

**LIFE POINT**

The Holy Spirit helps Christians tell others about Jesus.

# PAUL AND BARNABAS BECAME MISSIONARIES



### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

The Holy Spirit helps Christians tell others about Jesus and God's plan.

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Acts 13:1-15,42-49

### UNIT VERSE

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16 (CSB)

### WEEKLY VERSE

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8 (CSB)

### SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

May 10



FREE weekly Bible Studies for Life Kids audio training



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

### CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following pages.)

A group of seminary students enrolled in an evangelism class traveled to a local park for hands-on evangelism training. A female student spotted a young couple and walked in their direction. Greeting the couple, she offered a gospel tract to them. The man pulled the tract from her hand, cursed her, and tore up the tract. She simply responded, "Young man, I will be praying for you," and walked away. The class was preparing to leave the park when the same man approached the female student. He said, "I'm sorry for the way I treated you today. I've been thinking about the kindness you showed me. I want whatever would allow you to respond to me the way you did earlier. Can we start over?" That afternoon he and his wife prayed to receive Christ as their Savior!

The Holy Spirit instructed the Antioch church leaders to "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." The two men responded to God's call on their lives and traveled to various regions, proclaiming the word of God. When they arrived in Paphos (PAY fahs), they met with opposition from a man named Elymas (EL ih mass). The missionaries rebuked Elymas for his efforts to turn the proconsul (proh KAHN suhl; a governor or military commander) from faith, and the proconsul became a believer.

Missionaries will encounter opposition, but the Holy Spirit empowers Christians to tell others about Jesus and God's plan of salvation. God's call upon Saul (Paul) and Barnabas is not unusual. The Holy Spirit calls every believer to be on mission with Him. His call may be to a specific place or for a specific amount of time. He may require you to radically adjust your life and move across the world, or He may simply send you to a relative who needs the hope that can only come from faith in Jesus.

As you pray this week, be sensitive to the call of the Holy Spirit as He leads you to tell people about the salvation that can only come from faith in Jesus. If you receive a negative response, trust that God is working all things together for good. (Romans 8:28)



## PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- Call attention to the "Outline of Acts" poster and review section A.
- Explain that as the church began to grow, God used important people to tell others about Jesus. These people were empowered through the Holy Spirit and told what they saw and knew about Jesus. This is how the church began.
- Direct kids to open their Bibles to the book of Acts.
- Lead kids to fill in the B section on the "Outline of Acts."
- Teach that today's Bible story is about Saul, who was once a hater of Christians until the Holy Spirit called him to believe. Then Saul, who came to be known as Paul after the time he believed, was a great preacher and teacher of who Jesus was and what He did in Paul's life.

Discuss who Paul was and look for the book of Acts

- › Pack Item 20: "Outline of Acts"—Display the poster on a focal wall.
- › Bibles
- › masking tape
- › marker
- › "Outline of Acts" Section B Answers:
  1. Barnabas, Saul;
  2. joy, Holy Spirit



## MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- Explain that Dave and Amy Knotts are using technology in Central Asia to help people know about Jesus.
- Read the information from "Dave and Amy Knotts" to the kids.
- Mention that digital technologies can allow missionaries to send a specific message to a certain group of people in a particular area or city.
- Lead kids to write some ideas to act out as if they were using a video camera to tell people about Jesus.
- Pray for the Knotts as they seek to provide digital content for women in Central Asia. Pray that people with digital skills, such as computer programmers, graphic designers, and artificial intelligence engineers, will work with them on their missions team.

\* Video-optional

Teaching Tip: Save the "Outline of Acts" for use throughout the unit.

- › Printables: "Unit 3 Missions: Central Asian Peoples" "Dave and Amy Knotts"
- › paper
- › pencils



## INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- Show the dry sponge. Explain that before we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are empty like the sponge.
- Dip the sponge into the water to fill the sponge with water. Liken the water to the Holy Spirit that fills us when we become Christians.
- Squeeze the sponge over the empty bucket and release the water.
- Say: "When we tell others about Jesus, the Holy Spirit helps us share about Him and helps the other person understand. We can tell the good news of Jesus through the Holy Spirit."
- Allow kids a turn to soak up water and move it to the other bucket and tell kids that in today's Bible story, they will learn about the Holy Spirit.

