelites."

Ananias obeyed the Lord. Ananias put his hands on Saul, and suddenly Saul could see again. Saul got up and was baptized.

For the next few days, Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus. He began to go to the synagogues to preach about Jesus.

The people were amazed. They recognized Saul and knew he had wanted to put an end to the church and all the believers. Now he was one of them!

Christ Connection: Jesus appeared to Saul and changed him inside and out. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15) Jesus called Saul, also known as Paul, who was once an enemy to Christians, to spend the rest of his life telling people the gospel and leading them to trust Jesus as Lord and Savior.

FOLD



Called by God

Color the spaces according to the numbers:

1 - BLACK 2 - YELLOW 3 - BLUE

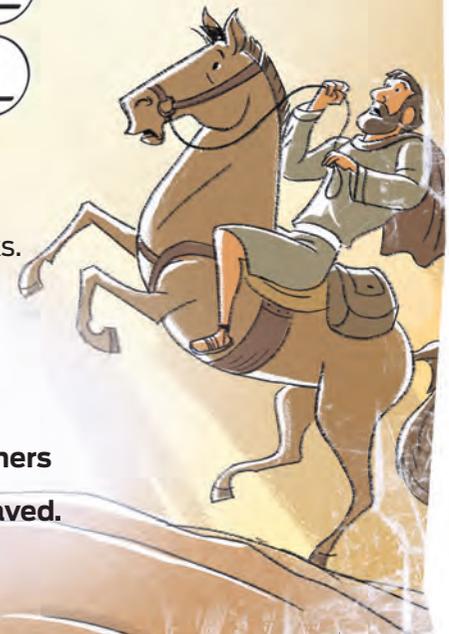


MAICH	_____ ○ _____
JNOAH	_____ ○ _____
HRWEEBS	_____ ○ _____
DIEANL	_____ ○ _____
ISIHAA	_____ ○ _____
MEATTHW	_____ ○ _____
GESIENS	_____ ○ _____
JSHOUA	_____ ○ _____
JHON	_____ ○ _____
ATCS	_____ ○ _____

In a Row

Unscramble the names of these Bible books. Once you have them all straightened out, read down the column of circles to learn the answer to this big picture question: How do people hear about Jesus?

God uses _____ to tell others
about Jesus so they may repent and be saved.



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Whose power let Paul heal people?
- How did Paul and Barnabas react to the people who tried to worship them?
- Why did Paul and Barnabas say it was necessary for Jesus' followers to go through hardships?



Paul's First Journey

Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-28

MAIN POINT: THE HOLY SPIRIT SENT PAUL AND BARNABAS TO TELL JEWS AND GENTILES ABOUT JESUS.

Saul, who became known by his Roman name Paul, was with the church in Antioch. The Holy Spirit chose Paul and another believer, Barnabas, for a special work. God led Paul and Barnabas to tell the good news about Jesus to not only the Jews, but the Gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas traveled to Lystra, and Paul healed a man there who was lame. The people saw what Paul had done, and they thought Paul and Barnabas were gods! They began to worship them, but Paul and Barnabas tore their clothes and shouted, "No! We are not gods. We are men just like you! We want to tell you the good news of God."

Then some people caused trouble so that the people in Lystra turned against Paul and Barnabas. They threw stones at Paul and dragged him out of the city.

The next day, Paul and Barnabas went to the city of Derbe. They told people there about Jesus, and many people believed. Then they went back to Lystra and to Iconium. They encouraged the believers there.

Finally, Paul and Barnabas returned to the church at Antioch. They reported everything God had done on their journey and how God had helped them share the good news with the Gentiles.

Christ Connection: Paul and Barnabas faced many people who rejected the good news about Jesus. But God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles Paul faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel was shared so that people all over the world could be saved from their sin by trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

How Does It Grow?

Match each person, place, or thing with what helps it grow.



Mark the Way I

Unscramble the clues to draw the route of Paul's first missionary journey.

- PAUL AND BARNABAS LEFT _____ IN SYRIA
 _____ ATOCHNI
 AND SAILED TO _____ AND THEN TO _____
 PRUSCY ANCHOIT.
- FROM THERE, PAUL AND BARNABAS TRAVELED THROUGH
 _____ TO _____. PAUL HEALED A MAN THERE.
 MUNICOI ASTRLY
- NEXT, THEY WENT TO _____. THEN PAUL
 BEDRE
 AND BARNABAS WENT BACK THROUGH _____
 ASTRLY,
 _____ AND ANCHOIT. THEY SAILED PAST
 MUNICOI, AND ANCHOIT. THEY SAILED PAST
 _____ TO _____ IN SYRIA.
 PRUSCY ATOCHNI



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What was the purpose of the Old Testament Law?
- Why can't the law save us?
- Why is faith in Jesus enough to receive salvation?



