

#### <u>Using Your Story – Becoming All Things to All People</u> February 26, 2023

...I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 1 Corinthians 9:22 NKJV

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Before. Saved. Changed. Today.

## Paul started with life <u>before</u> Jesus Acts 22:1-5

"Brethren and fathers, hear my defense before you now." Acts 22:1 NKJV

And when they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, they kept all the more silent. Then he said: **Acts 22:2 NKJV** 

"I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today. **Acts 22:3 NKJV** 

I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women, **Acts 22:4 NKJV** 

as also the high priest bears me witness, and all the council of the elders, from whom I also received letters to the brethren, and went to Damascus to bring in chains even those who were there to Jerusalem to be punished. **Acts 22:5 NKJV** 

## Paul shared how Jesus <u>saved</u> him Acts 22:6-11

"Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. **Acts 22:6 NKJV** 

And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' Acts 22:7 NKJV

So I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' **Acts 22:8 NKJV** 

"And those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me. **Acts 22:9 NKJV** 

So I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all things which are appointed for you to do.' **Acts 22:10 NKJV** 

And since I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came into Damascus. **Acts 22:11 NKJV** 

## Paul shared how Jesus <u>changed</u> him Acts 22:12-16

"Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt *there*, **Acts 22:12 NKJV** 

came to me; and he stood and said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that same hour I looked up at him. **Acts 22:13 NKJV** 

Then he said, 'The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. **Acts 22:14 NKJV** 

For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. Acts 22:15 NKJV And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.' **Acts 22:16 NKJV** 

## Paul shared what Jesus is doing today Acts 22:17-21

"Now it happened, when I returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, that I was in a trance Acts 22:17 NKJV

and saw Him saying to me, 'Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, for they will not receive your testimony concerning Me.' **Acts 22:18 NKJV** 

So I said, 'Lord, they know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believe on You. **Acts 22:19 NKJV** 

And when the blood of Your martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by consenting to his death, and guarding the clothes of those who were killing him.' **Acts 22:20 NKJV** 

Then He said to me, 'Depart, for I will send you far from here to the Gentiles.' " Acts 22:21 NKJV

### This Week's <u>New Testament+ reading plan:</u>

- 1. Revelation 13
- 2. Revelation 14
- 3. Revelation 15
- 4. Revelation 16
- 5. Revelation 17
- 6. Daniel 7
- 7. Prayer & Reflection

#### **NURSERY**

## **JESUS LOVES ME**

JESUS LOVES THE KIDS



Your inquisitive toddler will be surprised and delighted to know that Jesus loves everyone, including kids. This month we will have fun discovering the awe and wonder of Jesus with our toddlers while reminding them that Jesus loves everyone!

Memory Verse: Jesus loves kids. Mark 10:14 (adapted for toddlers)

Heart of the Lesson: We Love Jesus, Too!

**Parent Connect:** Today we learned that Jesus loves us and we can love Jesus, too. As you talk to your toddler about how much Jesus loves him/her draw some hearts on their coloring sheet. Your toddler can then color the hearts in as a reminder that we love Jesus too!

#### **GKJR**

# MIRACLES AND MINISTRY



THE LIFE OF JESUS

This month we will continue to learn about Jesus' ministry and more of his miracles!

Memory Verse: "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you." 1 Peter 5:7 NLT

Heart of the Lesson: God the Father Loves Us – The Prodigal Son - Luke 15:11-32

**Parent Connect:** Today in class we learned the story of the prodigal son! We learned that God the Father loves us! Ask your kid to retell today's story using the stick puppets we made in class today!

#### **ELEMENTARY**

### SKINS



SHARING THE GOSPEL IN A VARIETY OF WAYS

In games, you can change your character's skin to have different attributes or skills, but it doesn't change the fact that you are the one playing the game. The Gospel can be wrapped in different ways, or have different skins, but the message doesn't change. In this series we will look at 4 different skins the Gospel can be wrapped in to share Jesus with others.

**Memory Verse:** "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Heart of the Lesson: Using your Story – Acts 22:1-23

**Parent Connect:** Ask your kids to share their life's story. From where they were born to where they are now and ask them where have they seen Jesus impact their lives. Share your story with them and how Jesus has impacted yours.

Did you think you'd be doing math at church? Forgiveness can be tough sometimes! Jesus taught us that we should forgive not once, twice, or even 7 times, but an infinite number of times, just as He has forgiven us.

**Memory Verse:** You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. Colossians 2:13

Heart of the Lesson: What if someone won't forgive me? - 2 Chronicles 7:14, Psalm 66:16-20, Proverbs 14:9, James 5:16

**Parent Connect:** Pray for someone who you are struggling to forgive, or someone who is struggling to forgive you. Share the situation with a family member or friend and ask them to pray for that person, too.

**SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS** 

# BECOMING ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE

What tools can you use to share the Good News?

Sharing the Good News of Jesus can look different depending on who we are sharing Jesus with! This series, we are looking at 4 stories in the Book of Acts to see different ways we can share Jesus with others!

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 9:22b (NIRV) I have become all things to all people. I have done this so that in all possible ways I might save some.

Heart of the Lesson: I can use MY STORY to share Jesus! (Acts 22)

Parent Connect: Who can you share your story with?

- Who was Paul before He encountered God?
- How did God meet Paul?
- What is God doing in your life right now?
- Who can you share your story with?