



Quarter 2 — Lesson 17



Year 3—Quarter 2: The Church is God's Idea

Paul the Apostle-Missionary

Lesson Introduction

The Apostle Paul has an exciting story and lived a life that was a spiritual adventure. But, did you know that it took a friend believing in him to get him started on that journey? When Paul came to Jerusalem he was more than an outsider. He'd been an enemy, and everyone was suspicious of him. Only Barnabas was willing to risk acting like a friend to Paul, bringing this outsider in. Barnabas brought Paul to his church in a town called Antioch. Believers were first called Christians at Antioch.

Paul went on to be the apostle that God used to bring other "outsiders" into His kingdom: the Gentiles. We played a game of "everybody's it." When the Apostle Paul looked at his world, everyone was "it." Jesus wanted Paul to share his faith with

everyone, even Gentiles.

God warned Paul that he faced prison and hardship in Jerusalem. But he said, "I am going" (Acts 20:22). Paul had confidence, not only that God was sending him, but also that he'd be able to see hard times through. There is only one way to develop that kind of confidence in yourself. **Don't quit!**

So, if you join a soccer team or football team and want to quit after the first set of calisthenics, **don't quit**. If you get a difficult assignment at school, **don't quit**. If you promise to read your Bible the first thing each morning and you are tempted to hit the snooze button and sleep longer, **DON'T QUIT!**

Power Point

God helps us
to see hard
times
through.

Game: "Everyone is It"

This game is like regular tag only everyone is 'it'. Everyone runs around trying to tag everyone else. When you're tagged, you sit down. The object is to be the last person left standing.

After having fun with the game, have everybody be seated and explain to them: *When the Apostle Paul went on his missionary journeys, everybody was "it." Everybody in the world needed to hear about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Say: From the first apostles until today, we are all on the same team. We are all in the Kingdom of God.



MEMORY VERSE

"I can do all this
through him who
gives me
strength."
- Philippians 4:13



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Bible Time: Paul Didn't Quit

Teaching Plan:

1. **Introduction:** Read Acts 16:16-34 & Acts 27:13-33

Say: Imagine being a Christian leader, traveling from place to place, sharing the Good News about Jesus. That's what Apostle Paul did. But it wasn't easy. He faced many dangers, like being beaten, imprisoned, and even shipwrecked! (Acts 16:16-34, Acts 27:13-44)

2. Key Points:

- Paul didn't quit when things got tough. **He kept trusting God and serving Him.**
- God used Paul's experiences to spread the message of Jesus, even in prison (Acts 16:16-34).
- Paul's passion for sharing Jesus did-

n't fade, even when people tried to kill him (Acts 9:1-31).

- Paul knew that God was always with him, protecting him and guiding him (Philippians 4:13).

3. Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever faced a difficult situation? How did you feel?
- How did Paul respond to his challenges?
- What can we learn from his example?
- Can you think of times when God helped you in a difficult situation? How did that make you feel?

4. Application:

Just like Paul, we can choose to trust God and serve Him, even when life gets hard. We can remember that God is always with us, protecting and guiding us.

Writing Activity:

“Paul's Prayer of Trust”: Divide your class into small groups and assign each group a scenario from Paul's life (e.g., *being beaten, facing a violent hurricane, or being imprisoned*). Ask them to imagine they are Paul and write a prayer expressing their trust in God and their desire to glorify Him in the midst of hardship. Then, have each group choose one person to share their prayer with the class, highlighting how Paul's faith remained strong even in the toughest situations.

Art Activity:

“Paul's Roadmap to Perseverance”: Create a class mural representing Paul's journeys, highlighting the challenges he faced (e.g., *imprisonment, shipwrecks, persecution*). Use a large map or a long piece of paper and have students add sticky notes or illustrations to represent each ob-

stacle. Then, ask them to draw a line or a path showing how Paul continued to move forward, despite the difficulties. This activity helps your students understand Paul's determination and faith in the face of adversity.



Take-Home

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Summary

Bible Passages:

Acts 20:35; Acts 28:1-6

Main Point:

God helps us to see hard times through.

Discuss:

Q: Where were believers first called Christians?

A: In the city of Antioch (Acts 11:26)

Q: What was the name of the first believer to be Paul's friend?

A: Barnabas

Q: When faced with hardship, what was Paul's secret to success?

A: He refused to quit.

Explore the Bible

Read: 2 Corinthians 11:23-30

Share a brief overview of the Apostle Paul's life, highlighting his conversion and subsequent ministry. Emphasize that Paul faced many hardships, including beatings, imprisonments, abandoned by friends and even shipwrecks, but he remained steadfast in his devotion to Christ. In 2 Tim. 4:7 Paul says, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Ask your children to imagine themselves in Paul's shoes, facing such difficulties. How would they feel? Would they give up or continue serving God? Discuss how Paul's faith in Jesus helped him persevere.

Family Activity

"Paul's Snakes and Shipwrecks": Use a combination of storytelling and craft to engage your family. Tell the story of Paul's shipwreck and the viper's bite (Acts 28:1-6). Then, have your family create their own "snakes" using paper or foam, and attach them to a small boat or a paper plate "shipwreck." This activity helps students visualize the challenges Paul faced and how he trusted God to deliver him from harm.

Apply and Pray

Summarize how Paul's courage in hard times is an inspiration to us. Encourage the children to reflect on their own lives and how they might face challenges. Remind them that, just like Paul, they can trust God to help them through tough times and remain faithful to Him.

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to give them courage and perseverance when facing difficulties, just like the Apostle Paul.