



UNIT 33 | SESSION 2

PAUL BECAME A MISSIONARY

ACTS 13-14

CHRIST CONNECTION

We tell others about Jesus so they can hear and believe.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who can be saved? Anyone who trusts in Jesus is saved.

MEMORY VERSE

God sent Jesus to save people. John 3:17

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The beginnings of Paul's journey as a missionary in Acts 13-14 showcased the power and providence of God, even amid harsh persecution. From being sent out and set apart by the Holy Spirit to being wrongly celebrated as gods and experiencing mistreatment and stonings, Paul remained fixed on the hope he found in Jesus. No matter the circumstances he faced, he kept proclaiming Jesus' name and paving the way for the gospel to be known around the world.

What patterns do we see in Paul's life that propelled the gospel farther? What role do hardships play in our spiritual lives as we, too, seek to live on mission for Christ and His good news of salvation?

As we read of Paul's journeys, we find that he continually sought to abide in Christ through the spiritual disciplines of fasting, prayer, and sharing the gospel. We also see that he did not back down from difficult situations; not even false prophets and sorcerers could derail him from proclaiming God's truth! Despite the grueling hassles of life on the road and not having a place to call home, Paul chose obedience to God's calling above any earthly comfort as he trusted the glories of heaven far outweighed any momentary affliction.

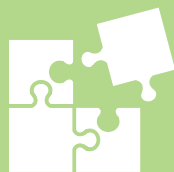
While many insulted Paul, opposed him, and rejected the words of life he spoke, he shook the dust off his feet and pressed on, filled with joy and the Holy Spirit. This same Spirit that filled Paul and sustained him on his missionary journeys also lives in us who trust in Christ. Paul's dependence on the Spirit and his obedience to the gospel mission provide a model for us to follow as we seek to live on mission.

Encourage the children you lead to recognize Paul's perseverance and how the love of Jesus compelled him to share the gospel no matter the difficulties he faced. Ask the Lord to assist you as you live out this conviction through teaching it to the next generation of Christ followers.

TERMS TO KNOW

Missionary: a Christian chosen by God who obeys His command to go and tell another group of people the good news about Jesus

OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities

WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with other children.

ACTIVITY #1: GO FOR A WALK

Invite children to take a walk with you around your area. Be sure to follow our security procedures for leaving the classroom!

If the weather permits, consider taking your class on a walk outside. Point out things you see along the way. Greet the people you see. Encourage children to tell the people you meet that Jesus loves them.

CONNECT THE DOTS



God led Paul and Barnabas to other cities to tell the good news about Jesus. They walked to many places. Their journey was longer than ours, but they told people the good news of Jesus, just like we did. Many people believed. Paul and Barnabas then returned to the church and told the other believers everything that God had done on their journey and how God helped them share the good news about Jesus with everyone.

CONNECT THE DOTS



We are building a city! Who went to many cities to tell people about Jesus? Paul and Barnabas! Paul and Barnabas traveled to tell people about Jesus. Many people believed in Jesus. We can also tell others about Jesus so they can hear and believe too!

ACTIVITY #2: BUILD A CITY

Get out your classroom's blocks, cars, and people figures.

Encourage children to build a city by stacking the blocks and adding cars and people. Review or tell the Bible story and encourage them to listen as they build.