Need a sponge and bucket for activity

- › dry sponge
- › 2 buckets—Fill 1 bucket with water and leave the other bucket empty. Place both buckets on top of the towel.
- › water
- › towel
- › plastic tablecloth—Cover the activity area.
- › Option: "Paul and Barnabas Became Missionaries" coloring page (Printables)



## STUDY THE BIBLE



### 1. BIBLE STORY

- Lead kids to sing “Not Ashamed (Romans 1:16).”
- Guide kids to turn in their Bibles to Acts 13.
- \* Show the “Unit 3 Banner” and comment that this unit is all about telling about Jesus.
- Encourage kids to listen for how today’s story relates to this theme.
- Open your Bible to Acts 13 and tell the Bible story.

### BIBLE STORY: PAUL AND BARNABAS BECAME MISSIONARIES

When Saul, Barnabas, and other men came to the church at Antioch one day, they did not know it was a special day. While they worshiped and taught about Jesus, the Holy Spirit sent a message that there was special work for Saul and Barnabas to do. The group of men fasted, prayed, placed their hands on them, and sent them off to tell others about Jesus.

Saul, also called Paul, and Barnabas traveled to many places telling people about God. On one of their missionary journeys, they preached to a large group of people in a synagogue.

On the next Sabbath Day, Paul and Barnabas returned to the synagogue to preach. This time even more people showed up to hear them. This made some Jewish leaders jealous and caused problems for Paul and Barnabas.

“Since you reject what we say,” Paul said, “we will share God’s message with the Gentiles, who are not Jews.” The Gentiles were excited to hear about Jesus. Many people believed in Jesus, and the good news spread throughout the whole area.

—BASED ON ACTS 13:1-15, 42-49

#### › Pack Items

18: “Unit 3 Banner”

19: “Unit 3 Verse”

#### › Teaching Picture 11

#### › Music

#### › Videos



## STUDY THE BIBLE

### 2. REVIEW

- \* Display the teaching picture and encourage kids to retell today's Bible story using the picture.
- Explain that just like Paul and Barnabas told others about Jesus, the kids will tell others their answers to questions.
- Read each Review Question and allow the first person to raise his hand to tell the person on his left his answer, and she will share his answer.
- \* Show the "Scripture Sketches" video.

### 3. LIFE ACTION

- Point out that many times when we talk about Jesus dying for our sins, we talk about that in very personal terms—"Jesus died for ME. Jesus is MY Savior. I want to be like Jesus."
- State: "This is great! But God also wants us to remember that once we understand the importance of Jesus and how our lives are changed, we need to realize that others need to understand this truth as well."
- Find and read Acts 1:8 aloud.
- Explain that this verse tells us what we are to do. The first part, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you," explains what happens when we ask Jesus to be our Savior. The moment we trust Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit.
- Lead kids to look at the next part of the verse. It talks about how we are to start immediately being "witnesses" to what Jesus has done for us.
- Pray, asking God to help kids be great witnesses for our great Savior.
- \* Show "The Adventures of Dab and Derek" video.

### 4. UNIT VERSE

- Remind kids they will look closely at the Unit Verse for better understanding. This kind of study is called "Verse Mapping."
- \* Lead kids to read the "Unit 3 Verse." Point out that *ashamed* is "a feeling of guilt or embarrassment," and *gospel* is "the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection."
- Direct kids to look at the second section (because it is the power of God for salvation) and point out what words they feel are important.
- Assist kids in studying the words that are pointed out, but mention that *power* is "the ability to do something, or make something happen." *Salvation* is "deliverance, or saving from, harm or loss."
- Instruct kids to think about what this part of the verse means when connected with the first part. (*I am not embarrassed by Jesus' story because the story makes God's plan to save people happen.*)
- Say: "We are not to rewrite God's Word, but thinking about what Scripture says and breaking it down is important to understanding it."

