

WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

the messengers



THE BIG IDEA

We are God's messengers.

THE BIBLE

Saul's Conversion:
Acts 9:1-20

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Pizza Delivery

- Hello, friends! Today, we start a new series called “The Messengers.” We'll explore different ways that people deliver messages.
- But first, let's have some fun with a special delivery.
- **Have you ever had a pizza delivered to your house?**
- Today, you're going to be messengers of delicious news. You're going to deliver pizzas!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a paper plate and a pizza sticker sheet to make their own pizzas. Then create teams and give each one a pizza box. Prop the pizza box open and have kids take turns tossing their pizzas into the box. If they miss, have them pick up their pizza and go to the end of the line. Keep playing until either one team gets five pizzas in the box or, if you have more time or a small group, everyone's pizzas make it into the box.
- **Now that we have our pizzas, it's time to box them for delivery!**

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Messenger Melodies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme.
 - "Jesus Loves Me Remix" (Kidspring)
 - "Shout It Out" (Yancy)

MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the printable and place each page in separate [manila envelopes](#). Open one at a time, in order, asking kids to repeat each verse fragment with you.*
- *[Show picture of ear.] Then I heard*
- *[Show picture of mouth.] the voice of the Lord saying,*
- *[Show picture of envelope.] "Whom shall I send?"*
- *[Show picture of feet.] "Who will go for us?"*
- *[Show picture of person raising hand.] And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*
- *[Show picture of Bible.] Isaiah 6:8*

BIG IDEA | We are God's messengers.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Enlist a volunteer to play the part of a Special Messenger (SM). The Special Messenger will enter carrying a large delivery box of your choice. It could be a take-out box, a pizza box, a mail bag, or anything that deliveries would travel in!*
- *[Special Messenger enters, "interrupting" the lesson, carrying the delivery.]*
- **SM:** Special delivery, special delivery!
- **Storyteller:** Wow, what might this be?
- *[SM reaches inside the delivery box/bag and pull out a scroll that has the Big Idea written on it in large block letters. Hold it up and read it out loud.]*
- *It says, "We are God's messengers."*
- **Storyteller:** Hey! That's the Big Idea for today! **We are God's messengers!**
- **SM:** I told you this was a special delivery! Can you all say the Big Idea with me? **We are God's messengers!**

BIBLE STORY | Saul's Conversion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell this story from Acts 9:1–20 by recruiting two volunteers to pantomime the actions of Saul and Ananias as you talk. Prepare a flashlight and a pair of dark sunglasses.*
- Today's story is about a man named Saul. Saul didn't like people who followed Jesus. He looked for people who loved God and sent them to jail.
 - **Does Saul seem like he was a good person?**
- No, he wasn't a very good person at all. But you know what? God loved him anyway and wanted to let him know that he could change.
- So one day, while Saul was walking down a road, looking for more people to arrest, a bright light came from heaven!
 - *[Point flashlight at "Saul's" chest. Have the volunteer try to escape the light but make the light follow.]*
- Saul was very confused. Maybe even a little scared. But you'll never guess what happened next!
 - A voice spoke to Saul. The voice asked Saul why he was hurting people who followed Jesus.
 - Saul asked, "Who are you?"
 - The voice said, "I'm Jesus."

- **How do you think Saul felt when he heard Jesus' voice?**
- Then Jesus told Saul to go into the city and someone would help him. You see, after the light had flashed and Jesus had spoken, Saul couldn't see anything anymore. *[Have volunteer wear dark sunglasses.]* He couldn't see anything for three whole days!
 - **Can I get a volunteer to help Saul walk around the room?**
- Around the same time, there was another man. His name was Ananias and he loved Jesus very much. He got a message from God, too. God told Ananias to go find Saul and pray for him so that Saul could see again.
 - Ananias did not want to do that. He might have even crossed his arms and shook his head no.
 - **Why do you think Ananias didn't want to help Saul?**
 - Ananias didn't want to help because he knew that Saul was dangerous. What if Saul arrested Ananias, too? Although Ananias was afraid, he decided to obey God anyway.
 - So Ananias went to Saul and prayed for him. Immediately, Saul could see again! *[Have volunteer remove sunglasses and do a little dance.]*
- Saul seemed like the last person who would live for God. But after this happening, he turned his life around and began telling people about Jesus.
- If Saul could be a messenger for God, anyone can! And that means you and me, too!

VIDEO | The Messengers, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Yummy Snail Mail

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Today's snack is gummy worms. Ask the kids to imagine that these are snails.*
- **Have you seen snail mail in your home?**
- **Who usually opens the mail in your family?**
- **Has anyone ever sent you snail mail before?**

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTION:** *Print and distribute this week's coloring page along with crayons or markers. Discuss today's Bible story and Big Idea as kids color.*

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.