The Message: "Christ Alone"

Acts 15:1-35

MAIN POINT: THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM ENCOURAGED GENTILE BELIEVERS.

Paul and Barnabas had been sharing the gospel with many people—including Gentiles. But some people in the church began to teach that the Gentiles could not be saved unless they followed some of the same rules the Jews followed.

The church leaders decided to meet in Jerusalem to talk about whether or not the Gentiles needed to obey the law of Moses. Peter stood up and said to the group, "They heard the good news, and they believed. God accepted them and gave them the Holy Spirit, just as He did for us."

"We know that we cannot obey God's laws perfectly. Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same way—by the grace of the Lord Jesus."

Everyone in the group was quiet as Paul and Barnabas told them about all the things God had done through them when they were with the Gentiles. Then James pointed out that the words of the prophets showed that God wanted to save both Jews and Gentiles.

The church leaders wrote a letter to the Gentile believers. The leaders chose Judas and Silas to go to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas to deliver the letter. The believers in Antioch were encouraged by the letter.

Christ Connection: The church leaders met in Jerusalem to answer a tough question: Can a person be saved by faith alone or was something more needed? The early church agreed that because of Jesus' death and resurrection, He alone is all we need to be saved.

FOLD

Picture Mix-Up

Arrange the picture pieces in the correct order to complete the Bible story main point.



The church in Jerusalem encouraged _____ believers.



The Message

Circle the letter to indicate if the statement is true or false. Then use the circled letters to fill in the message.

T	F
C	A
H	D
E	R
N	I
S	B
T	L

Some Jews believed Gentiles needed to follow Jewish rules to be saved.

Peter said that God accepted Gentiles who believed.

The Jews were trying to make salvation easier for Gentiles.

People can obey God's laws perfectly if they try hard.

The words of the prophets showed God wants to save both Jews and Gentiles.

Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same way—by the grace of the Lord Jesus.

The early church agreed that because of Jesus' death and resurrection, people are saved by _____ alone.

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What did Paul and Silas do in jail?
- When is it easy to praise God? When is it difficult?
- What kinds of people can be saved by the gospel?



Paul's Second Journey

Acts 16:11-34

MAIN POINT: PAUL AND SILAS TOLD THE JAILER, "BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS AND YOU WILL BE SAVED."

God told Paul to go to Macedonia to share the gospel. So Paul and his friends went to Macedonia. They stopped for a few days in a city called Philippi. On the Sabbath, Paul and his friends went to the river to pray. Some women were there, and Paul started talking to them. A woman named Lydia was listening, and God opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. Lydia and everyone in her house were baptized.

On another day, Paul and Silas were on their way to pray, and a servant girl met them. She had a spirit in her that allowed her to predict the future. The girl followed Paul and Silas, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God!" Paul said to the spirit in her, "By the power of Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!" And the spirit came out right away.

Now the girl's owners were upset because she could no longer tell the future. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities. The officials ordered for Paul and Silas to be beaten and thrown into jail.

About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God. All of a sudden, a violent earthquake shook the jail. All the doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose! The jailer woke up and saw the prison doors open. Paul said, "We are all here!"

The jailer rushed took Paul and Silas outside. "Men, what must I do to be saved?" he asked.

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Paul and Silas told the message of Jesus to the jailer and to everyone in his household. All of them believed and were baptized right away.

Christ Connection: Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."

FOLD

Earthquake!

Number the broken stones to reorder the Bible story main point.



Mark the Way II

Unscramble the clues to draw the route of Paul's second missionary journey.

- PAUL BEGAN IN THE CITY OF _____ IN SYRIA.
ACHNOIT
GOD TOLD HIM TO GO TO MACEDONIA.
- PAUL VISITED THE CITIES OF _____ ,
BERED
_____, AND _____ .
STRALY MUINOCI
- PAUL TRAVELED THROUGH _____ AND
ACHNOIT
SAROT
- FINALLY, HE ARRIVED IN _____ .
HIIILPPP

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why is it foolish to trust in idols or false gods?
- How can we know God is real?
- What are some things we might trust in besides God?



Paul Preached in Europe

Acts 17:16-34

MAIN POINT: PAUL TAUGHT THE PEOPLE IN ATHENS THAT THE ONE TRUE GOD SENT JESUS TO BE THE SAVIOR.

