

Bible Story: Paul Becomes a Believer | Ananias Helps Paul • Acts 9:1-31

Bottom Line: God can help you see things in a new way.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* • Galatians 6:9 NIV

1. Opening Activity

What You Need:

- Offering container
- "What Do You See?" Activity Page
- Paper

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "What Do You See?" on paper, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high five, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Show kids the first picture from the "What Do You See?" Activity Page.
- Say, "What do you see in this picture? There are no wrong answers!"
- Let several kids share what they see (e.g., "A butterfly," "Two bears," "A funny mask").
- Acknowledge all their creative ideas.
- Move to the next picture and ask the same question.
- Discuss how everyone can look at the same picture but see something different.

What You Say:

"Isn't it so cool how we all saw different things in the same picture? God made our brains all work in unique ways. Sometimes we think we see something one way, but then we look again and see it differently. In our Bible Story today, we will see how God helped lots of people see things in a completely new and surprising way. Let's go hear it!"

[Lead kids to do worship and watch today's video lesson]

2. Memory Verse Mountain

What You Need:

- Bible
- “Memory Verse Mountain” Activity Page
- Scissors
- Coloring supplies

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Memory Verse Mountain” on cardstock and cut, one per kid.

During the Activity:

- Open the Bible to Galatians 6:9 and read the Memory Verse out loud to the group.
- Give each kid a “Memory Verse Mountain” Activity Page (the mountain and the person).
- Show the kids the Memory Verse on their Activity Page.
- Encourage kids to color the mountain scene and the person on their paper.
- Once they are done coloring, have the children use their scissors to cut along the dashed lines to cut out the strip with the person.
- Show kids how to carefully slide the person into the slit on the mountain.
- Demonstrate how they can move the person up and down the mountain path.
- Practice saying the verse together as kids move the paper person up and down the mountain: *“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up. —Galatians 6:9 NIV”*

What You Say:

“Look at your little trekker climbing the mountain! Our Memory Verse reminds us to keep going and not give up, just like a mountain climber. Sometimes the path is hard, but we can persevere!

“After Saul met God on the road to Damascus, he didn’t give up sharing the good news about Jesus. With his perseverance, the church continued to grow as more and more people began to hear about Jesus and start their forever friendship with Him. Remember, God is with us, and **[Bottom Line] God can help you see things in a new way.**”

3. Circle of Silence

What You Need:

- Object that makes a soft noise (small bell, egg shaker, tambourine, etc.)

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle on the floor in the activity area.
- Ask for a volunteer to be the “Listener,” and invite them to sit in the middle of the circle with their eyes closed. If they’re having a hard time keeping their eyes closed, have them cover their eyes with their hands.
- Explain that you will silently hand the noisemaker to someone in the circle.
- That person will gently shake it one time.
- The Listener will point in the direction the sound came from.
- If they point correctly, the person with the noisemaker becomes the new Listener. If not, the Listener gets to try again.
- Play for several rounds, letting different kids be the Listener.

What You Say:

“That was tricky! When you couldn’t use your eyes, you had to use your ears to ‘see’ where the sound was. You had to perceive things in a new way. When Saul was blind, he had to listen very carefully to what God was telling him. Sometimes, when we feel like we can’t ‘see’ what God is doing, we need to stop and listen. We might hear God tell us to see someone in a different way. Maybe someone seems angry, but when you stop and listen to God, you realize they really need a friend. When you stop and listen, **[Bottom Line] God can help you see things in a new way.**”

4. Prayer:

“Dear God, thank You for being with us. Sometimes we feel confused or scared, like Ananias, or like we’ve made big mistakes, like Saul. Please help us to see things in a new way. Help us see how You see us and how you see others. Thank You for always being ready to change our hearts. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”