

At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9 Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation Unit 2, Lesson 6

God Changes Saul's Heart

Lesson Aim: To know God can change our hearts. (Salvation Message)

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: When is one time you changed your mind?

GAME: Bright Light Circle Tag

THE WORSHIP THE SPIRIT WHO CHANGES US

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 139:23-24.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD CHANGES SAUL'S HEART

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God led Philip to teach the Ethiopian about Jesus.

If a Bible Timeline is available, point out God Changes Saul's Heart. Today's story is about a Jewish leader named Saul who did not believe Jesus was the Lord. He was on the road to Damascus to persecute Jesus' followers who were there. To persecute someone is to treat them unfairly because of who they are or what they believe. He planned to take any believers he found in Damascus as prisoners to Jerusalem. Point out Jerusalem, Israel and Damascus, Syria. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 9:3-8, 15, 17-19. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Acts 9:15. Pray. Read Acts 9:3-8. In Damascus, the Lord sent a man named Ananias to go to Saul who was praying. Read Acts 9:15, 17-19.

THE WAY GOD CHANGES OUR HEARTS

What did Saul see on the road? (A light from heaven.) Whose voice did he hear? (Jesus'.) What did Jesus ask Saul? ("Why are you persecuting me?") What did Saul learn that day? (Jesus is the Lord. By persecuting Jesus' followers, Saul had persecuted Jesus, God's own Son.)

Ananias did not want to go to Saul. He must have been afraid Saul would have him arrested for believing in Jesus. What did the Lord

Jesus tell Ananias that He had chosen for Saul to do? (To carry Jesus' name to the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.)

What happened to Saul when he met with Ananias? (He was filled with the Holy Spirit. Scales fell from his eyes and he could see again.) What was the first thing Saul did once he could see? (He was baptized.) Being baptized showed Saul now belonged to Jesus.

God changed Saul from a man that was hurting believers into a man who helped others believe in Jesus. In what ways has God changed you? Some of us feel changed right away; some do not. No matter how we feel, when we believe in Jesus as God's Son and the Lord of our life, He puts His Holy Spirit in our hearts to stay forever.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Over 600 years before God changed Saul's heart, the prophet Ezekiel told us about the Lord's promise to forgive us, wash our sins away, and give us a new heart. Imagine Jesus saying these words to you. Reveal Ezekiel 36:25-27. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Anyone who believes in Jesus and wants to follow Him forever can pray to Him about that. Some of you may have asked Jesus into your heart. If you want to say a prayer like that now, raise your hand and I will lead you in prayer. If you are not ready, know that you can pray at any time. Jesus is always listening. Lead prayer.

Lord Jesus, I <u>A</u>dmit I am a sinner.

I <u>B</u>elieve You are the Lord who died to take my sins away.

Please <u>C</u>ome into my heart and I'll follow You forever.

In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Bible Memory Verse Valentine
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Bright light from heaven on Saul as he hears Jesus
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Bright Light

GAME: Heart Exchange Relay **CRAFT:** Light-Hearted Frame

SALVATION DEMONSTRATION: Cross Your Heart

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Erase It, Then Say It; Balloon Toss

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW