

When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.

Program C-2

Escape in a Basket

Acts 9:19-31

Paul Lesson Series: Lesson #2

Bible Verse: Help one another. Gal. 5:13

Past verses: Nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus. Romans 8:35

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: Everyone can help

Prop ideas: Large Basket, rope, doll

SAMPLE STORY

Saul's name change to Paul did not occur until later. There was no special event to mark the occasion as there were for Abram's and Jacob's name changes. Paul is simply the Greek form of Saul. It was during his first missionary journey, as he brought the message to the Gentiles that his Greek name replaced his Hebrew name. For simplicity we will begin using Paul, even though it was much later that he used that name.

Last week we learned how a Jewish religious leader named Saul met Jesus on the road to Damascus. After meeting Jesus, Saul knew that what he had been doing was wrong. He now knew that Jesus was the Messiah, the Savior. God had chosen Saul to be a great preacher and teacher of His message. He also chose him to tell everyone in the world, even those who were not Jews (Gentiles), about Jesus. Because Saul traveled to many places where people spoke Greek and not Hebrew, he started using the Greek form of his name, Paul. *(Share some common English names and the equivalent in another language...John/Juan, Joseph/Jose, Mary/Maria, Lauren/Lorena).* Saul would now be known as Paul.

Paul preached to all the people in Damascus. But they were confused. Wasn't this the same man who had come to arrest the followers of Jesus and throw them in jail? Now he was preaching that Jesus is the Savior, the Messiah. He was growing more and more powerful as the followers of Jesus listened and learned from him. But, the Jewish leaders were not happy. They wanted to stop Paul from preaching and teaching about Jesus. They made a plan to capture Paul. All day and night they watched the city gates to see when he would leave...then they would nab him. Paul and his friends learned of the plot and made a plan of their own. They placed Paul in a large basket and

lowered it out an opening in the wall. Paul's friends helped him escape without going through the city gates where the enemies were waiting.

Paul went to Jerusalem to meet with the disciples of Jesus. At first they, too, were afraid of him. They could not believe that someone who had hated Jesus and his followers so much could now love and follow Jesus. A man named Barnabas came to Paul's aid. He spoke to the disciples and told them how Paul had seen Jesus on the road to Damascus. He told them how Paul preached boldly in the name of Jesus to the people of Damascus. Because of what Barnabas said, the disciples believed Paul and welcomed him into their group. Friends had helped Paul in Damascus. Now a new friend, Barnabas, helped Paul in Jerusalem.

The Bible teaches us that we should "Help one another," too. How can we help others? (Clean-up, build blocks together, watch younger siblings)

TEACHER EXTRA: Bring a large sturdy Laundry Basket for children to play in.

FYI

First Session Classes will be:

- Eating "Paul In A Basket" Snack
- Making a "Paul In A Basket" Craft
- Playing with Blocks

COLORING PAGE

Materials: Escape in a Basket Coloring Page
Bible Verse Stickers
Crayons/markers (In room)

Do: Give each child a page to color. Help write their names on the pages. Add a Bible verse sticker when finished.

Talk About: Paul's friends help save him from his enemies. They lowered him in a basket outside the city walls. His enemies were expecting him to go through the city gates. They missed him!

PAPER SACK BASKET

Materials: Lunch Sacks
Basket Pattern Coloring Pages
Bible Verse Stickers
Glue Sticks (In room)
Scissors (In room)
Stapler (In room)
Crayons/markers (In room)

Do:

- Cut the top of the lunch sack off, leaving about 4" on the bottom.
Save the top portion.
- Give children the Basket Pattern pages to color.
- Cut out and glue to the lunch sack.
- To make a handle, open the top portion of the lunch sack; fold flat again so that there are only two layers. (It should be about 8½" wide).
- Roll/fold so that you have an 8½" long handle that is about 1" wide.
- Staple in the middle of the long sides of the bag.
- Add a Bible verse sticker.

Talk About: The basket used to hold Paul must have been really big! Your basket can remind you of the Bible story and remind you to "Help others."

BASKET RELAY

Materials: Small Basket
Blocks (In room)

Do: Have children sit in a line.
Stack 10+ blocks at one end.
Use the basket to transport one block at a time to the other end.

Variation: Have children stand in a single line behind a line of tape.
Stack blocks (equal to number of children) behind the tape.
Each child transports a block in the basket to the other side of the room, and then takes the basket back to the next child in line.
They can either build something or just pile them.

Talk About: We are helping to move the blocks in a basket. Paul's friends helped him escape in a basket.