

Unit 2

Paul and Barnabas

Bible Memory

2 Peter 3:18

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”



Bible Skills

Bible skills are intentionally integrated into each lesson. You'll help kids learn how to use their Bibles so they are immersed in God's Word. See the introductory pages of this teacher guide for details.

Optional Bible Skill Builders and Key Bible Verses

Use the Optional Bible Skill Builder activities whenever you have time—before, during, or at the end of your session.

Print the Key Bible Verses from the *Resources* CD. Finding and reading the verses will help kids remember each week's Bible lesson. Be sure to send a copy of these verses home, along with the unit family letter.

Look for this symbol throughout the teacher guide to identify activities that work well for all kids, including those with special needs. Additional helps for teaching kids with special needs can be found on the *Resources* CD and at www.21stcc.com.



Lesson	Scripture	Focus
Lesson 4 Paul Begins to Follow Jesus	Acts 9:1-22; 22:12-16	♥ We should learn about Jesus.
Lesson 5 Paul and Barnabas Help Others Learn About Jesus	Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-7, 12	♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.
Lesson 6 Paul and Barnabas Tell About the Living God	Acts 14:8-18	♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.
Lesson 7 Lydia Learns to Follow Jesus	Acts 16:11-15	♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Immerse Materials for Unit 2

Early Elementary Activities

Lessons 4-7 and the Unit 2 Bible Memory Poster and stickers

Early Elementary Teaching Pictures, lessons 4-7

Early Elementary Resources

Visuals

Sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a-4c, 5a-5d, 6a, 7a-7c; sheet 6 Listen, Look, Do Word Cards (lesson 4), Paul's Face Mask; sheet 7 Tell About Jesus Game and game pieces, Who and How? Photo Cards; sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips

CD

Printable Files

Classroom Tools (attendance chart, bookmarks, name tags, Old and New Testament posters)

Special Needs Helps (see CD Contents for complete list of files)

Teacher Helps (see CD Contents for complete list of files)

Unit 2 Bible Memory Poster, Bulletin Board Pattern, Family Letter, Key Bible Verses, Optional Bible Skills, Review Questions (also provided by lesson), Worship Time Ideas

Buzzy Bee Letters, lessons 4-7

Additional files: Learning About Jesus (lesson 4), Lesson 5 Special Needs Helps, Paul and Barnabas Puppets (lesson 5), More Than a Word (lesson 6), Lesson 7 Special Needs Helps

Weekly Bible Reader student magazine, issues 4-7

Faith & Family online resource for parents and kids.

Go to www.21stcc.com.

Additional Activities for Unit 2

Use these activities for early arrivers, for children who finish activities quickly, and when you are waiting for parents to arrive.

“Help Others Learn” Bulletin Board

Print “Help Others Learn About Jesus” in outline letters and let kids color the letters. Mount the letters and a map of the world on the board. (Note: A map of the world is included with the unit 2 printable files on the *Resources* CD. Print and enlarge as desired.) Add pictures of missionaries your congregation supports. Attach one end of a string to each picture. Attach the other end of each string to the place on the map where that missionary family serves. Talk about how these families are helping others learn about Jesus, God’s Son.

“Guess Where” Game

During units 2 and 3, children will be learning about Paul and his friends. Display the *Resources* sheet 5 Map of Paul’s Travels. Ask one child to leave the room. While she is absent, the other children can select a Bible location shown on the map. The absent child is then called back into the room and tries to guess the selected place on the map by asking questions that can be answered by a simple yes or no. For example, “Is the place a city?” or “Is the place near a body of water?” When the child guesses the place, she can choose the next “guesser.” Continue the game as time allows.

As the units’ lessons are taught, children should try to tell who visited or what happened at each place guessed.

Tell About Jesus Game

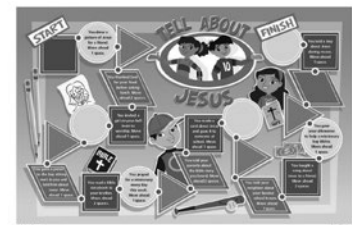
The Tell About Jesus game board and cards from *Resources* sheet 7 can be used anytime you have extra moments. Provide small items to use as game markers. Place the cards in a pile, facedown, near the game board. Provide these instructions: To play, the first player draws a card and moves to the first space that has the same shape shown on the card. If the space includes words, read and do what it says. Place the used card on the bottom of the pile. Then it is the next player’s turn. Play until someone reaches “Finish.”

Telling It Sweetly

Let kids make sweet messages as a way to help others learn about Jesus. Write or type the following and copy onto colorful paper: “We have a whopping good time learning about Jesus.” Provide Whoppers® malted milk balls. Let kids put the candy in resealable snack bags. Then they can attach one of the papers to each bag. The kids can make the bags to give to friends and for guests who come to your class.

Buzzy Bee Letters

Buzzy Bee letters, included on the *Resources* CD, provide a fun way for kids to review the weekly Bible story and focus. Print and distribute copies, or print one copy and post it in a special place where kids can read it. The letters can also be mailed or e-mailed to kids during the week.



Added Fun!

For more seasonal craft ideas, go to www.21stcc.com and check out Holiday & Seasonal Helps under Downloads/Connect²/Spring Quarter Heartshaper Connect² Feature.



Paul Begins to Follow Jesus

Lesson 4



Scripture: Acts 9:1-22; 22:12-16

Bible Memory: 2 Peter 3:18

Focus: ♥ We should learn about Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Take time to remember how and when you learned about Jesus. Were you a young child and your parents told you about Jesus? Maybe you were a teen when a friend shared with you about Jesus. Did an adult Bible teacher help you come to know Jesus as your Savior in the last few years? However and whenever you learned about Jesus, thank God! Then pray and prepare so that the children in your class will remember *you* as a person who taught them about Jesus.

Lesson 4 at a Glance

1 FOCUS IN
Use one or more of these activities to help children *explore ways to learn something new*.



Discuss



Art



Bible Memory

Quick Step
Listen, Look, Do

Option
Learning Stations

Bible Memory
Introduce the Bible Memory verse.

Immerse Materials

- *Resources* sheet 6 Listen, Look, Do Word Cards

Other Materials

- reusable adhesive
- pictures and facts about bugs, paper, marker, modeling dough, resealable plastic bags
- Bible

2 EXPLORE HIS WORD
Use these activities to help children *tell what happened when Paul learned that Jesus is God's Son*.



Bible Story



Activity Page



Bible Memory



Bible Skills

Bible Exploration
Acts 9:1-22; 22:12-16

Bible Review Activity

Bible Memory
2 Peter 3:18

Optional Bible Skill Builder

- *Resources* sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a-4c, *Teaching Picture 4*
- *Activities* p. 15

- *Resources* sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips

- whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, reusable adhesive

- pencils, whiteboard, dry-erase marker
- Bibles, whiteboard, dry-erase markers, reusable adhesive

3 MAKE IT REAL
Use one of these activities to help children *understand that learning about Jesus can change their lives*.



Discuss



Interview



Read

Quick Step
Changed Reactions

Option
Job Changes

Option
Story from *Weekly Bible Reader*

- *Activities* p. 16

- Interview questions (see activity)

- *Weekly Bible Reader* issue 4

- guest speaker

4 LIVE IT OUT
Use one of these activities to help children *choose a way to learn about Jesus*.



Game



Pray

Quick Step
Learning About Jesus

Option
Listen, Look, Do 2

Saying Good-bye

- Learning About Jesus reproducible page
- *Resources* sheet 6 Listen, Look, Do word cards

- *Weekly Bible Reader* issue 4, *Activities* p. 13 Unit 2 Bible Memory Poster and stickers

- colored pencils, scissors, jumbo paper clips
- reusable adhesive, poster board, marker

Focus In (10-15 minutes)

- 1 Use one of these activities to help children **explore ways to learn something new**. Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verse.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Quick Step Listen, Look, Do

Have children gather in a circle.

ASK: **What is something new you have learned recently?** Give each child an opportunity to share. They may have learned a new fact or learned how to do a new activity.

