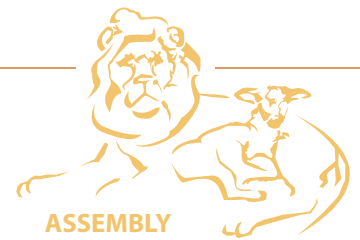


## PAUL'S WORK IN EPHESUS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 19:1-12



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

## SPEAK IN WHAT?

Our passage today is one of the passages in the Bible where we see ordinary Christians receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues after their conversion. Use the following puppet show to help the children remember this passage of Scripture.

Read the story out loud to the children and the puppet.

- Puppet: (Interrupts when the teacher gets to verse 8, just after mentioning that they spoke in tongues.) Excuse me, but I think you mean that they spoke with tongues.
- Teacher: No Puppet, the Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.
- Puppet: What do you mean they spoke in tongues? You can't speak in legs or arms. How do you speak in tongues?
- Teacher: Speaking in tongues is a gift of the Holy Spirit just like prophecy is a gift of the Spirit. After believing in Jesus, Paul laid his hands on them and they were baptized by the Holy Spirit and received the gift of tongues.
- Puppet: What is the gift of tongues?
- Teacher: The gift of tongues is speaking in a heavenly language that doesn't use normal words. When we speak or pray in tongues we are praising God in a very special way.

The teacher should then continue and finish the story.

## PAUL'S WORK IN EPHESUS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 19:1-12

### WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

#### Supplies

cut out a silhouette of a dove

Ask the children to tell you who the Holy Spirit is. