



Vacation Bible School 2020  
Grades 1-5  
**SESSION 2**

**PAUL'S  
REDEMPTION**

Paul had been chosen by God to tell the good news about Jesus to the Gentiles (people who were not Jews). Paul traveled thousands of miles telling people about Jesus and starting churches. This made some people so angry they had him arrested! However, instead of being angry, Paul knew he could use his arrest to talk to many very important government officials.

While Paul was in prison, King Agrippa came to visit Festus, the local governor. Festus told the King about Paul and the King asked to see Paul and listen to his story. Paul began by reminding everyone that he had grown up in Jerusalem and strictly followed the laws and rules of the Pharisees. He spoke out against Jesus, he placed many people who were followers of Jesus in jail, and he even supported the rulers' decisions to put Jesus' followers to death!

Then, Paul told about the day he had been traveling to Damascus to arrest believers in Jesus. "King Agrippa," Paul said, "I was walking along the road about midday when I saw a light brighter than the sun! I fell to the ground and so did all the people traveling with me! I heard a voice speak to me!"

The voice said, "Why are you persecuting Me?" Paul explained that he was confused because he did not see anyone so he asked who was speaking. The voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting." Jesus told Paul that he had been chosen to go and tell the Gentiles how they could have faith in Jesus and receive forgiveness of sins!

Paul explained to King Agrippa that he obeyed the voice and told people everywhere that Jesus, the Messiah, suffered and died but rose again. Paul explained how God had helped him. Paul told the King that everything he said was true. "Are you trying to convince me to become a

Christian too?" King Agrippa asked. Paul replied, "I truly wish that not only you, but that everyone who listens to me would believe in Jesus."

Acts 26:1-29

## ACTIVITY

### Smash the Sin

(Application Activity #1—10 minutes)

#### Prep

- Styrofoam cups (1 per kid)
- Sledgehammer or rubber mallet (or plan to use your foot to smash the cups)
- Permanent Marker
- Option: If you have a large group of kids, prepare some cups ahead of time or write the same sins on several cups

1. Say the Point with kids: "Jesus loves me regardless of my sin." Ask: "What did Paul do after God spoke to him?" Remind kids that Paul had chosen to arrest believers in Jesus before he became a believer himself. After he became a believer he started telling people about God.
2. Define sin. Sin includes "things we do that are not pleasing to God." Talk with kids about possible sins they may commit, and write each sin in large letters on a separate cup. Sins include things like disobeying parents, being unkind to a sibling, or telling a lie to a friend. Make sure you have at least one cup per child.
3. Share the great news that Jesus offers forgiveness of sins. Note that kids must ask for forgiveness, and Jesus will forgive them for what they've done. Even greater news is Jesus loves everyone even though He knows they sin.
4. Place the prepared cups on the floor and use a rubber mallet to smash one of the cups with a sin written on it. Remind kids that Jesus loves them regardless of their sin.
5. Allow kids to take turns smashing the cups, one at a time. Remember you may choose to allow kids to stomp the sin rather than hit it with a mallet. Direct kids to clean up the crushed cups before proceeding.
6. Say: "No sin is too big for Jesus to forgive. When you ask for forgiveness, Jesus will forgive you. You don't have to ask for Jesus to love you; He already does!"

