



God Gives Us a Purpose – Paul’s Example

Acts 9

God Statement: The Holy Spirit is With Us

KEY VERSE: “The Spirit of God lives 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.

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.****

WORSHIP & CHLOE'S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

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!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE'S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe's Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Chloe's Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

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

**"The Spirit of God lives in you."
(Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What's It: MAP

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Hmm... this is a cool What's It today! Do you know what this is? What do you use a map for? That's right, we use maps to tell us directions. I wonder how this relates to our story today. Let's find out more. Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to 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 this 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 Compassion & Offering slides.******

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)

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.

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.

DISCUSS:

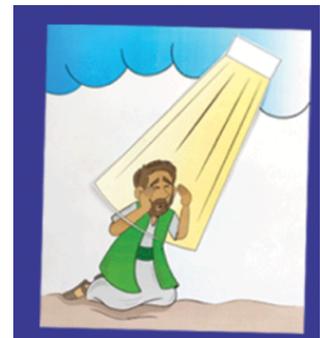
If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

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.

