

Feb 4/5

## Paul: Caring and Sharing 2 1/2 yr - Kindergarten

### Games

#### 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

Show *The Beginner's Bible* to the children. Ask them what book it is. Ask them the kind of stories they would find in the Bible. Would Bob the Builder stories be in the Bible? How about stories about Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch? Would there be stories about Noah and the Ark in the Bible? How about Baby Jesus? Tell them that today's story is found in the Bible. It is about a man named Saul. He is a very bad man. Something happens to Saul that changes him. Listen for the change and listen to find out who changes Saul.

Read *A Changed Man, Paul's Journey* and *Earthquake in Prison*, pages 488-503.

#### Responding to the story-15 minutes

- What happen to Saul to change his life? (bright light, Jesus talked to him, blinded)
- Do you remember who made Saul change his heart? (God or Jesus-through Ananias)
- What was Saul's new name? (Paul)
- Did Paul still hate the people who followed Jesus? (no)
- When Paul became a nice man, what did he do for Jesus? (traveled and taught everyone he met about Jesus, baptized people, started new churches, went to jail)
- What sad thing happened to Paul and his friend Silas? (thrown in jail for telling about Jesus)
- How did Paul and Silas get out of jail? (God sent an earthquake)
- When Paul and Silas ~~get out of jail did they run and hide? (no)~~
- What did they do? (kept telling people the Good News of Jesus)

Play a game of Follow the Leader as you teach children this song to the tune of "Old MacDonald." This song reinforces the importance of following God every day, just like Paul.

**God calls us to follow him  
Every single day!  
God calls us to follow him.  
He'll lead us all the way.  
Follow God!  
He loves you, too!  
Do just what he says to do.**

**God calls us to follow him  
Every single day!**

Talk about how Saul's life changed when he decided to follow Jesus. Then ask children how our lives are different when we follow Jesus. (We are nice to each other. We help each other. We pray and go to church. We love our enemies. Etc.)

Form a circle and sing and play this game. Sing the song to the tune of the "Hokey Pokey."

**You put your right hand in** (put your right hand in the circle),

**You put your right hand out** (put your right hand outside the circle),

**You put your right hand in and you shake it all about.** (Put your hand into the middle of the circle and shake it.)

**You want to follow Jesus, so you turn your life around.** (Turn around in a circle.)

**That's what it's all about!** (Clap on each word.)

Repeat the song, substituting the following words in each verse: **left hand, right leg, left leg, head,** and **whole self.**

Play "Children of God." This game helps children realize they're children of God. Tell them that even when they do naughty things, God will forgive them and they will always be "Children of God." Make sure children have room to do the following actions without running into or hitting others.. Encourage children to follow the motions in the action game safely. Say:

**Children of God, wave your hands.**

**Children of God, jump up and down.**

**Children of God, turn around.**

**Children of God, reach for the sky.**

**Children of God, hop on one foot.**

**Children of God, hug a friend.**

**Children of God, sit on the ground.**

**Children of God, giggle and laugh.**

**Children of God, let's say 'amen.'**



You can continue to play by making up actions that fit your class and room size.

Calm your group down with this easy game. Tell the children that their lips have been buttoned shut, but they can still "talk" by using their hands. Have the children say the following words or phrases using just their hands.

- **Hello!** (wave)
- **Great job!** (high five or thumbs up)
- **Stop!** (hand up, palm facing front)
- **Come here!** (beckon with a finger)
- **Quiet!** (finger in front of lips)
- **Goodbye!** (wave)
- **Listen!** (hand to ear)
- **Watch me!** (point to eyes)
- **Hurry up!** (make circular motion with hand)

You can also have the children quietly imitate animals such as bunnies, kittens, giraffes, turtles or other quiet animals.



Play **How Did Paul Feel?** Have children sit on the floor. Pause after you read each of the following statements to allow children time to respond.

- Show me Saul's face when he didn't like Jesus' followers.
- Show me Saul's face when he saw the bright light.
- Show me Saul's face when he heard Jesus talk to him from the heavens.
- Show me Saul's face when he was blind.
- Show me Saul's face when God let him see again.
- Show me Saul's face when God changed his name to Paul.
- Show me Paul's face when he talks about God's love to all the people he meets.

You may add your own statements if the children are enjoying the exercise. Here are a few examples:

- You dropped your ice cream cone.
- It's Christmas morning and it's time to open presents.
- You fall down and skin your knee.
- Your friend won't give you a toy you want to play with.
- It's very late at night and you are so tired.
- You just got permission to play with your best friend.

**Go to Jail** is a fun, silly game that will remind children that Paul and Silas were put in jail.

Choose an area of the room to be the jail. Say, "If you have tennis shoes on, go to jail!" All those with tennis shoes on must go to jail. "If you have a nose, go to jail!" Everyone ends up in jail. Talk about Paul and Silas in jail, even though they didn't do anything wrong. Paul and Silas praised God and prayed while they were in jail. Play again, gradually getting all of the children into the jail.

**Make a prayer chain.** When Paul and Silas were in jail, they continued to pray to and praise God. Each child will make their own prayer chain. Tape the links together. Each color link has a different thing to pray for. Children will take the chains home. At home prayer-time, they will tear off a link and pray for that thing.

#### **Reflection-5 minutes**

God can change even the naughtiest person, like Saul, into a good person, Paul. First Saul hurt people who believed in Jesus. After God changed him, he became Paul and he shared God's love with people all over the world. God can change you, too! Let's ask God to help us change. Let's pray.

Pray the following prayer two times. Show the actions the first time and challenge children to remember them and do them on their own the second time through.

**Lord, help me use my voice to say** (touch lips)

**Kind words to people every day.** (Gently pat someone else's back)

**Lord, use my hands-although they're small** (hold out hands)

**To show your love to one and all.** (Gently hug someone-if they're willing, otherwise hug yourself)

**Lord, use my feet to take your word** (walk in place)

**To people who might not have heard.** (put hand to ear)

**Use all of me to share the news** (outstretch arms)