How do you learn new things? (read about it in a book or on the Internet, listen to teachers, watch a video, do an experiment)

Display the word cards on a wall (or whiteboard). Ask volunteers to read the words. SAY: **We can learn by listening, looking, and then doing. When you learn to ride a bike, you might *listen* to an adult tell you how to get on the bike, pedal, and use the brakes. You *look* at each part of the bike so you know where the brakes and pedals are. But to really ride the bike, you have to get on and *do* it yourself. ♥ We should learn about Jesus. We can *listen, look, and do* as we learn about Him too.**

Option Learning Stations



Have children gather near the prepared centers. SAY: **Today's Bible story is about a man who learned something new. Let's learn something new right now.** Explain that the children will visit each of the stations you have set up. At the first station, they will listen to you describe (or read about) various kinds of bugs. At the second station they will look at the samples displayed. At the third station they will make their own models of bugs. (Note: Be sure children do not have allergies that would be aggravated by the modeling dough.) Children do not need to visit the stations in any particular order, but they should visit each station for a couple of minutes. After the children are finished, ask what they have learned.

ASK: **How did you learn to make a bug from modeling dough?** (listened as bugs were described, looked at samples, did it themselves)

SAY: **We're going to find out that ♥ we should learn about Jesus. We can listen, look, and do as we learn about Him too.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

Read 2 Peter 3:18. SAY: **Our Bible Memory comes from the book of 2 Peter. Peter was one of Jesus' followers. Peter knew it is important to keep learning about Jesus. That's why Peter wrote this book of the Bible. He wanted others to grow as they learned about Jesus. ♥ We should learn about Jesus too. Let's say the Bible verse and grow in Jesus!** Read the verse again, having children repeat it after you in short phrases.

Focus

♥ We should learn about Jesus.

Materials

Resources sheet 6
Listen, Look, Do word cards, reusable adhesive (or whiteboard and self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Teaching Tip

To display the word cards on a whiteboard, attach small pieces of self-adhesive magnetic strip to the backs of the cards.

Materials

pictures and facts about bugs, paper, marker, modeling dough, resealable plastic bags



Before Class

Set up the following centers. Center 1: pictures and facts about bugs; Center 2: samples of bugs made from modeling dough; Center 3: a sign that reads "Make your own bug" and small balls of modeling dough in resealable bags, one per child.

Teaching Tip

Search the Internet for images and fun facts about bugs. You'll find lots of resources there!

Materials

Bible



Transition to Explore His Word

See the Resources CD Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

♥ We should learn about Jesus.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)

2 Use all of these activities to help children **tell what happened when Paul learned that Jesus is God's Son.**

Bible Background for the Teacher

Saul of Tarsus (later named Paul) did not become a Christian by accident. God met him in a dramatic way on the road to Damascus, because God had a purpose for Paul's life—taking the gospel to the Gentiles. God prepared Paul in specific ways for this job: Roman citizenship, stellar education, religious training, tent-making to support himself, preaching and writing gifts, boldness of personality.

Ananias was a wise choice to help Paul. Ananias was a man of God and was willing to do what God said, even at the risk of his own safety. Paul's beginning ministry was not without its troubles. People could not believe the startling change in the man who used to persecute Christians. Even though Paul was strongly proclaiming Jesus as Lord, he met opposition to the message.

Worship Time

If you want to offer a time of worship, see the Unit 2 Worship Time Ideas printable file on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, *Resources* sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a–4c, reusable adhesive (or pushpins or self-adhesive magnetic strip), *Teaching Picture 4*



Before Class

Display the map on a wall, a bulletin board, or a whiteboard to use throughout units 2 and 3. Press out Bible story add-ons 4a–4c. If you plan to use a whiteboard, put a piece of magnetic strip on the back of each add-on figure.

Bible Exploration Acts 9:1-22; 22:12-16

Write “Acts 9:1” on the board. SAY: **Today's Bible story comes from the New Testament book of Acts.** Help the children find Acts in the table of contents in their Bibles. Then help them turn to the book of Acts and find chapter 9, verse 1. Ask for a volunteer to read the verse. Explain that Saul was later named Paul.

SAY: **We're going to be finding out how Paul learned to follow Jesus. Since Paul did a lot of traveling, this map will help us see where he went.** Point to the map. **Make sure you listen for how Paul learned to follow God's Son, Jesus.**

Paul was proud of the way he followed God's laws. But Paul hated all Christians. He thought they were not doing what God wanted. He threatened to kill them. He even went to the high priest in Jerusalem to ask if he could go to the city of Damascus to find Christians and take them as prisoners. Have a child attach the Paul 4a between Jerusalem and Damascus on the map.

When Paul got close to Damascus, a bright light suddenly shone from the sky. Attach light rays 4b by Paul. **Paul fell to the ground. He heard a voice say, “Paul, why are you trying to hurt me?” Paul didn't know who was talking to him.** Show *Teaching Picture 4*.

The voice said, “I am Jesus. Paul, you are trying to hurt me.” Jesus then told Paul to go into Damascus and wait for what to do next.

Other men who were traveling with Paul heard a voice, but they didn't see anyone. When Paul got up and opened his eyes, he realized he couldn't see. So the men led him the rest of the way to Damascus. Move Paul 4a to Damascus. **Paul didn't eat or drink for three days. And he still couldn't see.**

In Damascus, there was a follower of Jesus named Ananias. Attach Ananias 4c by Damascus. **Jesus spoke to Ananias too. Jesus told Ananias to go talk to Paul. Ananias was afraid to go because he knew Paul had**

hated Christians. But Jesus told Ananias, “I have chosen this man to tell others about my name.” So Ananias did what Jesus said and went to the house where Paul was. Move Ananias 4c by Paul 4a.

Ananias told Paul that Jesus had spoken to both of them. Ananias placed his hands on Paul. Immediately Paul could see again! Ananias told Paul that God wanted Paul to be filled with His Spirit. Then Paul got up and was baptized.

Paul stayed in Damascus a few days. He went to the synagogues and told the people, “Jesus is the Son of God.” Instead of taking followers of Jesus as prisoners, Paul told people that they needed to follow Jesus. The people were surprised. They said, “Isn’t this the same man who hated Christians and Jesus? What happened?” Paul continued preaching about Jesus. Paul told many people about Jesus.

Bible Review Activity

ASK: **How did Paul learn about Jesus, God’s Son?** (Jesus appeared to Paul on the road. Ananias taught Paul about Jesus.)

Distribute the activity pages and pencils, and let the children work the maze. Answer the questions and decode the message at the bottom of the page. (Answer: “Jesus is the Son of God.”) Print on the board the following questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why? SAY: **I am going to ask some questions about the Bible story. When you know the answer to one of these W questions, raise your hand with the middle three fingers in the shape of a W.** Demonstrate this.

ASK: **Where was Paul going?** (Damascus)

Why did Paul want to go to Damascus? (to take Christians as prisoners)

What happened when Paul got close to Damascus? (A bright light shone from the sky. Jesus spoke and told Paul to go into Damascus and wait.)

Who did God tell to go and talk to Paul? (Ananias)

When was Paul baptized? (immediately after Ananias told Paul about Jesus)

What did Paul tell people about Jesus? (Jesus is God’s Son.)

SAY: **Ananias helped Paul learn about Jesus. ♥ We should learn about Jesus too.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”

Write “2 Peter 3:18” on the board. SAY: **Second Peter 3:18 is our new Bible Memory. Second Peter is the name of the book, 3 is the chapter number, and 18 is the verse number.** Help kids find 2 Peter 3:18 in their Bibles. Ask for a volunteer to read the verse aloud.

Ask a couple of children to put the Bible Memory verse strips on the board in the correct order. When the strips are in place, lead the children in saying the verse. SAY: **Let’s crouch down and slowly stand and “grow” as we say this Bible verse one more time.** Lead the children in doing so.

Materials

Activities p. 15, pencils, whiteboard, dry-erase marker (optional: *Resources* CD lesson 4 Review Questions printable file)



Teaching Tip

Use the *Resources* CD review questions for more questions about the story.

Materials

Bibles, whiteboard, dry-erase markers, *Resources* sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Before Class

Separate the Bible Memory strips. If you want to display the strips on a whiteboard, attach a small strip of magnet to the back of each piece.

Optional Bible Skill Builder

Print copies of the unit 2 Optional Bible Skills activity from the *Resources* CD. Distribute the pages and let the children work with partners to complete the activity.



Focus

♥ We should learn about Jesus.

Make It Real (10–15 minutes)

3 Use one of these activities to help children **understand that learning about Jesus can change their lives.**

Materials

Activities p. 16



Added Fun!

