

KIDS DEVOTIONAL AT HOME

For Sunday, May 17, 2020

For your family worship time, we have prepared 4 short activities that you can do together:

1. Kids' worship songs
2. A Bible story from YouTube
3. Questions for discussion and reflection, Prayer
4. Optional: crafts, activities, and songs

Prepare these items before you begin:

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1. Smartphone, tablet, or computer to play the worship songs
2. Scripture Reference:
3. Youtube video: Crossroads Kids: [Paul](#)
4. For the optional crafts and family games
 - Coloring pages
 - Craft
 - Extension Activities

Worship Time

- [My Lighthouse](#)
- [I Want to Walk on Water](#)
- [No One Higher](#)-Stand
- [Everyone Praise the Lord](#)
- [Super Wonderful](#)

Bible Story Discussion & Prayer

Before the video: So Paul was a mean guy. He hurt other people. Close your eyes and think of the meanest bully you can imagine. It can be a bully at your school, a mean guy from on TV,

or somebody else...like maybe Goliath (show picture of Goliath). Goliath was nine feet tall and wanted to destroy God's whole family. Think of someone like Goliath or even more mean! (Let kids think. If they want to share movie villains, that's great! Just keep it light and kid-friendly, respecting kids who haven't seen as many movies—and don't assume that all kids know who Goliath is. Explain him, just like you'd explain a brand new character.)

You can probably all think of somebody pretty mean. Let me see your mean face (show mean faces and add a "grrr" or a fist pump). Paul was a guy just like that. And you know who Paul was the MEANEST to? People who followed Jesus! Can you believe that?

Well, one day, Paul was traveling down a road. He was actually headed to find people who followed Jesus and be mean to them! But as Paul was traveling, all of a sudden, God called to him! God actually spoke out loud and said (speak loudly—use the mic): "Paul, Paul! Why are you acting like this?"

Well, one day, Paul was traveling down a road. He was actually headed to find people who followed Jesus and be mean to them! But as Paul was traveling, all of a sudden, God called to him! God actually spoke out loud and said (speak loudly—use the mic): "Paul, Paul! Why are you acting like this?"

Squeeze your eyes shut for a minute to see what it was like for Paul. (Cover your own eyes and say): God spoke to Paul while he was blind...and do you think Paul listened? (Let kids say: yes!) He sure did! Now open your eyes and let's get ready to see how Paul's life changed once he started following Jesus!

We're going to watch a video about Paul. As you watch, see if you can figure out ONE thing Paul did after he started following Jesus.

Play Video: Crossroads Kids: [Paul](#)

Review

Wow, Paul was quite a guy, wasn't he? Hold up one finger if you figured out ONE thing Paul did after he started following Jesus. (Let kids respond.)

Okay, what are some things Paul did? (Let kids share: they may say 1. Told people about Jesus, 2. Learned about God, 3. Wanted to know God, 4. Studied the Bible, 5. Talked to God,

6. Listened to God, 7. Was willing to do anything for God—in all these, you can use both God and Jesus. Make sure to guide kids to how Paul trained, not just how he went to jail, etc.)

Yes! Paul was constantly learning how to follow Jesus and teaching others how to follow Jesus. He worked hard to learn more about God by reading his Bible, praying, listening to God, and telling new people about Jesus. He viewed following Jesus like training for a BIG race, which takes a lot of practice.

Even when following Jesus was hard—like when Paul went to jail or got shipwrecked or even had to make good choices when he didn't feel like it (Romans 7:15-Pg. 1318)—he still did it! He knew that he was just training to one day live with Jesus forever!

Questions for Preschoolers:

1. What's the name of the guy in today's story?
2. What was Paul like before he met Jesus?
3. How did Paul meet Jesus? What happened?
4. After Paul met Jesus, what are some ways he followed Jesus?
5. Do you think Jesus wants us to worry about things?
6. What are some other ways WE can follow Jesus? (If you have time, brainstorm with the kids. Talk about things like sharing your toys, being kind to others, obeying your parents, obeying your leaders, giving hugs, etc.)

Questions for older kids:

1. Do you know anybody who was mean but totally changed when they met Jesus? (let kids share; they might not all know somebody, so no need to linger on this)
2. Do you know anybody who was mean but totally changed when they met Jesus? (let kids share; they might not all know somebody, so no need to linger on this)
3. Have you ever felt like you should help somebody who isn't very nice to you? If so, what happened?
4. Why was Paul willing to follow Jesus, even when it was hard? (Direct kids to the verse: I Corinthians 9:24-25 (Pg. 1265): You know that many runners enter a race, and only one of them wins the prize. So run to win! Athletes work hard to win a crown that cannot last, but we do it for a crown that will last forever. Remind them that Paul was training to one day live with Jesus in a perfect world that Jesus will recreate for all God's family)
5. Why was Paul willing to follow Jesus, even when it was hard? (Direct kids to the verse: I Corinthians 9:24-25 (Pg. 1265): You know that many runners enter a race, and only one of

them wins the prize. So run to win! Athletes work hard to win a crown that cannot last, but we do it for a crown that will last forever. Remind them that Paul was training to one day live with Jesus in a perfect world that Jesus will recreate for all God's family)

Prayer Dear God, we thank you for helping us to follow you even when it's hard. Show us how to follow you every day of our lives. We love you and want to be brave like Paul. Thank you for calling us to be a part of your story by telling people about Jesus. Amen

Craft/Coloring/Activities:

MAKE POPSICLE PAULS:

Print Angry and Happy Paul face at the end of this document. Give each kid a Popsicle stick, & an angry (pre-following Jesus) Paul and happy (now that he follows Jesus!) Paul: Have the kids color their "Pauls." Fold the paper for the kids and tape/glue together so the Pauls are back-to-back. Then use tape to stick angry Paul and happy Paul on either side of the Popsicle stick (you can tape as kids color—they don't have to be finished coloring for you to begin taping "Pauls.")



