

Prepare to Share

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 9**Focus:**

Be prepared to tell anyone about Jesus.

Lesson 9**Bible Basis:**

Acts 24—25:12

Lesson 9**Memory Verse:**

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.
—1 Peter 3:15

Students will watch a video about the importance of planning and prepare to share with others the hope they have found in Jesus Christ.

Materials:

- Internet access

- **What does it look like to be prepared?** (Answers may include: Having materials ready for school; equipment and uniform ready for my game; studied for a test; not waiting until the last minute to do something, etc.)
- **Are you someone who is prepared for everything? Why or why not?** (Answers will vary. Be ready to share your own experience.)

Population growth is something cities and countries try to plan for through something called urban planning. Communities have to intentionally plan for things like more housing, more schools, and more stores to accommodate this growth.

Play the following video for your students [2:30; stop at 1:30]:

What Is: Urban Planning

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bu0oDyTp6dl>

- **How could a city or place being unprepared for something, like not having enough roads or housing, affect its citizens?** (Answers will vary.)
- **How does it feel to be unprepared?** (Answers will vary.)
- **Why is being prepared important?** (Answers may include: It sets us up to succeed; we feel confident when we know we have everything we need, etc.)

While there are situations that we can't know about or prepare for, there are many situations that we can prepare for. In those situations, being prepared is essential for success. It creates confidence and readiness in us, no matter what we're going to tackle.

Today we're going to read about an extremely successful follower of Christ. His name is Paul. Why was he successful? Because he was prepared to share about the hope he had found in Jesus Christ with anyone he encountered. Paul's close relationship with Jesus, his obedience, and his excitement in finding Christ caused him to want to share what he had found with others. He had to let them know about the hope he had found! Paul successfully spread the message of Christ throughout large parts of the world, because he was prepared to follow his heart and God's leading. Let's read on and find out more about Paul's story.

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

Lesson 9 / January 28, 2024

Prepare to Share

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 9**Focus:**

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Materials:

- Index cards
- Pens/pencils
- Whiteboard or screenshared document

As students finish their Step 3 exercise, continue discussing the lesson. If your class is meeting online, invite your students to bring supplies with them to class.

Earlier we learned Paul was always prepared to share the hope of Jesus Christ with anyone who would listen. Paul encountered many tough circumstances: beatings, false imprisonment, and escaping those trying to kill him. But that never stopped him from following Christ or sharing with those around him the hope that Jesus offers through salvation. Just like Paul, we need to be ready in any situation to tell others about Jesus. Sometimes we hesitate sharing the gospel because we don't feel prepared; we are afraid we won't know what to say when the time comes.

➤ **When given an opportunity, what would you share about your faith with someone?** (Answers: I would share my story of how I was saved; I would share the plan of salvation; I would share how Jesus is working in my life and changing me, etc.)

➤ **What would help you feel more prepared to share with others about your faith in Jesus?** (Answers will vary, but may include: I would feel better if I could practice sharing the plan of salvation first with a Christian friend or parent; I would feel ready if I had a Bible with me to share verses; I would feel ready if I had thought through my own story first before sharing it, etc.)

We want to have the courage and obedience to share about the hope we have in Jesus when the opportunity arises. We're going to prepare a list of verses that will help us share our faith in any situation! Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home).

Write the following references on the whiteboard or a screenshared document so that your students can write them down on one side of their index cards. Instruct your students to look up and read the verses at home during the week so that they can memorize them. These verses can help walk someone through the plan of salvation:

Romans 3:23
Romans 6:23
John 3:16
Romans 5:8
Hebrews 11:6
Acts 2:38
Acts 22:16

On the other side of their index cards, students should create a list of those they want to talk to about salvation. They should add others as they think of them. Challenge them to begin praying over this list daily.

Paul took every opportunity to share the hope Christ had given Him. Do you have that same hope? If you do, sharing about it can be exciting and will start to happen naturally the more you do it. Thinking about what we want to say to others is very helpful and having verses ready to share is important too. But, what can be most effective is sharing with someone from your heart. Telling them about what Jesus has done in your life and how He has changed you. That's why Paul was so passionate. He shared from his heart all that God was doing in his life.

If you have not made the decision to follow Jesus, I would love to share the hope He has given me with you after class. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior through faith, repentance, and baptism, start praying about what God wants you to share with others. You'll want to speak to your friends from your heart.

Be praying God will give you specific opportunities this week to share your faith with a friend, teammate, or family member. Ask Him to recall the verses you read and study so you can share that truth with others. Most importantly, ask for Him to speak through you!

Pray to close.

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