If you have children who like to act, have them act out the pictured situations. The other children can tell what the ending should be if the person is following Jesus.

Materials

guest speaker, copy of interview questions (optional: slips of paper, pencil, toy microphone)



Before Class

Ask a person who is on staff in your congregation to visit your class. Give the list of interview questions to the person ahead of time. If you want the children to ask the questions, write them on separate slips of paper. The kids might also enjoy using a toy microphone when they conduct the interview.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 4



Quick Step Changed Reactions

SAY: When Paul learned that Jesus is God's Son, he changed from a person who wanted to hurt Jesus' followers to a person who wanted everyone to follow Jesus. Let's learn about Jesus. Then we'll look at some situations and tell how knowing Jesus can help us change.

Distribute the activity pages and read the paragraph about Jesus. Then discuss the pictured situations.

**ASK: When you think about Jesus, are you mad or glad?
When you think about Jesus, do you want to hurt people or help people?
When you think about Jesus, do you want to keep everything for yourself or give something to someone else?**

SAY: ♥ We should learn about Jesus. Then we will please God, and we will please others!

Option Job Changes



SAY: When Paul learned that Jesus is God's Son, his job changed. Paul had spent time trying to arrest followers of Jesus. Now Paul traveled to different places telling people about Jesus. Many people work in our congregation so that others can learn about Jesus. Let's interview one of those people to see how following Jesus makes a difference in what they do. Introduce the guest. Let the kids take turns asking the questions below.

**ASK: How did you learn about Jesus?
How has knowing about Jesus changed your life?
How did your life change when you started working for our congregation?
What is the hardest part of your job? the best part?
Is there anything we can do to help you or help others learn about Jesus?**

After the interview, thank your guest. Talk about jobs the children could do to help others learn about Jesus. **SAY: ♥ We should learn about Jesus. And we should help others learn about Him too.**

Option Story from Weekly Bible Reader

**ASK: What are some ways you learn about Jesus?
When you know about Jesus, how does that change the way you act or what you do?** Let children share their ideas.

SAY: Let's read about a boy who learned about Jesus. Read the rebus story "Reading Ride." Pause whenever you come to a picture, and let kids call out the pictured word. **SAY: ♥ We should learn about Jesus. There's a lot to learn!**

Live It Out (10 minutes)

- 4** Use one of these activities to help children **choose a way to learn about Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We should learn about Jesus.

Quick Step Learning About Jesus

Before class, make a sample of the Learning About Jesus wheel. SAY: **We know that ♥ we should learn about Jesus. Let's play a game and talk about ways to learn about Jesus. Then you can choose a way you want to learn about Jesus.**

Hand out the reproducible pages and supplies. Tell children to color and cut out the wheels. When their wheels are finished, the children should find partners. Show how one partner can hold a paper clip on the wheel, using the point of a pencil that is placed on the dot in the center of the wheel. The other partner can flick the paper clip to make it spin. Partners should take turns holding the pencil and spinning the paper clip. SAY: **When the paper clip stops, read what is written in the space where it lands. Tell whether or not that is a way you like to learn about Jesus.**

After everyone has had time to play the game, have the children bring their wheels to a closing prayer circle. Have each child hold the wheel on the space that tells what the child will do to learn about Jesus in the coming week. Pray, asking God to help the children as they learn more about His Son, Jesus.

Option Listen, Look, Do 2



Display the Listen, Look, Do word cards as three column headers on a poster board. To make the activity more manageable for kids with disabilities, draw pictures of the things kids name that they can listen to, look at, or do to learn about Jesus.

SAY: **We know that ♥ we should learn about Jesus. And we know we can learn new things by listening, looking, and doing. Let's list specific ways we can learn about Jesus. Then you can each choose a way you want to learn about Jesus.** Begin at the Listen card and ask children to name things they can listen to so that they can learn more about Jesus. Write or draw the things they name in that column. Move to the other two columns, listing things the children can look at and activities they can do to learn about Jesus.

When you have listed several choices under each heading, ask the children to line up near the heading that describes or pictures their favorite way to learn about Jesus: listen, look, or do. Encourage the kids to pray silently and ask God to help them learn new things about His Son, Jesus.

Saying Good-bye

- Make sure children have projects and activity pages they have done and the *Activities* page 13 unit 2 Bible Memory poster and stickers. Stickers are in the middle of *Early Elementary Activities*. Encourage kids to complete their posters at home.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Materials

copies of Learning About Jesus reproducible page, colored pencils, scissors, jumbo paper clips (1 per child)



Note

See the teacher contents page for the location of reproducible pages. The Learning About Jesus activity is also provided with the lesson 4 printable files on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

Resources sheet 6 Listen, Look, Do word cards, reusable adhesive, poster board, marker (or self-adhesive magnetic strip, whiteboard, and dry-erase marker)



Ways to Learn About Jesus

Listen (Christian CDs, parents, teachers)
Look (Christian videos, Bible storybooks)
Do (attend Sunday school, sing songs about Jesus)

Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a *Weekly Bible Reader* to take home.

Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.21stcc.com.



Paul and Barnabas Help Others Learn About Jesus

Lesson 5



Scripture: Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-7, 12













Bible Memory: 2 Peter 3:18

Focus: ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

We are called to share the gospel with the whole world. It's amazing that God chooses to use us to tell people about His Son, but He does. God wants you to share the good news about His Son with your family members, the people in your neighborhood and community, the children you teach, and people around the world. As you prepare this lesson, keep in mind that all you plan for the children to do should lead them to Jesus. He's God's Son and is the only one worthy of our praise and worship.

Lesson 5 at a Glance

		Immerse Materials	Other Materials
<p>1 FOCUS IN Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore ways to share important news with others.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Telephone Chain</p> <p> Option Signing Messages</p> <p> Bible Memory Introduce the Bible Memory verse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resources</i> sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible, reusable adhesive
<p>2 EXPLORE HIS WORD Use these activities to help children <i>tell what Barnabas and Paul did to help people learn about Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Bible Exploration Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-7, 12</p> <p> Bible Review Activity</p> <p> Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18</p> <p> Optional Bible Skill Builder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resources</i> sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a and 5a-5d, <i>Teaching Picture 5</i> • Paul and Barnabas Puppets reproducible page • <i>Resources</i> sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, reusable adhesive • markers, scissors, tape • whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bible, reusable adhesive
<p>3 MAKE IT REAL Use one of these activities to help children <i>name people who need to learn about Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Who and How?</p> <p> Option Tell About Jesus Game</p> <p> Option Story from <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resources</i> sheet 7 Who and How? Photo Cards • <i>Resources</i> sheet 7 Tell About Jesus Game and game pieces • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small items to use as game markers
<p>4 LIVE IT OUT Use one of these activities to help children <i>participate in a project to help others learn about Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Good News to Share!</p> <p> Option We Can Pray</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Activities</i> pp. 17 and 18 and stickers • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scissors, colored pencils • newsletters from missionaries, index cards, pencils

Focus In (10–15 minutes)

- 1 Use one of these activities to help children **explore ways to share important news with others**. Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verse.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Quick Step Telephone Chain

Have the children sit or stand in a straight line. SAY: **We all like to share and receive important messages. Let's play a game in which we tell each other some messages.** Whisper a word or phrase into the ear of the child at the beginning of the line. The child will whisper to the second person what he has heard, and so on, until the person at the other end of the line receives the message. That person will tell what he has heard, which may be very different from the original message. Continue the game as time allows. The final message to pass along the phone chain should be "Jesus loves you."

ASK: **What are other ways people share important messages?** (letters and cards, e-mail, sign language, text messages)

SAY: **These are all ways we can tell others about Jesus too. ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.**

Option Signing Messages

SAY: **One way to share important news is through the use of sign language. Let's say "Jesus loves you" in sign language.** Lead kids in doing these signs: Jesus—touch the middle finger of one hand to the middle of the palm of the other hand and then repeat with the other hand; loves—cross the hands over the heart; you—point the index finger straight ahead. **Now let's say "Jesus is God's Son" in sign language.** Use these signs: Jesus (see above); God's—an open hand is raised to the heavens and then downward; Son—with one hand pretend to grasp the visor of a cap and then cradle the arms as if holding a baby.

