



THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL

Paul Shipwrecked

Supplies Needed: paper, pencil, tape, several books



TEACHING INSTRUCTIONS

Read Acts 27:39 - 28:6 together. Read it to the children or have them take turns reading. (See student handout)

Say, “Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem and was now on his way to Rome to stand trial before the emperor, but there were a lot of difficulties along the way. The ship nearly sank in a storm as it was tossed on the sea for days. Paul and the other prisoners were almost killed by the Romans soldiers, but their leader wouldn’t allow it. Then, the ship got stuck in a reef and was broken apart by waves, and everyone had to swim or float to shore. However, in all that time, not one person died. God saved them all. On the island, God’s power protected Paul from a poisonous snakebite, and the island people thought he was a god! When we follow Jesus, He is with us through every difficult, dangerous time, and the power of God’s Spirit shows up in our lives to everyone around. Let’s discuss some more interesting points about this story.”

Read the “Did You Know?” points together. Read it to the children or have them take turns. Help the children look up the Scriptures mentioned. For added fun, have them say “amen!” when they find it. (See student handout)

Say, “The story of Paul’s conversion on the road to Damascus is given three times in the book of Acts. The first time in Acts 9 is when it actually happened, but the other two are when Paul was in jail after his arrest in Jerusalem. He shared his testimony to the Jews who had him arrested in Acts 22 and to King Agrippa and Governor Festus in Acts 26. Paul used his testimony to try and reach other people with the truth of the Gospel. The Lord wants us to be ready to share our testimony wherever we go. The story of how the Lord saved you can help someone meet Jesus and be saved, too.”

OBJECT LESSON



Standing on the Promise of God

Items: paper, pencil, tape, several books

Call up a volunteer and give them the paper and pencil. **Say**, “Paul had plenty to be afraid of, but he kept trusting in God. In the middle of his arrest and trial, Jesus appeared to Paul in Acts 23:11 and told Paul to take courage because he would testify about the Lord in Rome. In all of the waiting, the uncertainty, the death threats, and the dangerous shipwreck, Paul trusted the Lord. He was standing on the promise of God, just like we should. God has given us many promises in the Bible, and God wants us to stand on them through difficult times. Let’s illustrate this.” Have the volunteer copy Matthew 28:20, “...And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Then, roll the paper into a cylinder and tape it in place. Next, stand the cylinder up on a table and gently place a light book on top of it. Continue adding books. It should be able to hold a lot of weight, so the stack will get tall. (Be sure to test this before the lesson) **Say**, “No matter how heavy the trial, God’s promises can hold us up.”



GAMES

Tall Strong Tower



Jesus is our strong tower! Split the group into two teams. Each team will make a tower built upon a paper cylinder like from the object lesson. Use books and flat, firm objects to stack up the tower. Remind teams to stack gently and carefully. If a tower collapses, a team can start again. The team that can make the tallest tower without it collapsing wins! It may help to establish a five minute time limit.

**** Optional Memory Verse Game ****

Bop It!-Joshua 1:9

Have kids sit in a circle on chairs or the floor. Give each child a word of the memory verse in order around the circle. Then, go around the circle and 'bop' each child gently on the head. They have to say their word when you bop them. Once you have gotten through the whole verse, say, "change", and they all move one seat to the left. Then, they have to say the word that the previous person sitting in the chair was saying.

Once they get good at it, increase the pace and energy. Eventually, you can sprint around the circle and SCREAM "change!!" after each lap. The key to this game is being quick and intense.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Where was Paul being taken and why?

2

What two different ways did people safely make it to land in Acts 27:43-44?

3

Name one promise of God you need to stand on today.