

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **May 9, 2021** Family Theme | **The Gospel Is Powerful** Study Text | **Acts 9:1-43**

Objective: Help your children understand the gospel has the power to change anyone's life, even the worst of sinners. Share the gospel and live it out, trusting God to change people's lives.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set within a couple of years after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus and the birth of the Church. God was preparing Saul to take the gospel to the Gentiles. This would fulfill God's promise to bless all peoples of the earth through Abraham's offspring.

Bible Basics: Memorize John 17:3 this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: Acts 9:1-43

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about how choosing to follow Christ brings change to our lives. Empowered by the Spirit, we choose to please and obey Him because of what He has done for us. As we love and obey the Lord, the people around us will see the difference He makes in us.



Key Truth: The Gospel Can Change the Direction of Our Lives (Acts 9:1-9)

Paul (then known as Saul) was on his way to Damascus to continue persecuting and killing followers of Christ. Because the gospel had reached this area and was rapidly spreading, Saul was attempting to stop it from spreading any further. En route to Damascus, a light suddenly enveloped Saul and the Lord spoke to him. His companions heard the voice though they had no way of understanding who was speaking. The Lord asked, *Why are you persecuting me?* When people persecute Jesus' followers, they are persecuting Him. Saul asked, *Who are you?* The Lord answered that He was Jesus. This experience radically changed Saul from an ardent persecutor of Christians to a committed follower of the Lord. Paul's life demonstrates that being very religious does not make us right with God. We must trust Jesus to save us.



Key Truth: The Gospel Can Change Our Reputation and Relationships (Acts 9:10-31)

A man named Ananias received instructions from the Lord to go meet this man named Saul. Ananias was skeptical at first. He had heard of the persecution Saul had brought on believers. The Lord assured Ananias He would use Saul to take the gospel to the Gentiles and to the people of Israel. With that assurance, Ananias did what God asked him to do. Paul's life proved he had changed, and soon other Christians came to love him and help protect him from his enemies. God had changed him into a passionate defender and proclaimer of the faith. Paul also sought fellowship with other believers. His circles of influence drastically changed when Christ became Lord of his life.



Key Truth: God Brings Healing According to His Will (Acts 9:32-43)

In the name and power of Jesus, Peter healed Aeneas, a paralytic for eight years, and he raised Tabitha

from the dead. News of these miracles spread and many came to believe as a result of what Christ did through Peter. The gospel in these cases did not just bring salvation and deliverance from sin, but also deliverance from pain and death. While our salvation and spiritual healing are of utmost importance, God heals in other ways as well. While it is not the Lord's purpose to heal in every case, He does so according to His will.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- How was Paul's life transformed when He came to believe the gospel?
- In what ways does the gospel transform lives today?
- In what ways might someone's relationships change when they believe the gospel?
- In what ways might the gospel bring healing to people's lives?
- How has your life been transformed by the gospel?
- In what area do you need to do what is right and trust God to work out His plan?
- **For Elementary:** Describe Saul's life before his transformation and then after.
- **For Elementary:** Has God used any "bright lights" to speak to you?

Everyday Extras

Ask your family to make some "before and after" photos during the week. Think before and after: a haircut, a clean room, a dog shampoo, coffee, makeup, yard mowed, or other ideas. The change can really make a big difference! The gospel makes a powerful difference in people's lives. Talk together about the way knowing Jesus as our Savior makes a change in our lives. Share your testimony about how the gospel changed your life and the lives of others you know. The gospel does things that are too hard for us to do on our own!

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE **1** & ROUND **2**

Today your child learned a disciple is someone who loves, obeys, and follows Jesus. He or she learned about some of the disciples Jesus called to follow Him. **I Can Follow Jesus** just like the disciples did.