ASK: **What are other ways we share messages with people?** (letters and cards, e-mail, telephone, text messages)

SAY: **These are all ways we can tell others about Jesus too. ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

Read aloud 2 Peter 3:18. Display the Bible Memory strips out of order. Have a couple volunteers work together to put the strips in the right order. Point to the words as you lead the children in saying the verse. SAY: **Grace is a word used to describe how Jesus forgives our sins even though we don't deserve to be forgiven. Jesus does this because He loves us so much. When we grow in the grace of Jesus, we love others the way Jesus loves us—without limit. We should learn about Jesus, and ♥ we should help others learn about Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Materials

none



See the *Resources CD* lesson 5 printable files for another way you can offer this activity.

Teaching Tip

If you and another adult in the room have cell phones, allow a child to call another child to pass along a message. This can be especially fun for smaller classes.

Materials

none



Materials

Bible, *Resources* sheet 8
Unit 2 Bible Memory

Strips, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Teaching Tip

If you are displaying the strips on a whiteboard, make sure each strip has a piece of magnetic strip on the back.

Transition to Explore His Word

See the *Resources CD* Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)

2 Use all of these activities to help children **tell what Barnabas and Paul did to help people learn about Jesus.**

Bible Background for the Teacher

Barnabas was not one of the original 12 disciples, but we see in the book of Acts how he influenced the early church. His name, in fact, was not Barnabas; it was Joseph (Acts 4:36). But he earned the nickname *Barnabas* because the word means “son of encouragement.”

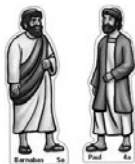
No doubt a leader in the church at Jerusalem, Barnabas was sent to Antioch by the other leaders of the Jerusalem church. In Antioch, Barnabas saw that converts were coming to the gospel in great numbers. Paul was back in his hometown of Tarsus. The trip from Antioch to Tarsus would have been about 100 miles. Barnabas was willing to make the long trip to obtain Paul’s help for teaching the new converts. Under Paul’s and Barnabas’s leadership, the church in Antioch continued to grow. It was in the city of Antioch that Jesus’ followers were first called Christians.

Worship Time

If you want to offer a time of worship, see the Unit 2 Worship Time Ideas printable file on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, *Resources* sheet 5 Map of Paul’s Travels and add-ons 4a and 5a–5d, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip), *Teaching Picture 5*



Before Class

Display the map on a wall, a bulletin board, or a whiteboard. Press out story add-ons 5a–5d. If you are using a whiteboard, put a piece of magnetic strip on the back of each add-on.

How to Say It

Antioch (*An-tee-ock*)
Paphos (*Pay-fus*)
Salamis (*Sa/uh-mis*)
Seleucia (*Sih-lew-shuh*)
Sergius Paulus
(*Ser-jih-us Paul-us*)
Tarsus (*Tar-sus*)

Bible Exploration Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-7, 12

Write “Acts 11:21” on the board. Help the children find Acts in their Bibles. Then help them find chapter 11, verse 21. Ask a volunteer to read the verse. SAY: **You can help me tell the Bible story. Walk in place whenever someone in the story walks or travels. Listen for places where Paul and Barnabas helped others learn about Jesus.**

In the city of Antioch, the church was growing very fast. Point to Antioch on map. **A man named Barnabas traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch to help the people learn more about Jesus.** Children should walk in place. Have a volunteer walk Barnabas 5a from Jerusalem to Antioch and attach it by Antioch. **As Barnabas taught, more and more people wanted to follow Jesus. Barnabas realized he could not teach all these people by himself. He remembered his friend Paul. So Barnabas traveled to the city of Tarsus to find Paul.** Place Paul 4a by Tarsus on the map; move Barnabas 5a beside 4a. Have children step in place.

Soon both Barnabas and Paul were traveling. Children step in place. **Together they traveled to Antioch.** Step in place. **The trip would have been about 100 miles.** Step in place. **That’s a long way to walk!** Step in place. **But Paul and Barnabas knew it was worth going the distance if they could help people learn about Jesus.** Move Paul 4a and Barnabas 5a to Antioch.

Paul loved telling people about Jesus. Barnabas and Paul stayed in Antioch for a whole year. Show *Teaching Picture 5*. **One day, while some men from the Antioch church were worshipping the Lord, the Holy Spirit gave them a message. God had a special job for Paul and Barnabas to do. They were to go to other places and tell people about Jesus.**

First Paul and Barnabas traveled to Seleucia. Walk in place. Move 4a and 5a to Seleucia. **Next they traveled by boat to the island of Cyprus.** Pretend to row, rather than walk. Add ship 5b next to Cyprus and attach 4a and 5a next to it.

In the city of Salamis, which is on the island of Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas preached about Jesus. From Salamis, Paul and Barnabas

traveled to Paphos. Walk in place. Move 4a and 5a to Paphos. **In Paphos, a man named Sergius Paulus, who was a leader of the people, sent for Paul and Barnabas. Sergius Paulus wanted to hear the Word of God.** Add Sergius Paulus 5d and scroll 5c to the map at Paphos.

Paul and Barnabas were always glad to tell about God and His Son, Jesus. Their teachings amazed Sergius Paulus. Sergius Paulus learned about Jesus, and he believed!

Bible Review Activity

ASK: **Where did Paul and Barnabas go and help others learn about Jesus?** (Antioch, Seleucia, the island of Cyprus, Salamis, Paphos)

Distribute the pages and have children color and cut out the finger puppets. Help kids wrap the finger puppets around two or three fingers and secure with tape. SAY: **I'm going to read some sentences. If a sentence is about Paul, raise your Paul puppet. If it's about Barnabas, raise your Barnabas puppet. If it's about both men, raise both puppets.**

Statements:

I went from Jerusalem to Antioch to tell people about Jesus. (Barnabas)

I was a friend to Barnabas. (Paul)

I made a trip to Tarsus to find a friend. (Barnabas)

I went from Tarsus to Antioch to tell people about Jesus. (Paul)

I taught the people in Antioch about Jesus for one year. (both)

I had a special job that God wanted me to do. (both)

I went to lots of places and told people about Jesus. (both)

I told Sergius Paulus about Jesus. (both)

SAY: **Paul and Barnabas helped others learn about Jesus. ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus too.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

Write "2 Peter 3:18" on the board. Choose a volunteer to draw a box around the book name. (2 Peter) Ask a volunteer to draw a triangle around the chapter number. (3) Have another volunteer draw a circle around the verse number. (18) Ask for a volunteer to read the verse.

Randomly hand out the Bible Memory strips. Let children work together to put the strips in the correct order. When the strips are in place, point to the words and lead the children in saying the verse. SAY: **Our Bible Memory tells us that we should grow in our knowledge of Jesus. As we grow, ♥ we can help others learn about Jesus too.**

Materials

copies of Paul and Barnabas Puppets
reproducible page, markers, scissors, tape (optional)
Resources CD lesson 5 Review Questions printable file



Note

See the teacher contents page for the location of reproducible pages. The Paul and Barnabas Puppets file is also provided with the lesson 5 printable files on the *Resources* CD.

Teaching Tip

If you do not have time to make the Paul and Barnabas puppets, use the review questions provided on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bible, *Resources* sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Optional Bible Skill Builder

Display the Old and New Testament posters provided with the *Resources* CD Classroom Tools. Ask volunteers to find and point to the book of Acts on the posters. Ask whether Acts is in the Old or New Testament. (New) Have children line up. Ask the first person to say the name of the first book of the New Testament. (Matthew) The next person can say the second book (Mark), and so on.



Focus

♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Make It Real (10–15 minutes)

3 Use one of these activities to help children **name people who need to learn about Jesus.**

Materials

Resources sheet 7 Who and How? Photo Cards



Teaching Tip

Encourage the children to think beyond the immediate circle of people they know. Talk about people in other countries who don't have a Bible or a church building where they can meet together. How can we help these people learn about Jesus?

Materials

Resources sheet 7 Tell About Jesus Game and game pieces, small items to use as game markers



Teaching Tip

If you have a large class, put the children in pairs or small groups to play the game.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 5



Quick Step Who and How?



SAY: We've learned that Paul and Barnabas told people about Jesus. Let's think of people we know (or know about) who need to learn about Jesus. Then we can tell how we might help them learn about Jesus. Ask a volunteer to choose one photo. Talk about who might be in need of help and how a child in the picture is meeting that person's need.

