



Life Changer – Lesson 2

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Bible Verse: Acts 14:8–23

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the **bolded** words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.

- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

God changed Saul's heart and life, and **Saul was now telling people that Jesus was God's Son** (1). **After Saul became a follower of Jesus, people began calling him Paul** (2). Some people were very angry at what Paul was saying and were trying to catch him, but God helped him escape. His friends helped him escape by lowering him down in a basket on the other side of the city wall.

Paul is glad that God changed his heart and life. Paul's old friends, the Pharisees, are not happy and neither are some of the leaders in the cities Paul visits. **There are still rules that say you cannot talk about Jesus** in many of these places, **but Paul knows he has to tell others about God** (3). God has changed his life, and he wants to share that Good News with others.

God chooses **Paul and** a man named **Barnabas** to be set apart and **travel to preach the Good**

News about Jesus (4). When they go to a town called **Lystra**, they come across a man who cannot walk. He has not been able to use his **feet since the day he was born** (5). Paul sees that the man has faith and believes that he can be healed. So **Paul calls out, “Stand up on your feet!** (6)” Then **the man jumps up and begins to walk** (7). God changed this man’s life. Only God has the power to heal and change someone’s life.

The crowd sees what Paul has done by God’s power (8). Paul and Barnabas then share the Good News with the crowd. They continue to travel around, teaching people that Jesus can change their hearts and lives like he had changed theirs. **Many people believe and their lives are changed** (9). There are still many who do not want to hear about Jesus, but **Paul continues to do what God wants him to do** (10).

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Review Questions

1. Who was traveling with Paul in the town called Lystra when they met the man that couldn’t walk? (Barnabas.)
2. What was the man who couldn’t walk doing while Paul told the people about Jesus? (He listened closely, had faith, and believed that he could be healed.)
3. What happened when Paul told the man to stand up on his feet? (He was healed and jumped up and began to walk.)
4. Why did Paul want to tell everyone about God even if it was against the rules to talk about God? (Because God had changed his life. God changed him to love others and he wanted others to know that God can change their life too!)

ACTIVITIES:

He Transforms Us

Supplies

- White cardstock with blue person sheet (one per child)
- ¼ sheet size piece of red cellophane (one per child)
- Glue sticks

Give each child a white cardstock ¼ sheet with the blue person on it. **What color is this person?** (Blue.) **Let’s pretend that these blue people are us. God made each of us, and we were born with a spirit. It is what makes us a living person. We are all sinners. Our sin separates us from God, and our lives are not the same without him. Spread glue all over the top of your man. This is like the mess we make when we choose sin and worship ourselves and what we want.** Give each child the piece of red cellophane. **Now this red piece: we’ll pretend that it is the Spirit of God. God sent his Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins.**

He shed his blood on the cross for us and rose from the dead three days later. When a person believes this and asks Jesus to be their Savior, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to live in that person’s heart. Have them glue the red paper on top of the blue person. **Now look what happens when God’s Spirit takes over our lives. He transforms us. What color did the person become?** (Purple.) **Yes, it’s a whole new color. God makes us a whole new person on the inside. Do you know what else? Purple is the color of royalty: now you are a child of the King! That’s the same way God makes us a new person—like our memory verse says. We are not the same person we used to be. We have been transformed: “Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”**

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn’t matter if

they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot.
What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

Trash to Treasure

Supplies

- Box containing an assortment of empty bottles, boxes, cardboard tubes, etc. that can be used to make a “recycled robot” (one per bin)
- Masking Tape

Place these random things in the center of the table and ask the kids what they think it is?
(Garbage/trash.) Talk to them about how it doesn't look like much, and normally we throw most of this in the recycling or the trash. Tell them that we get to make a big robot out of all of this trash together. We will transform (change) the trash and give it new life. While you start creating your robot, explain to the kids that this is like what God does. He takes our messy, sinful life and transforms us and gives us a new life. Then go over the memory verse with them. “Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17