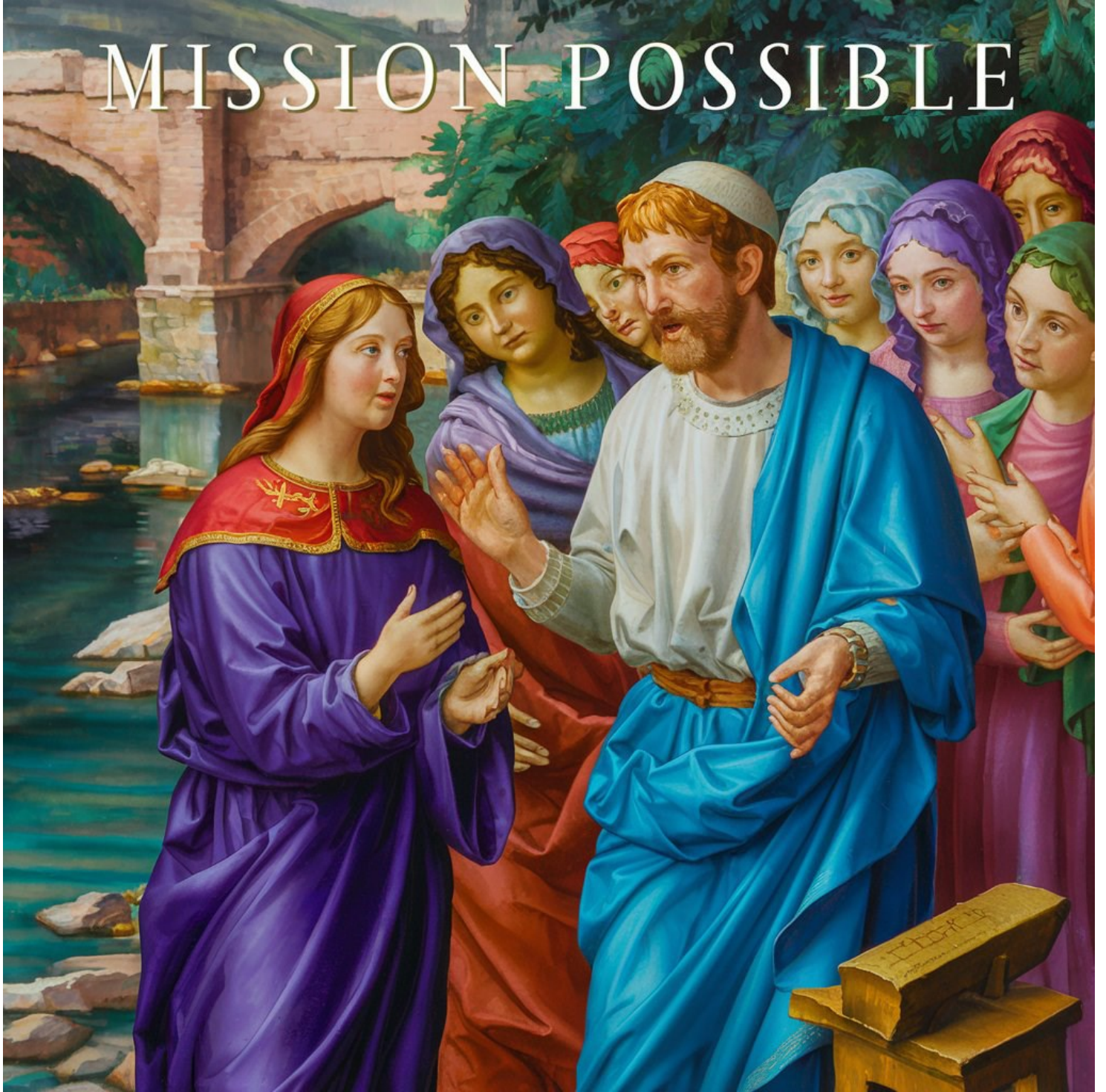


# MISSION POSSIBLE





## Mission Possible

### Bible Lesson

*Come on stage carrying a globe with band aids all over it and an ice pack on top of it. Explain to them that it represents our world that is very sick with a deadly disease.*

The Bible says that all have sinned (Rom. 3:23) and that the penalty for sin is death (Rom. 6:23). The world is infected with a deadly disease called sin. There is only one way to be cured of sin and it's through Jesus. Before Jesus went back up into heaven He gave us a very special mission. *Read Matthew 28.* Our mission is to tell others about Jesus so that they can be saved. We call this mission "possible" because Jesus said He would be with us.

**Remember** The Sticky-Note Challenge? I want you to think back to the three people you put on the sticky note a few weeks ago. (See lesson 25. Allow kids to add more sticky notes when they want to.) These people might be relatives, friends or even enemies. We are going to be talking about sharing Jesus with others for the next few weeks. During this time I'm challenging you to share Jesus with these people you wrote on your sticky notes. We'll leave their names up to remind you of this challenge.

Pray Around the Globe

Have your class gather around the globe with the band aids on it. Now lead them in a prayer for the world. Have students say the name of a country and pray for the people in that country.