ASK: Who might need some food? medicine? clothing? money? encouragement? to hear a Bible story? What are ways you could help these people learn about Jesus and His love for them? (tell about Jesus as we meet their needs; show Jesus' love to them)

SAY: We should be kind and show love to others. ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Option Tell About Jesus Game

SAY: Let's play a game and discover ways we can help others learn about Jesus. Set out the game board and give each child a game marker. The first player draws a card and moves to the first space that is the same shape as shown on the card. If the space has words, the player should read and do what it says. Place the used card on the bottom of the pile. Then it is the next player's turn. Play until someone reaches "Finish."

ASK: Who needed to learn about Jesus in each situation? Read through the situations described on the game board. What ways to tell about Jesus have you tried?

SAY: ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Option Story from Weekly Bible Reader

ASK: Who needs to learn about Jesus? Encourage responses. Help children think beyond the people they know. Talk about people who live in other parts of the world.

SAY: Let's read about a boy who helped others learn about Jesus. Read the rebus story "Tyler's Message." Pause whenever you come to a picture, and let kids call out the pictured word. **SAY: ♥ We should help others learn about Jesus. There's a lot to tell!**

Live It Out (10 minutes)

- 4** Use one of these activities to help children **participate in a project to help others learn about Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We should help others learn about Jesus.

Quick Step Good News to Share!

SAY: **One way we can help others learn about Jesus is by making cards about Jesus to give to them.** Distribute the activity pages, stickers, and colored pencils. Read the messages on the card. Tell the children to color all the outline letters and add the stickers. Have kids cut on the cutting lines. Then show how to fold the cards in order on the fold lines. Have the kids decide whom they will give their cards to. They should sign their cards on the inside.

Ask the children to bring their cards to a closing prayer circle. SAY: ♥ **We should help others learn about Jesus. Let's ask for God's help in giving the cards to our friends. Let's pray that our friends will want to learn more about Jesus.** Ask volunteers to pray.

Option We Can Pray

Before class, gather newsletters from missionaries your congregation supports.

Explain that missionaries often send letters that include prayer requests. Show the newsletters you have gathered. Tell about the missionaries and read some of the prayer requests included in the newsletters. Distribute index cards and pencils. Ask each child to write one of the missionaries' prayer requests on his card. SAY: **We have learned that ♥ we should tell others about Jesus. Helping and praying for missionaries is one way we can tell about Jesus. Let's ask God to help our missionary friends as they help others learn about Jesus.** Lead in a prayer for the missionaries you have talked about. Pray about specific requests they have made. Encourage the children to take their index cards home and pray for the missionaries during the week.

Saying Good-bye

- Make sure children have projects and activity pages they have done in class.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Materials

Activities pp. 17 and 18 and stickers, scissors, colored pencils (or markers)



Materials

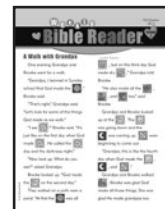
newsletters from missionaries, index cards, pencils



To make the activity more manageable for kids with disabilities, provide pictures of the missionaries you tell about.

Added Fun!

Provide a large container that children can drop coins into. Choose a class project to do for a missionary. Encourage the children to bring change each week to drop into the container.



Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a *Weekly Bible Reader* to take home.

Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.21stcc.com.



Paul and Barnabas Tell About the Living God

Lesson 6



Scripture: Acts 14:8-18













Bible Memory: 2 Peter 3:18

Focus: ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

You have the awesome privilege of teaching children about God and His Son, Jesus. As you teach, you can guide the children to understand that they too can help others know about God and Jesus. Take a few moments to reflect on how you are doing at helping children identify ways to share their belief in God and Jesus. Pray for the wisdom to make the most of every opportunity that comes your way.

Lesson 6 at a Glance

		Immerse Materials	Other Materials
<p>1 FOCUS IN Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>explore things that seem impossible to do</i>.</p>	<p> Quick Step Try It!</p> <p> Option Impossible!</p> <p> Bible Memory Introduce the Bible Memory verse.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> whiteboard, dry-erase marker and eraser Bible
<p>2 EXPLORE HIS WORD Use these activities to help children <i>tell what happened when Paul and Barnabas healed a man who could not walk</i>.</p>	<p> Bible Exploration Acts 14:8-18</p> <p> Bible Review Activity</p> <p> Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18</p> <p> Optional Bible Skill Builder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Resources</i> sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a, 5a, and 6a; <i>Resources</i> sheet 6 Paul's Face Mask; <i>Teaching Picture</i> 6 <i>Activities</i> p. 19, <i>Resources</i> CD lesson 6 Review Questions printable file <i>Resources</i> sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, reusable adhesive markers whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, reusable adhesive
<p>3 MAKE IT REAL Use one of these activities to help children <i>explore ways to worship God</i>.</p>	<p> Quick Step Helping Others Worship</p> <p> Option Preparing for Worship</p> <p> Option Story from <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Activities</i> p. 20 <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pencils items to use for worship (see activity), 4 boxes with lids
<p>4 LIVE IT OUT Use one of these activities to help children <i>worship God and His Son, Jesus</i>.</p>	<p> Quick Step More Than a Word</p> <p> Option Worship Now</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> copies of More Than a Word reproducible page <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (optional: CD player and CD with songs about God and Jesus) items used in Make It Real "Preparing for Worship" activity

Focus In (10-15 minutes)

- 1** Use one of these activities to help children **explore things that seem impossible to do**. Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verses.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Quick Step Try It!

Have children gather in a circle. SAY: **Today we are going to hear a Bible story about something that seemed impossible, but it really happened. Let's see if we can do some impossible actions.** Tell the kids you are going to name some actions that are impossible for most people to do, even though the actions seem quite simple. Encourage kids to try doing each action as it is named. Actions: 1. Raise only one eyebrow. 2. Lick your elbow. 3. Touch your nose or chin with your tongue.

SAY: **Many things are impossible for us to do, but nothing is impossible for God. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.**

Option Impossible!

Have children gather in a circle. At the top of the board, write "Impossible!" Ask for a volunteer to read the word. SAY: **The word impossible means something just cannot happen. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about something that seemed impossible, but it really happened. Let's make a list of things that are impossible to do. For example, it is impossible to sneeze without closing your eyes, or it is impossible for a pig to fly.** Encourage the children to be creative in suggesting things that would be impossible to do. Write the ideas on the board as they are named.

After a couple of minutes, stop and read the list. Then erase the "im" in *impossible*, leaving the word *possible*. Ask what the new word is. Write "God" under the new heading. SAY: **Many things are impossible for us to do by ourselves, but with God's help, the impossible can become possible. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

ASK: **Did you ever have something that you thought would be impossible to learn, but eventually you did learn it? What did you learn?**
Allow children to share their experiences.

Read 2 Peter 3:18 from the Bible. SAY: **This verse helps us understand that we don't know everything there is to know about Jesus. But we can grow and learn more about Jesus. As we learn more, ♥ we should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus, too. And while we are learning, we can give praise to God and worship Him—now and forever!** Lead the children in repeating the verse, a few words at a time. Start softly and get a little louder each time you add new words.

Focus

♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Materials

none



Added Fun!

For a bonus action, have the children try moving the right leg in a clockwise motion. Keep this motion going while drawing the number 6 on a piece of paper!

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker and eraser



Children who struggle with language may have difficulty coming up with impossible actions on their own. Draw a couple fun pictures to start kids thinking. (Examples: baby driving a car, person flying)

Teaching Tip

If you have an assistant, form two groups. Set a timer for 1 minute and challenge the groups to see which can come up with longest list of things that are impossible.

Materials

Bible



Transition to Explore His Word

See the *Resources* CD Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)

2 Use all of these activities to help children **tell what happened when Paul and Barnabas healed a man who could not walk.**

Bible Background for the Teacher

In Iconium, the people were divided; some were ready to stone Paul and Barnabas (Acts 14:1-7). The threats didn't stop Paul and Barnabas. Finding out about the plot to kill them, they fled to the area of Lycaonia and continued telling about Jesus.

The healing of the man in Lystra was immediate, evidenced by the fact that this man who had never walked before now jumped up. Zeus was the patron god of Lystra, and his temple was there. Zeus was frequently linked to other gods such as Hermes. According to an ancient legend, Zeus and Hermes had once visited earth disguised as ordinary men. Now the people thought these gods were visiting earth again.

