

Upper Elementary

WEEK 3- STARTER



Activity Name: Right Spot

What You Need: floor tape/carpet square/ large paper timer/phone/watch (something to keep time)

What You Do:

- Create a large square on the floor with floor tape or tape paper to floor. Or place carpet square in center of group.
- Ask for one volunteer who will be blindfolded.
- Stand the blindfolded kid in the center of the square.
- Explain the challenge: “Your goal is to march in place for 30 seconds without going outside the square with eyes closed
- Time each kid for 30 seconds while they march.
- When the time is up, instruct them to take off the blindfold to see where they ended up.
- Continue the activity with each kid who wants to play. Talk about why it’s so difficult to stay in one place when you can’t see your surroundings.

What You Say:

It’s almost impossible to stay in the right spot when you can’t see, isn’t it? You lose your sense of direction. You think you’re staying still, but you’re drifting off course. In our Bible Story today, we’ll meet a man named Saul who had an experience that literally made him go blind. It forced him to stop and see his life from a completely different perspective. Let’s go find out what happened.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: Paul Becomes a Believer | Ananias Helps Paul • Acts 9:1-31

Bottom Line: God can help you see things in a new way.

Conversation Starter: When have you discovered something new about God?

Memory Verse: “Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.” • Galatians 6:9 NIV

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why do you think Jesus chose to appear to Saul in such a dramatic way (a blinding light and speaking voice) instead of in a quieter way, like a dream?
- When Jesus told Ananias to go to Saul, Ananias argued at first. Why was it so hard for him to believe Saul could change?
- Right after Saul could see again, he immediately began preaching about Jesus. Why do you think Saul didn’t hesitate or wait?
- Why do you think God didn’t just fix Saul instantly, but instead used Ananias—a regular Jesus-follower—to be part of Saul’s healing?
- After Saul’s transformation, the church continued to grow. How did Saul’s new mission help spread the message of Jesus even further?

Activity Name: Memory Verse & Prayer

What You Need: Bibles paper coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible. • Invite them to look up Galatians 6:9
- Read the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Explain that you're going to say the verse using a simple rhythm.
- Lead them in the pattern: **clap, clap, snap (or pat knees, pat knees, clap for non-snappers)**.
- Once they have the rhythm, start adding the words. Try to fit two words of the verse into each beat.
 - (clap, clap) Let us (snap) not
 - (clap, clap) become (snap) tired
 - (clap, clap) of doing (snap) good.
 - And so on ...
- Go through the whole verse several times, getting faster as you go.

What You Say:

Awesome job! That rhythm helps get the Memory Verse stuck in your head. This verse is all about perseverance. Saul, who you might also know as Paul, had a hard life, but he never gave up doing good. He persevered because he knew God was with him and had helped him see everything in a new way. When you feel like giving up, remembering **[Bottom Line] God can help you see things in a new way** can give you the strength to persevere.

Sometimes the best prayers are the ones we don't say out loud. God knows our hearts. Think about a situation or a person in your life that you need to see in a new way. Ask God to help you see that situation or person the way He does. Draw or write about that.

What to do: Give each kid a piece of drawing paper. Allow for several minutes of quiet, independent reflection and creation.

****Close in prayer. Invite kids to pray as well****