

Hey ClubE!

Happy, happy day!

I hope you've had a fabulous week! Remember our challenge to look at this free gift God has given us and share it with others. In what ways did you share about God's love with other people? I can't wait to continue to learn and grow with you. Let's ask God to speak directly to us today and thank Him for all He has done and continues to do.

1. Watch my [short video](#) & introduction to the lesson today.
2. Sharing time. Our question today: Have you ever pretended like you couldn't hear someone talking when you really could? Why did you do this? What made you listen finally?
3. Read the story together as a family (or listen to it [here](#) ) & go through the discussion questions to talk about what you've learned.
4. Pray together as a family.
5. Optional: Do experiment/activity!

If you have questions or just want to share your learning, you can email me [cas66852@gmail.com](mailto:cas66852@gmail.com) or text/call at 612-310-2363

## Storytime!

Hello, everyone! Let's keep traveling through God's Big Story with the continuing story of the apostle, Paul. Paul wasn't always a Jesus-follower. But once he did decide to put his faith in Jesus, he wanted to share the good news with everyone. Paul was always on the move! Wherever Paul went, he boldly preached the good news of Jesus. So, he would go over here to tell people about Jesus. Then, after some time passed, he would make his way over here to share the good news with the people in this town. Finally, he'd make his way back here to tell these people about the good news of Jesus. Many Jewish and Greek people listened to Paul and decided to believe in Jesus. But pretty much wherever Paul went, there would be a group of religious leaders who would try to stop him. Paul and his companions were forced to leave a place called Thessalonica because of a group of religious leaders there. The leaders even followed Paul to a town called Berea. They ran him out of that town, too! The Jesus-followers in Berea helped Paul escape to the coast, where he could hop on a boat and travel to Athens. Before he left, Paul left instructions for his friends Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.

When Paul got to Athens, he discovered that the people who lived there believed in a lot of false gods. When Paul was walking the streets of Athens, he saw lots of statues of these

false gods. The people in Athens believed that these gods were in charge of different things—maybe health, or strength, or weather. Paul was pretty upset as he took a look at the statues. He wanted the people to know about the one TRUE God! Paul went to visit the Jewish synagogue so he could tell the Jews and Greeks there about Jesus. He also took some time to speak with people in the marketplace.

Well, Paul's words about Jesus stirred up some people—just like they had in the past. There was a group of really smart thinkers in Athens. They were interested in what Paul was saying, but they wanted to ask him some questions. So, they brought Paul to a meeting of the Areopagus—which was the high court of Athens. These thinkers had an important question for Paul. In Acts 17:19-20 it tells us, "What is this new teaching you're giving us? You have some strange ideas we've never heard before. We would like to know what they mean."

It was pretty cool that these thinkers wanted to know more about Paul's message. They wanted to understand. They had lots of gods, but Paul was talking about a God they HADN'T heard about before. Paul wanted to connect the story of Jesus with something they already knew.

Here's what Paul said to them next. He remembered seeing an altar with these words: 'To an unknown god.' Acts 17:22-25 (NirV) says, "People of Athens! I see that you are very religious in every way. As I walked around, I looked carefully at the things you worship. I even found an altar with an unknown god written on it. So you don't know what you are worshiping. Now I am going to tell you about this 'unknown god.' He is the God who made the world. He also made everything in it. He is the Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn't live in temples built by human hands. He is not served by human hands. He doesn't need anything. Instead, he himself gives life and breath to all people. He also gives them everything else they have."

Paul knew that the people might listen to the words of their OWN writers who had actually written things that are true about God—even though these writers didn't know God, yet. Some of their writers had written 'We are his children,' (Acts 17:28, NirV), and Paul told them that that was true. We ARE His children! God is alive and real—not some statue. Paul explained that God had called everyone, everywhere to follow Him, and that God had proved this by raising Jesus from the dead. How do you think the people responded when Paul said all of this about Jesus? Well, some of them made fun of Paul's message. But others said they wanted to hear Paul speak more about Jesus.

Paul was able to talk about Jesus in a way that connected with the people in Athens. He used their own altars and writers to help them understand who Jesus is. And eventually, some people in Athens decided to believe in Jesus themselves—like a man named Dionysius and a woman named Damaris. Paul continued to share the good news and love of Jesus with the people of Athens because he knew this: You can help others know Jesus. Just like Paul, we can help others know Jesus, too!

## Let's talk about it!

- Have you ever been interrupted? What does that feel like?

- How do you think Paul felt about being “interrupted” in his plans by having to move around so much? Do you think this made it easier or harder for him to trust God?
- Paul got angry when he saw that people were following other gods and not the one true God. Do you think people trust in other things other than God? What type of things?
- How did Paul tell people about Jesus? Why do you think he shared the Good News of Jesus this way?
- Christians are still called to share the good news of Jesus TODAY! This is a huge honor and responsibility, let’s not ignore that. Like we saw in our story today, it is life-changing. How can you share about this Good News this week?

## Pray

“Dear God, it’s so cool to see how Paul was able to tell the people of Athens about Jesus. Please help us to follow Paul’s example and talk to the people in our lives about Jesus so they can know Him, too. What Jesus did for us is really the best news ever, and we want to share it! Give us courage so we can show others what it means to put our faith in You. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

## Game Time!

### SPREAD THE WORD

As we watched the colors moving from one cup into the other, let it remind you of the way we can spread the message of Jesus from one person to another. The more we learn about Jesus, the more we have to share with others. You can help others know Jesus. When you do, they might believe in Him, too. Then, if they tell their friends and those friends tell other friends,, soon MANY people all over the world will hear about Jesus. So, let’s spread the word by sharing Jesus with others.

WHAT YOU NEED: Small plastic cups, paper towels, food coloring, water

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather around a covered table or uncarpeted floor.
- Place the five plastic cups in a row then fill the first, third, and fifth with water.
- Add five drops of red food coloring to the first cup, five drops of yellow to the third cup, and five drops of blue to the fifth cup.
- Cut two paper towels in half then fold the four pieces into quarters lengthwise.
- Fold the paper towel strips into a “V” shape.
- Trim the ends of the strips if they are taller than the height of your cups.

- Drape a paper towel strip between each cup. One end of the paper towel is in water and one is in an empty cup. There should be ends from two towels in each empty cup.
- Within a few minutes you should see the colored water crawl up the paper towel and into the empty cups.