

Paul and Barnabas Become Missionaries

LIFE POINT

Missionaries go and tell people about Jesus.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Acts 13

UNIT VERSE:

Preschool- Go and tell the good news about Jesus. Mark 16:15

Elementary- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 (NIV)

A NOTE FOR PARENTS

Parents, in today's Bible story your child will learn that God calls people to go to other places to tell about Jesus. God wants all believers to tell others about the good news of Jesus. Paul and Barnabas were two missionaries whom God called and the church set apart to spread the gospel.

Look for some simple books about missionaries to read with your preschooler. Before you begin to tell the story to your child, Ask: "What is a missionary?" Explain that missionaries are called by God to tell another group of people the good news about Jesus. Ask your child to listen for the names of the two men who became missionaries in today's Bible story.

Paul and Barnabas Become Missionaries

Preschool—Based on Acts 13

Paul and Barnabas were teachers in the church at Antioch. God wanted them to go to many places and tell people about Jesus. The men in the church prayed for Paul and Barnabas before they left. The church sent them out as missionaries. Paul and Barnabas sailed to an island called Cyprus. They taught about Jesus in the synagogues (churches). The synagogue was a place where people went to pray and learn about God. Then they sailed from the island and went to many other places. Everywhere they went, they told the people about God and that Jesus was God's Son. Many people wanted to hear more about Jesus. In one town, Paul taught about Jesus in the synagogue. The people asked Paul and Barnabas to come the next week and teach them more about Jesus. A large crowd came to hear Paul. Some of the people believed Jesus was God's Son; other people did not believe. Paul and Barnabas continued to be missionaries and tell people about Jesus in many different places.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How did Paul and Barnabas travel?
- What did they want people to know?
- Did everyone believe that Jesus is God's Son?
- What do missionaries do?

Elementary- Based on Acts 13

The church in the city of Antioch gathered to pray and worship God. The Holy Spirit told the church to set apart Saul (later called Paul) and Barnabas for a special work. God wanted Paul and Barnabas to leave Antioch and travel to other cities telling people about Jesus. The church laid their hands on the two men, prayed for them, and sent them off.

Paul and Barnabas sailed to the island of Cyprus. In the city of Salamis, they taught about Jesus in the Jewish synagogues. They traveled across the island to the city of Paphos. There they met two men. One was a leader in the city who wanted to know more about Jesus. Another was a false teacher who tried to keep people from learning about Jesus.

Paul spoke to the false teacher. He said, "Because you teach lies to the people, the Lord is against you. You will be blind because you disobeyed God." Immediately, the man lost his sight. When the city leader saw what happened, he believed in God and wanted to follow Jesus.

Then Paul and Barnabas traveled to Pamphylia. They stopped in Perga then went to Pisidian Antioch. They went to the synagogue and began to teach the Jewish people. Paul stood up in the synagogue and reminded them how God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt, how He guided them through the wilderness to reach the Promise Land, and how He gave them kings to rule over them.

Paul then told the people that Jesus is God's Son. He told the story of Jesus dying on the cross and coming alive again. He wanted the people to know that God loved them and that Jesus died so that their sins could be forgiven.

Many of the people had questions and wanted to hear more from Paul and Barnabas. The Jewish leaders became very angry. They were jealous of Paul and Barnabas. They began to speak against the things Paul and Barnabas were teaching and say angry things to them. Paul and Barnabas told the Jewish leaders, "Since you have rejected the truth of God's Word, we are taking the message of the gospel to the Gentiles." When the Gentiles heard that God loved them, they rejoiced and believed in Jesus. Paul and Barnabas continued their journey to tell people about Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Who called Paul and Barnabas to be missionaries? (God through the Holy Spirit)
- What did the church in Antioch do to support Paul and Barnabas? (prayed and laid their hands on them)
- What island did Paul and Barnabas sail to? (Cyprus)
- What happened to the false teacher who opposed Paul and Barnabas? (He became blind.)
- What did Paul teach the people? (that God loved them and provided for them, that Jesus died for them)
- To what people group did God send Paul and Barnabas? (the Gentiles)

BIBLE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

*COLOR SHEET

What you need: Printed color sheet and crayons

Review the unit verse (listed above) with your child while they color.

*PAINT A WORLD

Things you need: Bible, small white paper plates (2 per child), blue and green paint, plastic tablecloth, smocks

Help child squeeze a few drops of blue and green paint on the back of his plate.

Guide the child to lay the back of a second plate on top of the paint.

Tell the child to place the two plates between his hands and twist the plates in opposite directions, smearing the paint between the plates in a circular motion. Separate the plates. (You can discard the second plate or allow the child to have two paintings.)

Remark that a child's painting looks like our world with blue water and green plants on the land.

