

Changed

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 1****Focus:**

Your life should show that you've been changed.

Lesson 1**Bible Basis:**

Acts 26:9-20

Lesson 1**Memory Verse:**

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

—1 Corinthians 5:17

As your students watch a little girl who received a cochlear implant hear her parents' voices for the first time, they will understand the concept of change and how our new life in Christ changes us from the inside out.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils

If your class is meeting online, invite your students to bring an index card or piece of paper, along with a pen or pencil, with them to class.

As your students enter, make index cards and pens/pencils available. Invite students to think about a time when their life changed, for good or for bad, and to write this instance down on their index card.

After all students have joined, invite volunteers to share their example of when their life changed, keeping their story to one-minute maximum. Examples: "I broke my leg skiing and was no longer able to play basketball that season" or "My parents announced last January that they were getting a divorce," etc.

Things can happen suddenly that change a person's life forever. For instance, a car accident that leaves a person with a limp, an overdose that causes a child to live without a parent, or a school shooting that leaves casualties and fear in its wake.

Sometimes, though, dramatic life changes can be good things.

➤ **What kind of big changes might actually be good?** (Answers will vary, but examples include: recovering from an injury, getting a new job, going to college, etc.)

Play the following video [1:36]:

Title: Girl, 3, with cochlear implant hears parents for first time

Source: youtube.com

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIYYy22C0sM>

➤ **How do you think being able to hear will change things for Q'ela and her family?**

(Answers will vary. etc.)

Q'ela experienced big change with the cochlear implants—a change that allowed her to hear. A changed life...that is what today's lesson is all about.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 1 / December 5, 2021

Changed

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 1**Focus:**

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Lesson 1**Bible Basis:**

Acts 26:9-20

Lesson 1**Memory Verse:**

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—1 Corinthians 5:17

Materials:

- Index cards (1 per student)
- Pens/pencils (1 per student)

If your class is meeting online, invite your students to bring an index card or piece of paper, along with a pen or pencil, with them to class.

Today's Bible study of Saul on the road to Damascus is one of the most famous conversion stories in the Bible. Talk about change! Saul tortured and murdered those who followed Jesus until suddenly everything changed. Saul was pursued by Jesus—God Himself. The reality of this encounter left Saul physically blind but spiritually aware for the first time! Saul became Paul the apostle. He no longer needed to live as he had been living. Everything had purpose, meaning—Paul was a follower of Jesus Christ!

Today's memory verse is one that has the power to transform people who believe it. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (Corinthians 5:17). God's work through us is what causes this change, not anything we do or say. However, believing this truth will change lives and actions and behaviors. The old will go away and new things will happen in believers' lives.

Hand out one index card to each student and a pen/pencil. If your class is meeting online, invite students to have their papers and pens or pencils ready. Have teens write the word CHANGED on it. Challenge your students to put it in their pockets, purses, or wallets as a reminder that they're new creations.

Saul changed. He no longer did what he had done before, persecuting Christians. But God personally made him new and his life changed! God wants to do the same for us!

Sometimes it takes time for people to see that you've changed on the inside. One way the Bible says we can do this is to share the hope that is within us. 1 Peter 3:15 says, "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." Encourage students to approach others this week with this attitude as they share the hope that is within them.

Close today's lesson in prayer thanking God for changing us and for making us new creations in Him.

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