



BIG STORIES OF THE BIBLE 49

SAUL MEETS JESUS

Scripture: Acts 9

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Blindfolds, Saul stick puppet, basket cut out, rope, pencils/popsicle sticks.

Ask:

- What story did we learn about last week? (Peter, John, and the lame man)
- Do you remember how the religious leaders were angry that Peter and John were used by God to do this miracle? They commanded them to stop teaching in the name of Jesus.
- After that time, persecution began to spread against the followers of Jesus. People began to be killed for following him, and one of the main leaders in this persecution was a man named Saul. We're going to learn about him today.

Read: Acts 9:1-19

Explain:

Saul met Jesus in a pretty incredible way. He was blinded, spoken to, and eventually healed by a man through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Did you notice how Annanias was afraid to go to Paul? Would you have been afraid? Why?

I love how he was afraid but obeyed God any way. Has there ever been something God called you to do, but you were afraid? What did you do? Would you do anything different the next time?

God sometimes calls us to do hard things. But he promises to be with us. And because Annanias obeyed, Saul was healed and did incredible things for Jesus. He wrote most of the New Testament and brought countless people to Jesus! You can be bold for Jesus too, and follow him, even if it feels hard. Who knows what God might do with your obedience.

Play a Game:

Choose a student to be Saul. The rest of the students will be his friends. They have to lead Saul to Straight Street while he is blindfolded. If you have a lot of kids, you can have two kids going at once on opposite sides of the room. For Saul to get to Straight Street, his friends have to verbally lead him through the mine field on the ground. Print out the bombs on the next page. If Saul steps on a bomb, he has to count to ten and then carry on. If you have two teams, it can be a race. Otherwise, you can just play for fun. Allow several or all kids to be Saul, depending on time.

Read: Acts 9:19–25

Explain:

Saul went very quickly from being the one persecuting the Christians, to being persecuted because he was a Christian. Something important to note is that Saul is also often called Paul. Paul was the Greek version of his name. And as he later often went to gentiles (or non Jewish people) to spread the gospel, he used that name. Thankfully, God provided Saul with friends that saved him and lowered him over the wall in a basket.

Do you think it would have been hard to trust Saul? Why or why not?

Craft:

Color a basket and picture of Saul. Cut out the baskets, both the outside lines, and inside the handle area. Using glue, glue the outside rim of the baskets together, forming a pocket to put Saul in. Color Saul and put him in your basket. Using strings, tie both sides of the basket to a pencil or popsicle stick. Roll it up and down to lower Saul.

Apply:

Even though Saul had done horrible things, he wasn't too far gone to be saved. Jesus still called him and used him in incredible ways. God can use anyone for his purposes, and completely change people's lives; including yours!

Comic Book Bibles:

Have the kids draw the story of Saul's conversion and escape in their comic book Bibles.

Memorize: Acts 4:13

Close in Prayer