CRAFT & EXAMPLE



Help children with a craft connected to the Bible story

CRAFT: COLOR A MAP

Supplies: map poster, markers

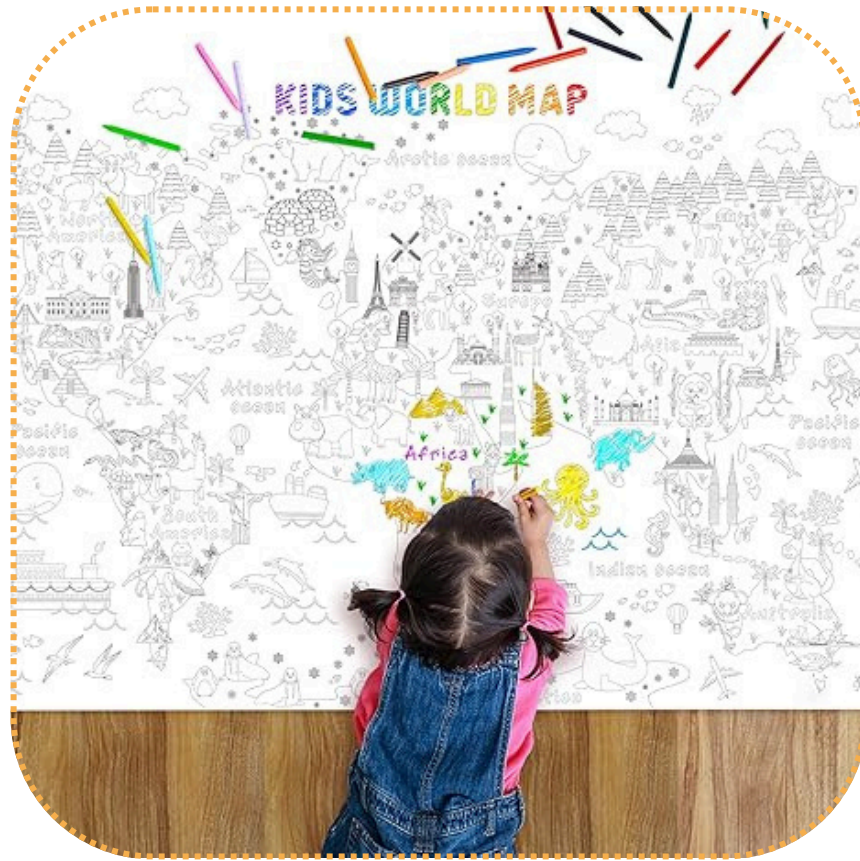
Give each child a few markers and allow children to color in their favorite part of the map poster.

Talk about the Bible story as they work. Remind them what missionaries do, and point out where Paul and Barnabas traveled to.

CONNECT THE DOTS



Maps help us know how to get where we are going. We can use a map to know the way. Paul and Barnabas traveled to many cities to tell others about Jesus. Lystra and Derbe were two of the cities. Where have you traveled? God wants us to tell others about Jesus as we travel as well.





PREPARE

Open your Bible to **Acts 13-14** and tell the following story.

PAUL BECAME A MISSIONARY

Paul and his friend Barnabas helped start the first churches. The Holy Spirit told Paul and Barnabas that they had an important job to do. The church put their hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed for them, and they left their city to go do the work God wanted them to do. God led Paul and Barnabas to other cities to tell the good news about Jesus to both Jews and Gentiles — people who were not Jews.

Paul and Barnabas went to the city of Lystra (LISS truh). A man was there who had not been able to walk his whole life. Paul healed the man! When the people saw this miracle, they thought Paul and Barnabas were gods! Paul and Barnabas shouted, “No! We are not gods. We are men just like you. We want to tell you the good news of God.”

Then some Jews came from the other cities Paul and Barnabas had visited. They made trouble in this new city, and the people decided to fight against Paul and Barnabas too. They threw rocks at Paul and dragged him out of the city.

The next day, Paul and Barnabas went to the city of Derbe (DUHR bih). They told the people about Jesus, and many of them believed. Finally, they returned to the church and told the other believers everything that God had done on their journey and how God helped them share the good news about Jesus with everyone.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul shared the good news about Jesus with anyone who would listen. Many people believed in Jesus, and the church grew. The Holy Spirit wants us to tell others about Jesus so they can be saved from their sins.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning

SNACK TIME

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
3. Who traveled with Paul to tell people about Jesus?
4. Who can be saved? Anyone who trusts in Jesus is saved.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant
2. Spot sweep if needed
3. Return toys to closet, close door
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room
5. Return storage cubes to Room 108

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!