

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Paul Met Jesus

Acts 8-9

STORY POINT: JESUS SAVED PAUL AND CHOSE HIM TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL.

After Jesus died, rose from the dead, and ascended to heaven, people who believed in Jesus were treated cruelly because of their faith. A man named Saul wanted to put an end to the church. He headed to Damascus to arrest believers there, but on the way, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. Saul fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

"Who are You, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus," He replied.

Saul got up and opened his eyes, but he couldn't see! So the men who were traveling with Saul led him by the hand into Damascus.

The Lord told Ananias to go to Saul. "I have chosen this man to take my name to Gentiles, kings, and Israelites." Ananias obeyed. He put his hands on Saul, and Saul could see again. Saul was baptized. He began to go to the synagogues to preach about Jesus. Saul said, "Jesus is the Son of God!" The Jews did not like Saul's message. They planned to kill him, so Saul left the city. Saul was also known as Paul.



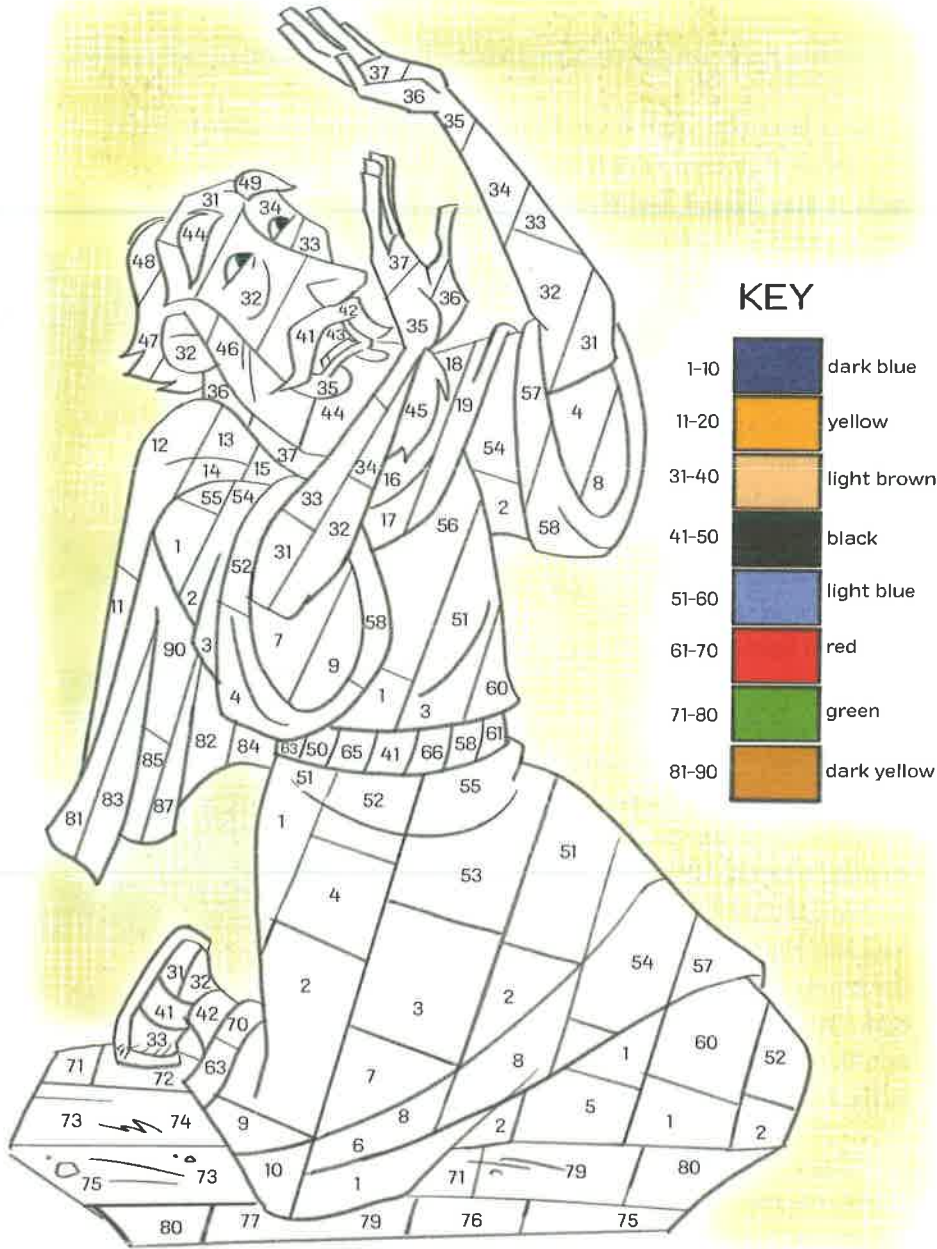
FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What are some ways Paul changed after meeting Jesus?
- Why are we sometimes hesitant to share the gospel with certain people?
- Is anything too hard for God? Is anyone too evil to be changed by His grace?

Christ Connection: Jesus appeared to Saul and changed him inside and out. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15) Jesus called Paul, who was once an enemy to Christians, to spend the rest of his life telling people the gospel and leading them to trust in Jesus.

Paul's Encounter

Color the spaces according to the key.



Key Word Matching

Match each word with the correct definition or description.

- **persecute**
 - to speak in public about Jesus
- **Saul (or Paul)**
 - a man who persecuted the church until he believed in Jesus and became a missionary in the early church
- **Stephen**
 - one of seven men chosen as a leader in the church, he was killed because of his faith
- **Damascus**
 - to treat someone cruelly or unfairly because of his or her beliefs
- **Ananias**
 - people who are not Jewish
- **Gentiles**
 - the city Paul was traveling to when he saw Jesus
- **baptism**
 - a place where Jews gathered to pray and read the Scriptures
 - a Christian practice to show a person has trusted in Jesus by lowering him into and bringing him out of water
- **synagogue**
 - the good news of salvation in Jesus
- **preach**
 - a Christian man living in Damascus whom God told to meet with Paul
- **gospel**

A New Man

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the grid to help you re-create the picture of Paul. In your version, give him a happy expression!



BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Saul, also known as Paul, hated Christians and tried to hurt them.
- Saul planned to travel to Damascus to arrest Christians living there.
- On the road, a bright light surrounded Paul and Jesus spoke to him.
- Jesus saved Paul and chose him to spread the gospel.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:18

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Why does the church exist? The church exists to glorify God by worshiping Him, showing His love, and telling others about Jesus.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why do you think God chose to save a man like Paul?
- How did Paul's life change when he met Jesus?
- How should our lives change after meeting Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Hold a drawing competition with two rounds. In the first round, each person must wear a blindfold; in the second, everyone can see. Talk about how Jesus helped Paul see.



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