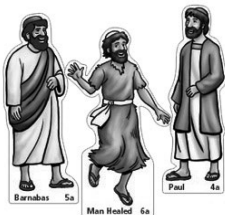
Paul used this situation to launch into an explanation of who really is God. Since these people had not been influenced by Jewish beliefs and practices, Paul had to start with very basic information. His tactic was to point out the true, living God as creator of everything, versus the pagan gods that the people had known before.

Worship Time

If you want to offer a time of worship, see the Unit 2 Worship Time Ideas printable file on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

whiteboard; dry-erase marker; Bibles; *Resources* sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons 4a, 5a, and 6a; reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip); *Resources* sheet 6 Paul's Face Mask; *Teaching Picture* 6



Before Class

Display the map on a wall, a bulletin board, or a whiteboard. Press out story add-on 6a. If you are using a whiteboard, put a piece of magnetic strip on the back of 6a.

How to Say It

Lystra (*Liss-truh*)

Bible Exploration Acts 14:8-18

Write "Acts 14:8" on the board. Ask whether Acts is in the Old Testament or New Testament. (New) Have children turn to the table of contents in their Bibles and look in the New Testament section until they find Acts. Help children as needed in finding Acts 14:8. Ask for a volunteer to read the verse.

Tell the children they will help you act out the Bible story. Choose a child to play the part of Paul. Give this child the face mask of Paul to hold. Choose children to play the parts of Barnabas and the man who could not walk. Other children can be part of the crowd. SAY: **As we act out the story, listen for what Paul and Barnabas told the people about Jesus.** Use the Map of Paul's Travels. Give cues for actions to do as the story progresses.

Paul and Barnabas traveled to many cities to tell people about Jesus.

Have Paul and Barnabas walk around room and then return to the group. **One day Paul and Barnabas arrived in the town of Lystra.** Point to Lystra on the map. Attach Paul 4a and Barnabas 5a by Lystra. **Paul began to tell about Jesus. People stopped to listen. Soon a big crowd of people had gathered.** Crowd gathers around Paul and Barnabas. **Nearby was a man who had never been able to walk. The man listened very carefully to Paul.** Actor can sit on floor near Paul and Barnabas.

Paul saw the man and realized that the man believed what Paul was saying about Jesus. Paul looked at the man and called to him, "Stand up." Paul repeats statement.

The man knew what was happening: he was being healed. He didn't just stand up; he jumped up and began to walk around! Man does so. Attach man 6a by Paul and Barnabas on map. Show *Teaching Picture* 6.

The people were astonished! They probably had never seen a miracle before. They believed in pretend gods. They were sure that Paul and

Barnabas must be gods come to earth in human form. The people wanted to worship Paul and Barnabas. Crowd cheers and some bow before Paul and Barnabas.

Paul and Barnabas ran out to the crowds of people. They said, “Why are you doing this? Don’t worship us. We are only human like you. But we have good news for you. The gods you worship are not real; they are not worth anything. You can worship the living God. He is the one who made the heavens and the earth and the seas. He has been so kind to you already. He has given rain and makes plants grow in every season. He has given you plenty of food. He fills your hearts with joy.” Paul and Barnabas point up to direct the crowd’s attention to God in Heaven.

Everywhere Paul and Barnabas went they preached the good news about Jesus. They told people that Jesus is the living God. They taught people to worship God and His Son, Jesus. We can do that too!

Bible Review Activity

ASK: **What did Paul and Barnabas tell the people about God?** (God is living. He made the heavens, the earth, and the seas. He has been so kind to them. He gives rain and makes plants grow in every season. He gives them plenty of food. He fills their hearts with joy.)

Distribute the activity pages and markers. Read the directions aloud and do the page together. Use the *Resources* CD printable file for more questions about the story. SAY: **Paul and Barnabas helped people know about the living God. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”

Write “2 Peter 3:18” on the board and point to it. Encourage the children to work in pairs to find the verse in a Bible. Ask two volunteers to read the verse together. Next, distribute the Bible Memory strips. (If you have enough children, give each strip to a pair or small group of children.) Have the children work together to put the strips in order. Ask for two volunteers to read the verse from the Bible Memory strips. SAY: **Paul and Barnabas traveled and worked together to help people learn about God. We can work together to learn God’s Word. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus. We can work together to do that too!**

Materials

Activities p. 19, markers,
Resources CD lesson 6



Review Questions printable file

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase
marker, Bibles, *Resources*
sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory
Strips, reusable adhesive (or
self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Teaching Tip

If you are displaying the strips on a whiteboard, make sure each strip has a piece of magnetic strip on the back.

Optional Bible Skill Builder

Using the table of contents, have children find the book of Acts in their Bibles. Point out the section headings included in most Bibles. Read some of the headings in the book of Acts. Stop when you reach chapter 14. Ask the children to find Acts chapter 14, verse 8. ASK: **According to the section heading, where were Paul and Barnabas when they healed a man who had never walked?** (in Lystra)



Focus

♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Make It Real (10–15 minutes)

3 Use one of these activities to help children **explore ways to worship God.**

Materials

Activities p. 20, pencils



Quick Step Helping Others Worship

SAY: Paul and Barnabas wanted people to know about and worship the living God. Let's discover some ways to worship God. Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Read the directions aloud and do the page together. Note: The word for the first picture should be written down; the second word across.

ASK: What ways to worship are shown on this page? (write a poem, draw a picture, sing a song)

What are some other ways to worship Jesus? (pray and give praise to Jesus, do something for another person in Jesus' name, read Bible verses that praise Jesus)

What is your favorite way to worship God and Jesus?

SAY: ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus. We can help others learn to worship God and Jesus.

Materials

items to use for worship (drawing paper, markers, songbooks, writing paper, pencils, Bibles, bookmarks), 4 boxes with lids (or bags)



Option Preparing for Worship



SAY: Just as Paul and Barnabas helped the people in Lystra, ♥ we should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus. We can help others worship the living God. Inside these boxes are items that can be used as we worship God in different ways. Let's see what is inside each box. Then we'll use the items to set up worship stations.

Distribute the boxes to four children or groups of children. Be sure that children with special needs are included in groups that best fit their abilities. Let the children open and reveal the contents of their boxes. Ask the children to name ways they could use the items inside their boxes to worship God. (Possible ways to worship: draw a picture or make a card that shows love for God, sing a worship song, write a letter or poem of praise, read/mark Bible verses of praise and worship.) Display the items from each box on a separate table or in a different area of the room. Note: The items will be used to worship God as this activity continues in Live It Out.

Before Class

Place inside four boxes items that can be used for various forms of worship:

Box 1—drawing paper, markers,

Box 2—songbooks,

Box 3—writing paper and pencils,

Box 4—Bibles and bookmarks.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 6



Option Story from Weekly Bible Reader

Read "My Best Friend." **SAY: When people know about Jesus and all He has done for them, they want to worship Him. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.**

ASK: What are some ways we help people know that Jesus is God's Son? (talk about Jesus, help others, show love, write a letter, draw a picture, sing a song, give money and supplies to people who tell about Jesus, invite friends to Sunday school)

What is your favorite way to worship God and His Son, Jesus?

Live It Out (10 minutes)

- 4** Use one of these activities to help children **worship God and His Son, Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Quick Step More Than a Word

SAY: One way to worship God and Jesus is by reading Bible verses that help us worship. Let's read some verses and worship God and Jesus.

Distribute copies of the More Than a Word reproducible page. Help children read the verses and questions, and then do what is suggested for each verse. You can do this activity as a large group, or form smaller groups with an adult leader assisting each group. You may want to provide an audio player and songs about God and Jesus that children know. Sing a few worship songs after reading Psalm 100:2.

SAY: When we invite our friends to worship with us, we can tell them about Jesus. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.

Option Worship Now




SAY: We prepared worship stations where we can worship God and Jesus in various ways. Let's worship God and Jesus now. You can go to the station that has your favorite way to worship—drawing, singing, writing, or reading the Bible. Encourage children to go to a worship station and be involved in the worship activities offered. If children finish at one station, they can move to another. They do not need to go to each station.

After an appropriate amount of time, have the children gather in a large group. **SAY: When we invite our friends to worship with us, we can tell them about Jesus. ♥ We should help others know about God and His Son, Jesus.**

Saying Good-bye

- Make sure children have projects and activity pages they have done in class.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.