Paul had been traveling from place to place, sharing the gospel. When Paul got to Athens, he was upset by what he saw. The people there worshiped many idols. Paul told them the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

Paul said, "Men of Athens, I saw in your city an altar that said: 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' You worship a god that you do not know. This is the God I want to tell you about."

So Paul told the people about the one true God. He explained that God is not like the idols in Athens. He is not made of gold, silver, or stone. God does not need anything, and He is not far away. Paul also said that God wants everyone in the world to repent, to turn away from their sin and turn to Him.

Paul said, "One day, God is going to judge the world in a way that is right. He has chosen Jesus to do this, and He proved this by raising Jesus from the dead!"

When the people heard about Jesus being raised from the dead, some of them laughed. But some of them wanted to hear more later. So Paul went away from their meeting. However, some people joined Paul, and they believed in Jesus.

Christ Connection: The men of Athens worshiped a false god whom they did not know. Paul explained to the men God's plan of salvation. He said that God is not like the Greek idols. Only God deserves our worship! Paul talked about Jesus and the resurrection. All people can know God because Jesus took the punishment for sin that separates people from God.

Better and Better

List or draw a picture of the five most important things to you.



Did You Know? | Circle the statements you already knew. Put a checkmark next to statements you didn't know were true.

- The people in Athens worshiped many idols.
- Paul taught the Greeks that the one true God sent Jesus to be the Savior.
- God made everything.
- God does not need anything, and He is not far away.
- God wants everyone in the world to repent, to turn away from sin and turn to Him.
- One day, God is going to judge the world in a way that is right.

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What dangers did Paul face while sharing the gospel?
- What dangers might we face while sharing the gospel?
- How can we be brave as we follow Jesus?



Paul's Third Journey

Acts 18:1-4,24-28; 20:17-38

**MAIN POINT: GOD HELPED PAUL PREACH WITH COURAGE
EVEN WHEN HE WAS IN DANGER.**

Paul traveled from Athens to the city of Corinth. There he met a Jewish man named Aquila and his wife, Priscilla. Paul stayed with them. On the Sabbath days, Paul went to the synagogue to talk to the Jews and Greeks. He tried to persuade them to believe in Jesus. Some of the people believed, and the church grew in Corinth.

Paul traveled with his friends from Corinth to Ephesus. Aquila and Priscilla stayed in Ephesus while Paul visited churches throughout Asia. Paul helped the believers in the cities grow stronger in their faith.

While Paul was traveling, a Jew named Apollos came to Ephesus. Apollos liked to tell people about Jesus. But he did not understand everything about Jesus, so Priscilla and Aquila explained more to him. Apollos traveled and taught others, using the Scriptures to show that Jesus is the Messiah.

Now Paul traveled back toward Ephesus. He asked the leaders of the church there to meet him in a nearby city. Paul said to them, "I am obeying the Spirit and am going to sail to Jerusalem. I do not know what will happen to me there, but I know that trouble and jail wait for me. I do not care about my own life. The most important thing is that I finish the work Jesus gave me to do."

Paul and the church leaders prayed together. Then they went with him to the ship to say goodbye.

Christ Connection: As Paul traveled on his third missionary journey, he used every opportunity to tell people the good news about Jesus and to help the church. Paul was dedicated to Jesus, who called him to do the work of sharing the gospel.

FOLD

Third Journey Word Search

Circle the words hidden in the puzzle.

T P S V O O H Y A W N A A J X
 U Q F J T Y P S I P Y S W P H
 M D E U I F C X A Q U I L A U
 T A T H E N S B K J A A I U T
 Z V P R M O D T R B F S G L L
 A U T R L C I T X C S Y S Y L
 Y R F L I R O Q A E H F R H O
 Q A O R I S I R M J S A J S O
 B P T P S O C M I U H T E X K
 A X S H R P R I S N N B S H X
 L Q Y L N J S E L V T K U D B
 J H W H J N H K P L E H S H E
 C O O Y T P Q Y K E A V J P Q
 G T G V E S B E R G M Y T Z L
 V U Y J E W S G H I P X E D X

WORD LIST

JESUS

JEWS

MESSIAH

PAUL

PRISCILLA

SPIRIT

APOLLOS

AQUILA

ATHENS

ASIA

CORINTH

EPHESUS

GREEKS

Mark the Way III

Unscramble the clues to draw the route of Paul's third missionary journey.

1. PAUL BEGAN IN THE CITY OF _____ AND WENT TO _____ .
 NORICHT SPHEEUS

2. PAUL VISITED CHURCHES THROUGH ASIA, INCLUDING _____ .
 RATOS

3. PAUL RETURNED TO _____ AND THEN WENT TO _____ .
 SPHEEUS LEMJERASU