### REVIEW QUESTIONS

- › Who met at the church in Antioch? (*Paul, Barnabas, and other men*)
- › What happened while they worshiped and taught about Jesus? (*The Holy Spirit sent a message that there was special work for Saul and Barnabas to do.*)
- › What were Paul and Barnabas chosen to do? (*to travel and tell others about Jesus*)
- › What did the group of people do before Paul and Barnabas left them? (*fasted, prayed, and laid hands on them*)
- › When the Jewish leaders did not want to hear his teaching, what did Paul do? (*He took the message to the Gentiles.*)
- › What happened when Saul and Barnabas taught the Gentiles? (*The Gentiles were excited to hear about Jesus. Many people believed in Jesus, and the good news spread throughout the whole area.*)

**Option:** Teach the Weekly Bible Verse: Acts 1:8.



## LIVE IT OUT

### CHOICE 1

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › Printables:
  - “Weekly Verses”—Print and display Acts 1:8 on a focal wall. Use a marker to break up the verse into 12 sections.
- › pencils
- › markers
- › paper (12 sheets per team)
- › 2 baskets—Place the baskets on one end of the room.
- › masking tape—Make a tape line about 4 feet from the baskets.

### CHOICE 2

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › heavyweight paper
- › small bleeding tissue paper squares in various colors (Regular tissue paper won't transfer color when sprayed.)
- › glue sticks
- › spray bottle of water
- › plastic tablecloth—Cover the activity area.

### CHOICE 1

#### FILL THE BASKET RELAY

- Challenge kids to a relay.
- Form two teams and explain the rules: Kids will write each part of the verse on 12 pieces of paper, one section per paper.
- Point out the sectioned “Weekly Verse” for kids to use to do this, or they can decide how to do this on their own.
- Once that is complete, they are to wad up the paper and stand on the line to toss the wads into their baskets. If the paper doesn't make it, they have to pick it up, go back behind the line, and try again. After all paper wads are in the baskets, they can pour out the baskets, flatten the papers, and place the words of the verse in order.
- Allow kids time to play the game.
- Sit everyone down and explain that this game has a few reminders about the Holy Spirit. First, the verse was inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helped the writers of the Bible know what to say. Second, the paper wads filled the baskets. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit fills each of us. Third, when the paper wads were taken out of the basket, each team was able to complete the verse. They had all they needed to put the verse together. The Holy Spirit gives us everything we need to tell others about Jesus.
- Guide kids to complete “Who Helps?” on their Kids Activity Pages and allow volunteers to share the answers.

### CHOICE 2

#### STUCK TOGETHER

- Give each person a piece of heavyweight paper and request that they write their names on their papers. This paper represents them. Set out the tissue paper squares and glue sticks.
- Lead kids to cover the middle section of their papers with glue stick, then place tissue paper squares directly over the glue. Instruct them to place the squares where they are touching, using about nine squares to form a three-by-three box in the center of their papers. This square represents the Holy Spirit. Tell kids to push the squares down well to demonstrate how the Holy Spirit “sticks” with us.
- Lightly spray the tissue squares with a mist of water from a spray bottle.
- Encourage kids to watch the colors of the squares fade together and onto the paper. This shows that the Holy Spirit is active in changing us.
- Ask the kids if they think they could remove the tissue from their papers.
- Explain that when we become believers, the Holy Spirit becomes part of who we are. This Holy Spirit helps us tell others about Jesus.
- Guide kids to complete “Who Helps?” on their Kids Activity Pages and allow volunteers to share the answers.



## CHOICE 3

### MISSIONARY EXPERIENCE: DISCIPLESHIP MULTIPLICATION

- Remind kids that in today's Bible story, they heard how Paul and Barnabas told others about Jesus. First, they told the Jews, then they told those who were not Jews, called Gentiles. As they told about Jesus, the good news spread.
- Place a large quantity of counters on a table.
- Explain that sometimes we need to see with our own eyes how many people can learn about Jesus when we tell others.
- Request that each person take two counters to represent Paul and Barnabas. Guide kids to take two more to represent those who heard about Jesus from them.
- Lead kids to take six more counters and place them beside the other four and say: "This represents the families of those who heard the good news from Paul and Barnabas. Wow! That's a lot of people! Each of these people perhaps told two of their friends."
- Guide kids to understand that the good news of Jesus can spread so quickly! Mention: "Look how many people heard about the good news from just two people sharing!"
- Challenge kids to think of people they can tell about Jesus.
- Guide kids to complete "Write a Prayer" on their Kids Activity Pages and allow volunteers to share what they wrote.

## WRAP UP

- As kids leave, allow them to tell a favorite thing they learned today.
- Pray, thanking God that He sent the Holy Spirit to help all believers.
- Remind kids to take home their One Conversation pages and review them with their families.

## CHOICE 3

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › small buttons or pennies (10 per person) to act as counters