

Jan 28/29

Paul: Caring and Sharing 2 1/2 years - Kindergarten



Art

Key verse

All who believe are made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ.
Romans 3:22

Gathering-10 minutes

As children arrive, greet them and welcome them. Have them collect their offering in their group baskets. Invite them to sit with you and play until the clean up song starts. When the clean up song starts, gather the toys and put the bin back against the wall.

Opening -10 minutes

Song: "Knock-Knock"

Offering: Have a child from each group bring the offering forward. Say offering prayer.

"Theme Song": Choose a song from the unit's lesson CD or another song that is fun.

Telling the story-5 minutes

Tell children that you will be reading a Bible story. The story is about Paul and two of his friends, Priscilla and Aquila. Read the story *God's People Work Together* from God Prints Family Funstuff Bible Stories p. 154-157. Do not show the pictures. They are too small for a large group experience. You may stop the story when questions are asked and have children talk to their small group leaders about the answers.

Responding to the story-15 minutes

Ask:

- What big job were Priscilla and Aquila doing at the beginning of the story? (making a tent) **Act out putting up a tent. Lay out the fabric, pound in the stakes, put up the poles and spread the fabric.**
- What are some big jobs around your house that would be better if more than one person worked on them? (making beds, pulling weeds from the garden, washing dishes, painting the walls, etc.) **Have children stand up and pretend to make a bed, pull weeds, wash dishes and paint a wall.**
- Paul came to visit his friends Priscilla and Aquila. Have you ever had friends come to your house? Have they ever helped you do something?
- Paul talked about Jesus to his friends while they worked together. Have you ever talked to your friends about Jesus?

Take a break from the discussion to do a simple activity. Each small group will have a towel and a ball. Have two children face each other and hold the towel stretched out between them. The small group leader puts the ball on the towel. Children must *work together* to walk to a teacher-designated spot in the room without dropping the towel or the ball. It is not a race or a timed event. Talk about working together. Imagine the ball was a heavy load. It would be easier to work with a friend rather than carry a heavy load by yourself. Allow each child in you group to have a turn.

Return to your seats and the discussion.

- If one of your friends didn't know who Jesus was, what would you say?
- Priscilla and Aquila wanted to help their friend Paul talk to other people about Jesus. They traveled with Paul, telling others about God's love. We already talked about what you could **say** to tell others about Jesus. Can you think of a way you could **show** other people that God loves them? (be nice to your brother/sister, be helpful to your family, tell the truth, open the door for someone, send a get well card, smile at people, etc.)
- Try to get your class to think outside of their own family. What could they do for someone in Maple Grove whose house burned down in a fire? Did anyone buy a Christmas gift for the families that were posted in Fellowship Hall? Did you fill an Operation Christmas Child shoe box? Has anyone ever brought food for CROSS? (CROSS stands for Christians Reaching Out in Social Service. It is our local food, clothing, assistance center.)

Telling the whole world about Jesus and God's love takes a lot of people working together-just like moving the ball in your towel was easier when you worked together. Or putting up a tent is easier when you have a helper. Paul could not tell everyone about Jesus on his own. He asked Priscilla and Aquila to help him. They asked Apollos to help them. Apollos told more people and they told more people and so on, and so on.

We can be like Paul and show and tell about God's love. We are going to make two crosses today, one to keep and one to share. Try to give away your second cross to someone who does not live in your house. Tell them that God loves them. Share the Good News like Paul.

(Scratch off the black on the crosses. If you leave a little black on the cross it will make a pretty design. Many children will want to scratch off all the black. That's okay, too.)

Reflection-5 minutes

Can you hold your towel over your group and pretend you are in Priscilla and Aquila's tent for the closing prayer?

Thank you, God, for each person in our families.

Thank you for our friends.

Help us all to love and serve Jesus.

**Help (small group leader: say each child's name) to live like Paul,
Loving, serving and sharing.**

Amen.

Please remember to give away your second cross to someone who does not live in your house. Tell them that God loves them. Share the Good News like Paul.