Materials

copies of More Than a Word reproducible page (optional: 
audio player and tracks of songs about God and Jesus)

Note

See the teacher contents page for the location of reproducible pages. The More Than a Word activity is also provided with the lesson 6 printable files on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

items used in Make It Real "Preparing for Worship" activity 

Teaching Tips

If you did not use the Make It Real "Preparing for Worship" option, see the instructions for that activity and set up four worship stations now.

Have an adult volunteer at each station to facilitate the worship activity. If you do not have extra adult help, consider combining a couple of the stations.

Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a *Weekly Bible Reader* to take home.

Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.21stcc.com.



Lydia Learns to Follows Jesus Lesson 7















Scripture: Acts 16:11-15
Bible Memory: 2 Peter 3:18
Focus: ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Being a follower of Jesus is both a privilege and a responsibility not to be taken lightly. Our desire to follow Him can be frustrated by weakness and lack of discipline. Like Paul, we struggle to live for the Lord: “I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do” (Romans 7:15). Thankfully, we don’t have to try to follow Jesus on our own. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to guide, convict, inspire, poke, prod, and pull us along to be the servants of Jesus we are meant to be. Praise God! He knows how weak we are and provides the help we need to be faithful.

Lesson 7 at a Glance

<p>1 FOCUS IN Use one or more of these activities to help children <i>tell what makes a good role model.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Role Models</p> <p> Option “Follow Me” Draw</p> <p> Bible Memory Introduce the Bible Memory verse.</p>	<p>Immerse Materials</p>	<p>Other Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whiteboard, dry-erase marker • drawing paper, markers • Bible
<p>2 EXPLORE HIS WORD Use these activities to help children <i>tell what Lydia did when she learned about Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Bible Exploration Acts 16:11-15</p> <p> Bible Review Activity</p> <p> Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18</p> <p> Optional Bible Skill Builder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resources</i> sheet 6 Paul’s Face Mask and sheet 5 Map of Paul’s Travels with add-ons 4a and 7a–7c, <i>Teaching Picture 7</i> • <i>Resources</i> sheet 6 Paul’s Face Mask • <i>Resources</i> sheet 8 Unit 2 Bible Memory Strips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, blanket, reusable adhesive • whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, reusable adhesive
<p>3 MAKE IT REAL Use one of these activities to help children <i>tell why Jesus is the best person to follow.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step The Best Role Model</p> <p> Option Role Model Role Plays</p> <p> Option Story from <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list from Focus In <i>Quick Step</i> activity, whiteboard, dry-erase marker • slips of paper, pen, paper lunch bag
<p>4 LIVE IT OUT Use one of these activities to help children <i>choose a way they will follow Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Following Jesus Reminder</p> <p> Option Follow Jesus Walk</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Activities</i> p. 21 • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 7, <i>Activities</i> p. 13 Unit 2 Bible Memory Poster and stickers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scissors, tape • (optional: photos of various areas of your church facility)

Focus In (10-15 minutes)

- 1 Use one of these activities to help children **tell what makes a good role model**. Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verse.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Quick Step Role Models

Have kids gather in a circle. SAY: **A role model is someone who sets an example that others follow. Let's make a list of things a good role model does or does not do.** Explain that you will read a statement someone might say. If the statement describes something kids should do, they can show a thumbs-up. If it is not something they should do, they will show a thumbs-down. List the thumbs-up characteristics on the board
Statements: **I try to tell the truth.** (up) **I sometimes lie to keep from getting into trouble.** (down) **I always try to do my best.** (up) **I lose my temper easily.** (down) **You can trust me to keep my promises.** (up) **I like to show off.** (down) **I usually say, "Ask someone else if you need help!"** (down) **I try to show respect for others.** (up)

ASK: **What are some other things good role models do?** Write on the board responses given by the children.

SAY: **Jesus is the best role model we can follow. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.**

Option "Follow Me" Draw

Have kids gather at a table. Distribute drawing paper and markers. SAY: **A role model is someone who sets an example that others follow. Let's draw pictures that show good role models. You can add speech balloons to tell what a good role model might say.** Allow time for children to draw. If children can't decide what to draw, suggest they show a person who is telling the truth, being kind to someone, or showing respect for someone.

Ask volunteers to show what they have drawn. They can tell what the person is doing and why that action is something kids could follow and do too. SAY: **Jesus is the best role model we can follow. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

Read 2 Peter 3:18. SAY: **When we grow in our knowledge of Jesus, we learn what Jesus did or did not do. We learn actions we can follow.**

ASK: **What are some things we can do to grow in our knowledge of Jesus?** (read the Bible; listen to parents, teachers, and others who teach about Jesus; watch videos or movies about Jesus' life)

SAY: **Jesus is the best role model we can follow. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker



Note

The good role model statements will be used again in the Make It Real *Quick Step* activity.



As you read the statements, add gestures or exaggerate facial expressions to make the activity more concrete.

Added Fun!

For a more energetic activity, have kids respond by waving arms high in the air (do) or stomping feet (don't do).

Materials

drawing paper, markers (optional: whiteboard, dry-erase markers)



Teaching Tip

If you have a small class, kids might enjoy drawing pictures on a whiteboard. Provide a variety of markers and assign sections of the board for drawing.

Materials

Bible



Transition to Explore His Word

See the *Resources* CD Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)

2 Use all of these activities to help children **tell what Lydia did when she learned about Jesus.**

Bible Background for the Teacher

Ten men were required to organize a traditional synagogue. Because Philippi was a Roman colony, there were probably not enough Jews living in the city to organize a synagogue. So instead of meeting at a synagogue, the Jews in Philippi met outside for prayer. Such places of prayer often were located by bodies of water. Even though the group mentioned in Acts 16 was comprised of all Jewish women, it is possible that the Jewish men met someplace else for prayer.

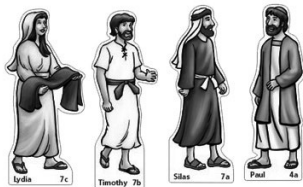
During this time, many Jewish men would not even have considered joining a prayer service made up of all women. Being a Christian freed Paul from that legalistic idea. Lydia already worshipped God, but she needed to learn the way of salvation, which comes by obediently accepting Jesus as Lord. Responding to Paul's message, Lydia and the members of her household did obey Jesus and were baptized. Afterward Lydia gave a convincing argument for Paul and his companions to stay at her home.

Worship Time

If you want to offer a time of worship, see the Unit 2 Worship Time Ideas printable file on the *Resources* CD.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, blanket, *Resources* sheet 6 Paul's Face Mask and sheet 5 Map of Paul's Travels with add-ons 4a and 7a-7c, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip), *Teaching Picture 7*



Before Class

Display the map on a wall, a bulletin board, or a whiteboard. Press out story add-ons 7a-7c. If you are using a whiteboard, put a piece of magnetic strip on the back of each add-on.

How to Say It

Lydia (*Lid-ee-uh*)
Philippi (*Fih-lip-pie*)
Silas (*Sigh-luss*)

Bible Exploration Acts 16:11-15

Write "Acts 16:12" on the board. Ask whether Acts is in the Old Testament or New Testament. (New) Have children turn to the table of contents in their Bibles and look in the New Testament section. They should run their fingers down the page until they find Acts. Help children turn to Acts 16:12. Ask for a volunteer to read the verse.

Give one child the face mask of Paul to hold up to his face and pretend to be Paul. If you have enough children, ask for volunteers to play the roles of Silas, Timothy, and Lydia. The rest of the class should pretend to be a group of people living in Philippi. It would be best if the class sits on a blanket on the floor. Everyone should listen for how a woman named Lydia learned to follow Jesus. Use the Map of Paul's Travels and add-ons as directed.

Ask the child playing the part of Paul to stand beside you. SAY: **Paul was traveling to many places, telling people about Jesus. Paul had other friends traveling with him. Two of these friends were Silas and Timothy.** Ask the children portraying Silas and Timothy to stand beside Paul. **The friends arrived at a town called Philippi.** Attach add-ons 4a, 7a, and 7b near Philippi on the map. **They stayed in the city for several days.** Have the three actors walk around the room and then sit down away from other children.

Soon it was the Sabbath Day, the day when Jewish people stopped their work to worship God. Paul and his friends knew this would be a good day to tell others about Jesus. They took the road that led outside the city gate to the bank of a river. Have the three actors walk around again. **They were looking for a place where they would find people praying.**

Beside the river, several women were praying. Show *Teaching Picture 7*. **Paul and his friends stopped.** Have the actors stand by the rest of the class. **They began talking to the women.** Paul, Silas, and Timothy can pretend to talk.

