**Sunday School from Home**

**June 7, 2020**

This week the lesson is from Acts 9:1-20 and tells Paul’s conversion story.

* Read the story from any Bible you have at home or online. The story of Saul’s conversion from a persecutor of Christians to Paul, the disciple of Jesus is nothing less than a miracle! Do you know anyone who has gone through such a dramatic change in their life?
* Here is a video that also tells the story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwfLtZ_0HAU>
* Here is a link to a read-aloud style story about Paul’s conversion. Some additional activity links are also included at the bottom: <http://childrenschapel.org/biblestories/saul.html>
* A wonderful example of change in nature is that of the caterpillar becoming a butterfly. This is a perfect opportunity to learn with your children about butterflies. You can use a variety of materials according to their ages, but you might consider reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* if you have it at home, or even purchasing a butterfly habitat to watch the entire process. There are many kits available, but here is an example (they come with everything you need and detailed instructions): [https://www.amazon.com/Insect-Lore-Butterfly-Garden-Caterpillars/dp/B087YXSQG5/ref=sr\_1\_5?dchild=1&keywords=butterfly+hatching+kit&qid=1591214971&sr=8-5](https://www.amazon.com/Insect-Lore-Butterfly-Garden-Caterpillars/dp/B087YXSQG5/ref%3Dsr_1_5?dchild=1&keywords=butterfly+hatching+kit&qid=1591214971&sr=8-5)
* Play a game with children using open-ended building toys or other materials (legos, playdough, popsicle sticks, etc. or some combination of these). Give them a few minutes to build anything they wish. Then challenge them to use the exact same materials to make something completely different. Discuss with them how God transformed Saul into Paul, and how if we allow the Holy Spirit into our hearts, we too can be transformed!
* Play a game similar to Marco Polo, except the blindfolded person calls out SAUL! and the others call out PAUL! Take turns being the blindfolded person until everyone has a chance. Remind children that Saul was blinded for three days after his experience on the road to Damascus. Play this game outside if weather permits.
* Paul took his message of Good News to many other people in his lifetime. Try this method for writing a secret message: write or draw something with a white crayon on a white piece of paper. Give your paper to someone else in your family and see if they can guess your message. To reveal the message, paint over the entire paper with watercolor paints. The wax in the crayon will repel the paint.
* For another way to spread a message, try making sidewalk paint. Mix equal parts water and cornstarch and stir well. Add desired food coloring or leave it white. Use paint brushes to paint on the sidewalk or driveway (black asphalt gives the best result). As the paint dries the colors become more vibrant. Try writing encouraging messages of love and peace, or drawing pictures such as butterflies.
* Snack time! Paul was a tentmaker by profession. Try building a simple tent out of crackers, graham crackers, pretzels, or other snack items you have at home. Use peanut butter, Nutella, or icing as your glue.
* **For older kids or adults:** consider some unique circumstances in your life that you have experienced. These might be positive, such as the opportunity to travel and learn about other cultures, or they might be difficulties such as the death of a loved one or some kind of trauma. Try to discern how God might use this experience to prepare you for the work God has planned for you. In the example of Paul, his education and leadership abilities helped him in his ministry. Discuss your thoughts with someone close to you or write about them in a journal. Be sure to give praise to God for these experiences that make you uniquely qualified for whatever God is calling you to do! ***NOTE: This exercise is also appropriate for younger children with leadership from parents or trusted adults.***