



## God Gives Us a Purpose – Paul’s Example

Acts 9

### God Statement: The Holy Spirit is With Us

**KEY VERSE:** “But you are not ruled by the power of sin. Instead, the Holy Spirit rules over you... The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.”  
(Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV, paraphrased)

## CHECK-IN

*Classroom Teacher*

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.*

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

**(15 minutes)**

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

### **DISCUSS: God Gives Us a Purpose**

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God gives each of us a purpose.

**SAY:**

Have you ever been given a special job to do around the house? Maybe a specific chore each week? *Let kids respond.* Those are all great examples. Sometimes, our grownups give us something to do that helps us to feel like we have a purpose! God gives us lots of unique traits and special things about us that are different. He can use those special things we like to do, or things that are different about ourselves, for His special plan for our lives. Let’s play a game to learn about some of these unique things!

**PLAY:**

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

**“Switch Sides If...” Game**

**Supplies:** none

**Say:** *We’re going to play a game today to help us get to know each other. Each person is uniquely and wonderfully made with a special story. In this game, you have to move around the room as you answer the questions...*

**Directions:** Have children split into two teams. One team stands on one side of the room and the other team stands on the opposite side of the room. Read each example below and have the children switch from one side of the room to the other. For example, say “If you have ever eaten pineapple pizza run to this side of the room \*point to a side\*. If you haven’t, go to this side \*point to the opposite side\*.”

Go to this side of the room if.....

- You have ever felt afraid.
- You have ever been on a long trip before.
- God has ever done something special in your life.
- Someone you know has changed because they know Jesus.
- You have ever shared the good News of Jesus with someone you know.

## LARGE GROUP

**(25 minutes)**

*Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.*

### WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

#### *Host*

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you’re excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

#### **Expectations Slide**

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

*\*\*\* After Expectations, transition the power point to the Bible Challenge slide..\*\*\**

## **BIBLE CHALLENGE**

### **Host**

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

### **New Testament Books of the Bible**

#### **Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:**

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the NEW Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a “Bible Challenge” card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

*\*\*\*After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide.\*\*\**

## **KEY VERSE**

### **Host**

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

*Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.*

**“But you are not ruled by the power of sin. Instead, the Holy Spirit rules over you... The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.”  
(Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV, paraphrased)**

*\*\*\* After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.\*\*\**

## **OPENING WORSHIP**

### **Worship Leader**

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

*\*\*\* After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.\*\*\**

**BIBLE STORY****Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

**THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God Gives Us a Purpose**

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

*\*\*\*After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.\*\*\**

**WORSHIP RESPONSE****Host**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

**Supplies:** butcher paper, misc. paper shapes, markers/pens, glue sticks or tape

When we love and follow Jesus, God gives us purpose for our lives. We were talking about Saul today who turned into Paul.

- What was God's purpose for him?
- Do you know what God's purpose is for YOU?

**Sometimes He gives us a purpose for when we are little and as we grow, He may grow our purpose.**

Do you know your purpose? Let's just think of some purposes right now. What is a purpose for someone? Why are they on the earth?

**Let kids brainstorm a little. If they need help, make some suggestions/ask some questions.**

- What about a great baseball player? What is his purpose? Yes, it could be to play baseball. Or maybe his purpose is to be a great dad.
- What about a fast runner? What is his purpose? There was a famous runner who lived a long time ago. He said, "I feel God's pleasure when I run." Maybe God made you a fast runner, too.
- What about someone in your family? What is your mom or grandma's purpose? Maybe to take care of you. Maybe to work really hard at her job and show God's love to others there, too.
- What about Pastor Josh? What is his purpose? To teach us about God? Maybe to love his wife and kids?

What about YOU? What is your purpose at this time in your life?

Let's take some time to listen to God. ***Turn on soft worship music and encourage kids to quietly listen to God***

**After you've listened for a while, choose one of these paper shapes. Glue it to the butcher paper. Now draw a head on top, and arms and legs sticking out of the shape. Thank God for how He made you.**

Will you do something today to fulfill your purpose?

***Close time in prayer.***

***\*\*\*After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.\*\*\****

## **CLOSING WORSHIP**

### ***Worship Leader***

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

***\*\*\*After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the "Compassion International" slide.\*\*\****

## **COMPASSION & OFFERING**

### ***Host***

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

***Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.***

***\*\*\*After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.\*\*\****

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Cure Surgeries**

### ***Host***

*Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.*

**Say:** Are any of you going to Summer Day Camp this year? Well, every year for camp, we highlight a specific mission project that we work together to raise money for. This year at camp, our mission project will be CURE Surgeries in Zambia, Africa.

***Play video provided in powerpoint.***

**Say:** Think about this question – when you break your arm or have a really bad tummy ache or get a bad cut, what do you usually do? What do your parents or guardians do? *Let kids respond.* If it's really bad, likely your parent or guardian will take you to see a doctor to help you get the problem fixed/healed. Well, kids just like you in other countries can't just go to a hospital or doctor's office to get help... They don't have one close by or they don't have enough money to get help.

**Say:** This is where CURE International comes in. Not only does CURE help provide life-changing surgical care, but also the hope of Jesus Christ and His love to each kid who comes through their doors. You can help be a part of #healing4life when you bring in offering on weekends or to camp over the next couple of weeks.

***\*\*\*After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.\*\*\****

## **BLESSING**

### **Host**

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

***Friends, always remember that God made you and gave you a purpose. May He bless you as you look for what your purpose is.***

## SMALL GROUP

### *Classroom Teachers*

#### **(10 minutes)**

*As part of Remember & Celebrate, use this time to chat with kids about all they have to be thankful for and enjoy a snack together.*

#### **Younger Kids:**

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Acts 9: 1-8**
3. **Saul thought He was doing what was right for God by persecuting those who follow Jesus. Was this right? (No!)**
4. **What happened to Saul in our story?** (Jesus spoke to Him from Heaven and he was blinded by the light).
5. **God transformed Saul, that's how he became Paul! God wants to transform us too. He has a great purpose for our lives. What is one way you think God can use you?**

**Close small group in prayer.**

#### **Older Kids:**

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Read scripture: Acts 9: 1-8**  
**Saul thought He was doing what was right for God by persecuting those who follow Jesus. Was this right? (No!)**
3. **What happened to Saul in our story?** (Jesus spoke to Him from Heaven and he was blinded by the light).
4. **Read scripture: Acts 9: 17-19**  
**Saul was blinded by the light from Heaven. What happened to Saul when Ananias came to him?** (He was able to see again. He proclaimed Jesus as the son of God. He started to follow Jesus!)

5. God transformed Saul, that’s how he became Paul! God wants to transform us too. He has a great purpose for our lives. What is one way you think God can use you?

Close small group in prayer.

## RESPOND ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*  
(10 minutes)

### DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

### MAKE – Saul to Paul Activity Page

**Supplies:** Saul activity page, scissors, glue, markers/crayons

**Directions:** Pass out one activity page per child. Have them cut out the “light from heaven” and glue the rectangle piece over the rectangle on the activity page. Then have children color their pictures.

**Say:** *Today we learned about the amazing transformation that happened to Saul, who became Paul. God made Paul for a purpose, and He made each of us for a purpose too! Let’s make this activity page to help us remember that truth.*



## CHECK-OUT

*Classroom Teacher*  
(end of service)

*As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.*