A woman named Lydia was listening. Attach 7c by 4a on the map. Ask the child portraying Lydia to cup one hand behind her ear. **Lydia made and sold purple cloth. She knew about and worshipped God. Lydia believed what Paul and his friends said about Jesus. Lydia and the members of her household decided to become followers of Jesus, and they were baptized.**

Then Lydia did a very kind thing. She invited Paul and his friends to stay at her house. Lydia can stand and motion with her hand. **Paul and his friends must have been happy. They were always glad to help others learn about Jesus.**

Bible Review Activity

ASK: **How did Lydia learn to follow Jesus?** (She listened to Paul's teaching and was baptized.)

Tell the children that they will take turns holding the Paul face mask to their faces and answering questions as if they were Paul.

ASK: **Paul, why were you traveling to so many places?** (to tell about Jesus)

Paul, what two friends went with you to Philippi? (Silas and Timothy)

Paul, what did you do your first few days in Philippi? (probably visited around the city, telling people about Jesus)

Paul, where did you go on the Sabbath Day? (down by the river)

Paul, who did you meet there? (Lydia and other women)

Paul, what did you do? (told them about Jesus)

Paul, what happened? (Lydia listened and believed, and she and her household were baptized.)

Paul, who invited you and your friends to stay in her home? (Lydia)

SAY: **Lydia learned to follow Jesus. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus too.**

Bible Memory 2 Peter 3:18

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

Display the Bible Memory strips in random order. If you are displaying the strips on a whiteboard, make sure each strip has a piece of magnetic strip on the back.

Write "2 Peter 3:18" on the board and point to it. Remind children how to find the verse, and help them as needed to turn to the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse from the Bible.

Ask for volunteers to rearrange the strips, one strip at a time, so that the verse can be read correctly. When all the strips are in place, lead the children in saying the verse. Then ask volunteers to remove the strips, one strip at a time. As each strip is removed, ask who would like to say the entire verse, supplying the missing words. SAY: **♥ We can learn to follow Jesus as we learn verses from the Bible. And that will bring glory to Jesus—now and forever!**



See the *Resources* CD lesson 7 printable files for a way to help children who struggle with acting out Bible stories.

Materials

Resources sheet 6 Paul's Face Mask



Teaching Tips

Demonstrate where to hold the face mask so children are not losing their line of sight to you.

If a child does not know the answer or would rather not be singled out, he can ask another student to be Silas or Timothy to help answer the question.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles,

Resources sheet 8 Unit 2

Bible Memory Strips, reusable adhesive (or self-adhesive magnetic strip)



Optional Bible Skill Builder

If you have not already done so, print copies of the unit 2 Optional Bible Skills activity from the *Resources* CD. Distribute the pages and let children work with partners to complete the activity. The activity points out differences between the Old Testament and the New Testament.



Focus

♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Make It Real (10–15 minutes)

3 Use one of these activities to help children **tell why Jesus is the best person to follow.**

Materials

list of role model qualities created in Focus In *Quick Step*, whiteboard, dry-erase marker



Note

If you did not use the Focus In *Quick Step* activity, ask the children now to name some things a good role model does. Write their ideas on the board.

Teaching Tip

Beginning readers may not be able to read the words, but they will enjoy guessing letters. Praise all efforts to participate.

Materials

slips of paper, pen, paper lunch bag (or basket)



Before Class

Write the following sentences on slips of paper. Place the papers in a paper bag.

Sentences:

Feed someone who is hungry.
Help someone who is sad.
Show care for someone who has a disability, such as being blind.
Teach a truth from the Bible.
Pray to God.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 7



Quick Step The Best Role Model

If you created a list of things good role models do, refer to that list. SAY: **Let's think again about good role models and why we follow their example.** Read the list created in the Focus In *Quick Step*. (The list of qualities should have included: tells the truth, does his best, keeps promises, respects others.) SAY: **Jesus did all these things—and more! Let's play a word game and see if you can guess other good examples Jesus set for us.**

Play a game similar to Hangman. Draw blank lines on the board, one blank for each letter of the word (or phrase) kids are to guess. Choose someone to guess a letter of the alphabet. If that letter is in the word, write it in each blank where it appears. If the letter is not in the word, write it off to the side so that children will know which letters have been called. Let children take turns guessing other letters until the word is revealed. (Words and phrases that describe Jesus as a good role model: cared for people, took time to pray, obeyed His parents, obeyed God, forgives, keeps His promises)

SAY: **Jesus is God's Son. The Bible says Jesus did not sin. Jesus is the best role model ever, and He wants us to follow Him. The more we know about Jesus, the more ♥ we can learn to follow Jesus.**

Option Role Model Role Plays



SAY: **We have talked about role models and about learning to follow Jesus. Jesus was the perfect example. He is the best role model to follow. Let's act out some things Jesus did. We'll tell how we can learn to follow Jesus' example.** Ask two volunteers to draw one slip of paper from the bag and act out what the paper says. Give assistance with reading as necessary. After each role play, talk about how Jesus did what was acted out. Then have the kids tell how they can do that same thing for someone they know. Continue until all situations have been acted out. SAY: **As we grow and learn more about Jesus, ♥ we can learn to follow Jesus. We can do as Jesus did.**

ASK: **What is your favorite way to follow Jesus?** Encourage children to share their ideas.

Option Story from *Weekly Bible Reader*

SAY: **Lydia learned to follow Jesus. Let's read a story and find out why we should follow Jesus.** Read the rebus story "The List." Pause whenever you come to a picture, and let kids call out the pictured word.

ASK: **Why is Jesus the best person to be like?
What did Jesus do for others that you would like to do?**

SAY: **♥ We can learn about Jesus. We can learn to follow His example. There's a lot to learn!**

Live It Out (10 minutes)

- 4** Use one of these activities to help children **choose a way they will follow Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We can learn to follow Jesus.

Quick Step Following Jesus Reminder

SAY: **Lydia learned about Jesus, and she chose to follow Him. Let's make reminders that can help us choose ways that we can follow Jesus. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus every day.** Distribute the activity pages, scissors, and tape. Read the directions aloud. First have kids cut on the solid lines. Then help them fold on the dotted lines and tape the tab under the open end. This will form a pyramid. Look at and discuss the pictures.

ASK: **If you follow Jesus, what will you try to learn from the Bible?
If you follow Jesus, when will you talk to God? What will you say to Him?
If you follow Jesus, how will you treat your teachers? your parents?
If you follow Jesus, how will you treat others? Who will you tell them about?**

Encourage the children to take their pyramids home. Each day they can look at the pyramid and choose one way to follow Jesus. Close the class time with prayer. PRAY. **Dear God, thank You for Your Son, Jesus. Please help us as we learn to follow Him. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Option Follow Jesus Walk

Before class, make arrangements for taking a walk around your church building. Check to see whether there are areas you should not go.

SAY: **Lydia learned about Jesus, and she chose to follow Him. Let's take a walk and choose ways we can follow Jesus. ♥ We can learn to follow Jesus wherever we go.** Have the children walk with partners or in small groups. Lead the children on a short walk through your church facility, stopping to look in a nursery window, in the auditorium, at offices, and so on. If weather permits, lead the children outdoors. As you walk, talk about the people who are in each place and what happens in each location.

ASK: **How can you follow Jesus and care for babies? older people?
When can you follow Jesus and worship God?
When can you follow Jesus and read from God's Word?
When can you follow Jesus and be helpful to others?
How can you follow Jesus and take care of the world God made?**

Close your class time in prayer, asking God to help the children as they choose to learn about and follow Jesus.

Saying Good-bye

- Distribute the *Activities* page 13 Unit 2 Bible Memory Poster and stickers if you have not already done so. Make sure children have projects and activity pages they have done in class.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 2 page.

Materials

Activities p. 21, scissors, tape (or glue sticks)



Materials

(optional: photos of various areas of your church facility)



Plan ahead and have an adult close to any child who may try to leave the group while outside the classroom.

Teaching Tip

If you cannot take a literal walk, take photos to bring to class. Show pictures of various areas of your church facility as you ask the questions.

Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a *Weekly Bible Reader* to take home.

Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.21stcc.com.