### Game: Treasure Hunt

**You'll Need:** Clues; misc. toys or candy

#### Directions:

Create a treasure hunt for your kids! This can either be done inside or outside (or both). To make each clue - use brown paper bags and tear pieces off. Use a brown marker to mark the torn edges to make a more worn look.

Think of a list of clues. Make each one point to the next and at each stop they will find and read the next clue and move on. For the littlest ones, use digital pictures or drawn pictures for the clues.

At the last one, have a Buried Treasure! Use a decorated shoe box or empty baby wipe container. Fill it with small toys (can be old toys from a toybox), candy and plastic coins and necklaces.

### Power Point

My mission is possible because Jesus is with me.

### MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 28:20, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."





### Paul—Missionary

#### Paul's Big Adventure

A long time ago, a man named Paul went on big trips to tell people about Jesus. He didn't have a car or a plane, so he walked a lot, sailed on boats, and even rode animals to get from place to place. Paul traveled more than 10,000 miles and started 14 churches.

Paul's first trip started in a city called Antioch. He sailed to an island named Cyprus, where he met a mean magician who didn't like what Paul was saying. But Paul wasn't scared. He kept telling people about Jesus, and even the island's big boss believed him!

Then Paul went to lots of different places like Pamphylia and Galatia. Sometimes people were happy to hear about Jesus, and sometimes they were not. But Paul kept going, even when it was tough.

He took three big trips, and some people think he might have gone on a fourth one. Everywhere he went, he made new friends and helped them learn about how much Jesus loves them.

Paul's adventures helped lots of people know about Jesus, and because of his trips, we can read his letters in the Bible today. He showed everyone that even when things are hard, sharing about Jesus is really important!

### Paul Shares Faith With Lydia

#### Read Acts 16:13-15

Describe how Paul and his friends went to the river for church! Does that sound strange? Imagine going to a lake or a river for church service. Well, in those days, they didn't always have big buildings for churches, so they met wherever people could gather. This area was a place that people would go to pray, and there were some women there that Paul spoke to.

Why do we hear these details about Lydia? The fact that she sold purple cloth was significant for a couple of reasons. For one thing, it meant she was a skilled artisan. Purple dye was hard to make. It came from the mucus of a specific species of snail, in fact, and it was so rare that it was very expensive, and worn only by royalty. Lydia had a special skill to work with this purple dye. She was also likely rich, which some people think allowed her to help Paul in his work with establishing and growing churches. But we also know that Lydia was a woman who worshiped God. And when she heard about Jesus, she immediately wanted to be baptized and follow Him. She even housed Paul and his crew for a little while. She was generous and faithful, and blessed by the Holy Spirit!

**Ask:** Have you ever had to trust God and take a "leap of faith"?

In this story, Paul trusted God in going to Macedonia. Lydia listened to Paul, and God opened her heart to trust the good news of Jesus. It just takes one or two people to start a ripple effect that can continue spreading the Gospel!





## Opening Activity

### Purple it Up!

**Lesson Opening:** Kick off with some fun activities that connect with the color purple, or with some of the other themes of the story (baptism and spreading the Gospel):



- Purple it up: name as many things as you can think of that are the color purple!
- Make “scratch n sniff” purple paint! Mix grape Kool-Aid with water, adding blue and red food coloring if needed for extra tint. Experiment with ratios of food dye to create shades of purple. Use paint brushes to spread the water color onto paper.
- Make a collage of pictures that are purple, or use various shades of purple color or markers to create a picture.
- Play with purple play-doh (younger students)
- Snack: Purple cows (grape juice and vanilla ice cream).
- Talk about baptism: identify what students know about baptism and if they know details of their baptism or sponsors.

### Teacher Food for Thought:

#### God’s Heart for the World

*“For God so loved the world...” (John 3:16)*

How to let God give you His heart for the world. How to go from “God so loved the world” to “we so loved the world” to “Go into all the world.”

Simply put it’s: **Pray, Give, Go**. But truthfully, it’s more like this: pray-pray, pray-give, pray-go.

**Pray-Pray:** “*God so loved the world...*” First, we pray to know God’s heart. This is how we begin to get God’s heart for His world that He loves. We pray. We let God share His concerns and dreams with us. He is the Great Shepherd of His big world and we are small, and so He will give us a small part of the world to care about.

Next, we pray for the part of the world that He trusts us to care about: a certain group of people in the world, a specific missionary family, a village, an orphanage and their greatest need.

**Pray-Give:** “*...He gave...*” (John 3:16) After we have “seen” a need that God cares about and that we now care about, we invest (sacrifice) along with others who also care about that need. This is usually a group project (a mission board, a church, a home group, a youth group, a Summer VBS, etc.)

**Pray-Go:** “*...His only Son...*,” “*Emanuel, God with us,*” Because God loved the world, He Himself came to where we are (Incarnation), and His love in us for the world compels us to “*Go into all the world...*” Some who pray are led to go. The ones who pray-go are sent by those who pray-pray, and those who pray-give.