- People all over the world need to hear the good news of Jesus. Comment that God sent Paul and Barnabas to be missionaries and God sends people to be missionaries today too.

***FIND A HIDDEN MESSAGE**

Things you need: white crayon, white construction paper (each child), watercolor paints, smock

To prepare ahead: Write "Go and tell about Jesus" with a white crayon on white construction paper. Help your child to use watercolor paints and discover a hidden message. As they cover the paper with paint they will find all parts of the message. Read the message together. Mention that Paul and Barnabas' church prayed for them and sent them out as missionaries to go and tell about Jesus. Say that people today go and tell about Jesus as missionaries. Tell your children about any missionaries that our church supports or talk about any mission trips that your church has given assistance.

***MAKE A MEGAPHONE**

Things you need: Foam Cup (cut bottom out to make a megaphone) or paper rolled up to make a megaphone, markers, stickers

What you do: Let your child decorate their cups or paper megaphones with stickers or color on them with crayons. Remind your child that God chooses some people to be missionaries. They go to other places to tell people about Jesus, but God also expects us all to tell people about Jesus wherever we might go. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would help us tell others about Jesus as He commanded us to be His witnesses in our cities, states, country, and throughout the world. Encourage your child that they can be missionaries where they live. Tell them that the megaphone is a reminder that they are to tell others about Jesus and all He has done for us!

***TELL ME TOSS**

Things you need: beach ball or any type of playground ball, paper, tape, marker

What you do: Either tape slips of paper on a ball with the following questions written on each slip of paper or write the questions directly on the ball.

Write the following questions sections of the beach ball or slips of paper and tape them to the ball (one question on each slip):

Who can you tell about Jesus?

What can you tell about Jesus?

Where can you tell about Jesus?

Why do you tell about Jesus?

***PRAYER**

Things you need: No supplies needed

Brainstorm with your child places and ways they can tell others about Jesus this week.

Pray, asking God to help the kids go and tell others about Jesus this week.





Paul and Barnabas Became Missionaries

God chose Paul and Barnabas to do His work. Acts 13:2

UNIT 3

SESSION 1

Paul and Barnabas Became Missionaries

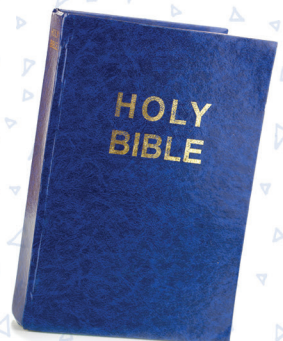
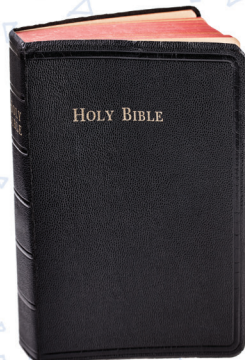
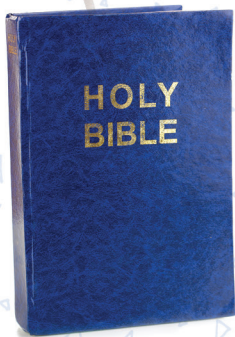
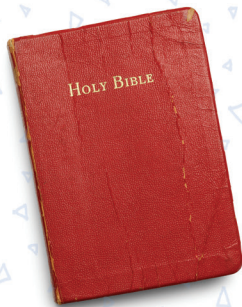
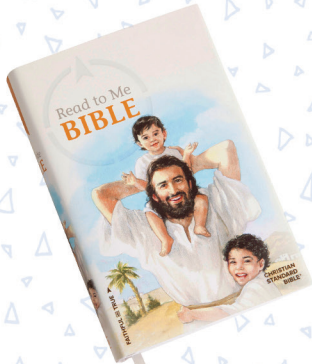
What Do Missionaries Do?

Missionaries have an important job to do. They tell the good news about Jesus. They teach from the Bible. Look at these pictures. Find the Bible that does not have a match.

UNIT VERSE

Go and tell the good news about Jesus.

— MARK 16:15

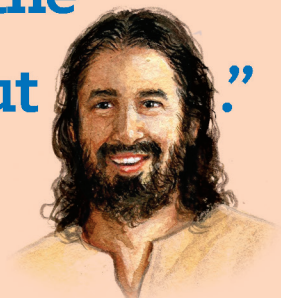


Read the Verse

The Bible tells missionaries and us what to do. Say this verse.



“GO and TELL the good news about Jesus.”
Mark 16:15



UNIT VERSE

Go and Tell Maze

Help Paul and Barnabas find their way as they go and tell people about Jesus.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

ACTS 1:8 (NIV)



Paul and Barnabas told many people about Jesus. Who can you go and tell about Jesus?

