



Lesson 23

Share His Divine Nature

Intermediate Small Group Lesson

Bible Story

Saul Becomes Paul

John 4:1-34

Bible Verse

“By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.”

2 Peter 1:3, New Living Translation

Key Teaching Point

Receive a godly life.

Materials

- Name tags
- Snacks
- How Are You Feeling? emoji chart
- A blindfold
- 15 plastic cups
- 26 index cards



Small Group Session 1

(15 Minutes)

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

Icebreaker Options (Choose one):

- Ask students to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" emoji chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- As the students are eating their snacks, ask, "**Who is someone you know that has made a significant impact on your life?**"

Pray Together

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

Small Group Game: Blindfolded Cup Stacking

Materials: Fifteen plastic cups, a blindfold

Invite students to take turns wearing a blindfold and attempting to stack 15 plastic cups in a pyramid in one minute or less.

Small Group Session 2

(35 Minutes)

Life Application Activity

Before club, write SAUL on the blank side of 13 index cards and PAUL on the other 13 (for 26 index cards total). On the lined side write the following statements (without the numbers), 13 statements for Saul, and 13 statements for Paul, matching the name written on the front of the card. Students will work together to match up the opposite cards using the words in capital letters to help them.

SAUL

1. Saul's soul was DEAD because his faith was based off of works.
2. Saul was stuck in his OLD ways.
3. Saul put his focus on his OUTSIDE appearances to appear perfect.

PAUL

1. Paul's soul was ALIVE because he lived his life for the Lord.
2. Paul became a NEW creation.
3. Paul was transformed from the INSIDE out.



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| 4. Saul was an ENEMY to the Christians. | 4. Paul became a FRIEND to Christians. |
| 5. Saul's faith was FAKE. | 5. Paul had REAL faith. |
| 6. Saul's heart was DIRTY with sin. | 6. Paul's heart was CLEAN from sin. |
| 7. Saul was LOST because he followed his own path. | 7. God FOUND Paul on the road to Damascus. |
| 8. Saul HATED Christians; he persecuted them and killed them. | 8. Paul chose to LOVE all people and preached the gospel to all people. |
| 9. Saul was very FAR from God. | 9. Paul was very NEAR to God. |
| 10. Saul lived in the DARKness of sin. | 10. God brought LIGHT into Paul's life. |
| 11. Saul lived by the LAW and rules. | 11. Paul lived by FAITH, not works. |
| 12. Saul never changed his beliefs BEFORE he experienced Jesus. | 12. Paul dramatically changed his life AFTER he experienced Jesus. |
| 13. Saul's heart was EMPTY. | 13. Paul's heart was FULL of God's love. |

The godly life that was produced in Paul had a tremendous impact on the Kingdom of God. Paul preached the gospel to everyone, to those who knew about God and those who did not. He baptized others and taught them Jesus's commands, and his letters and teachings are building up the Church even today. Paul attributed everything he accomplished to the grace and power of God.

Receive the Gift!

Prayer: A two-way conversation with God.

Maybe you have an area of your life that needs changing. It could be anything!

Jesus wants to help you, that's why he's given us the Holy Spirit. If you want real change in your life that produces godly life in you, you need the help of the Holy Spirit. Let's focus our attention on him and invite him here now.



Holy Spirit, we need you. We invite you to come to each of us to show us what you want to change in us. Thank you for your powerful help.

If you thought of something that God might want to change in you or in your life, let us know by putting your hand on your head.

Allow time for kids to respond and close in prayer for each one.

Invite children to consider this question: **How might a change in this area impact those around you?**

Bible Verse Game

Review the Bible verse with a [Bible verse game](#).

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Reflection

Give each child their reflection journal. Invite them to reflect on the following questions and to record their answers in their journal. They may also draw their responses if they wish:

1. What gift have I received from God that I can share with others?
2. How can this gift impact people in my life?

