LESSON 13

PAUL BECOMES A NEW PERSON



Aim: **To teach the children how Paul came to meet the Lord Jesus and believe in him.**

Scripture Reading: **Acts 9:1-9; 26:9-18**

Memory Verse: **1 Timothy 1:15**
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners …

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Suppose you are walking along a road at night-time, and it is very dark. Suddenly a car comes along with its lights on bright. What do you do? Yes, you cover your eyes because the light is so bright that it hurts them and you cannot see.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

Before telling the story, explain to the class that Saul is the Hebrew version of Paul's name. After he became an apostle of Jesus he wasn't called Saul anymore, because he was working among foreigners, not among Hebrew speakers. **In order not to confuse the children, use only one version of his name: Paul.**

1. A man named Paul went on a journey to the town Damascus. He was a clever man, one who knew the law. He was one of those Jews who hated the followers of Jesus Christ. He was carrying a special letter from the high priest in Jerusalem, giving him permission to put all the Christians in Damascus in prison (Acts 9:1-2).
2. Paul and his companions had nearly reached Damascus when, suddenly, a very bright light from heaven shone on him (9:3).
3. **Show Picture 13.** As Paul and his companions shielded themselves, he heard a voice speaking to him. It was Jesus himself. As a very religious Jew, Paul had refused to believe that Jesus was alive, but now Jesus was speaking to him!
   Describe the conversation between Jesus and Paul (12:4-6).
4. The people who were with Paul could not understand what was going on. When the voice stopped talking, they had to lead him into Damascus. The bright light had blinded him (12:7-8).
5. For three days Paul waited in Damascus for Jesus to tell him what to do. He did not eat or drink a thing, but he was ready to listen to the Lord (12:9).

Look,Listen&Live_Book8.indd 34 2012/09/10 11:11 AM



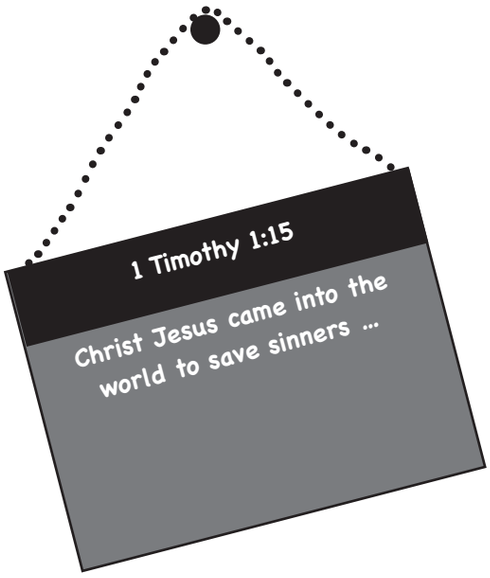
6. Paul had been a cruel man. He had thought he was defending God's honour by persecuting the Christians. That was why he did not prevent Stephen from being stoned (7:58; 8:1). **Remind the class of that story by showing Picture 7 again. Point out Paul guarding the clothes.** Paul had thought he was following God, but he was spiritually blind and on the wrong path. Meeting Jesus changed Paul into a new person. However, he would never forget that he was a sinner or stop praising the Lord for saving him. He wrote the words of today's memory verse.

Our Response to the Story

No-one is so wicked that Jesus can't change them if they come to him as repentant sinners. **The best way to end this lesson would be to say how you, the teacher, met the Lord Jesus.**

Note: This lesson opens up an opportunity to invite the children to accept Jesus as their personal Saviour. Most children like to please the teacher. If you say, "Put up your hand if you want to accept Jesus as your Saviour," many will do it even though they may not really mean it, or are not ready to do so. It is better for you to say that anyone who wants to talk more about accepting Jesus as their Saviour should come and talk to you after the class, or at any other time that you can arrange.

Instil the Memory Verse



Look,Listen&Live_Book8.indd 35 2012/09/10 11:11 AM