

THE CONTINUING ACTS OF THE CHRIST



Week Eleven - Saul and Sight

A Note to the Parents/Teachers

Today we come to the story of Saul's transformation to Paul. It didn't happen through Saul studying, praying the right way, or working hard enough. It happened through an encounter with the real King Jesus! Pray over our kids that they would truly encounter the real, living Jesus today.

- **Big Idea:** Jesus is the light we see everything by

Starter

- **Evidences of Grace**

Ask kids to share ways they've seen God at work lately. Anything, big or small, which is good is from God. Take time to thank God together.

- **Blind-Tag**

Have one kid blindfolded be 'it' in a game of tag. Give them a partner who can keep their eyes open and give directions, but only the 'blinded' kid can tag others. Everyone else gets to see.

Alternatively, if there is not space for that kind of movement, you can pair kids up and have them take turns leading the blind one around the room.

Sing Together

Story - from Acts 9:1-22

There was a Jewish man named Saul who was a religious follower of God. However, he thought people following Jesus were a threat to the Jewish faith, so he was breathing murderous threats toward them and attempting to throw many in prison.

He was traveling to a town called Damascus to imprison some of them, when suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, *"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"*

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. Get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

The men who were traveling with Saul stood speechless, hearing the sound but seeing no one. Saul got up from the ground and opened his eyes, but he could not see! So they took him by the hand and led him into the town. For three days he was blind and did not eat or drink.

There was a follower of Jesus in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, *"Ananias."*

"Here I am, Lord," he replied.

"Get up and go to the street called Straight" the Lord said to him. *"Ask for a man named Saul. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and placing his hands on him so that he may regain his sight."*

"Lord," Ananias answered, *"I've heard of this man and how much harm he has done to your people in Jerusalem. Now he has authority here to arrest all who call on your name."*

But the Lord said to him, *"Go, for this man is my chosen instrument to take my name to Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."*

Ananias went to the house, placed his hands on Saul, and said, *"Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road you were traveling, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

At once, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for some time. Immediately he began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues: *"He is the Son of God."*

All who heard him were astounded and said, *"Isn't this the man in Jerusalem who was wreaking havoc for those who called on Jesus' name? Didn't he come here to do the same?"*

But Saul grew stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus truly is the Messiah.

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- Why do you think Saul was so against the followers of Jesus?
[Remember — Saul was trying to obey and follow God, he just missed that Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promises]
- When Jesus appeared to Saul, it was like a blinding light. Why do you think Jesus looked that way to Saul? Why do you think only Saul could see him?
- This encounter blinded Saul for 3 days. Can you think of someone else who went into darkness for 3 days? *[Steer the answers toward Jesus — draw the parallel that after three days of darkness, Saul (who became Paul) awoke to new life]*
- Ananias went to Saul, even though he was scared of what Saul might do. Why did he do that?
- Seeing Jesus changed Saul. And it ended up changing many other people's lives as Saul told them about Jesus.
Pray that we can see Jesus more clearly too

Breakout Time

• **Prayer:**

Jesus, show yourself to us. Help us to see your goodness and your glory. Help us to give our lives to you — to trust and obey you. In the name of King Jesus, amen.

• **Craft:**

- Use the coloring sheet attached
- OR use the last two pages attached for a color, cut, glue project. The kids will color the earth on the first page. Then they will color the candle on the last page, cut it out, and glue it over the globe.

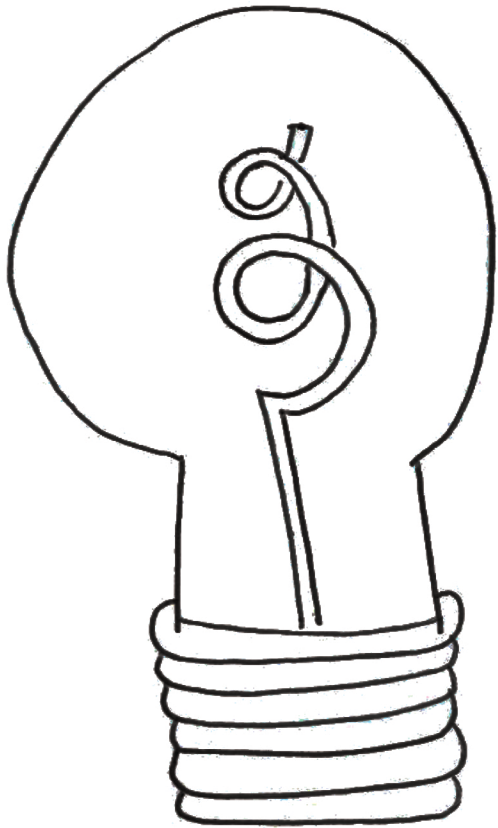
BLESS Activity

For kids to do during the week

Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

This week, focus on the **Eat** rhythm.

For 3 days Saul didn't eat or drink. Then after he repented and believed the good news he could see and he ate. Who can you share a meal with this week and share the good news of Jesus with?



I am
the
light
of the
World

Jesus spoke to them: *“I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.”* (John 8:12)



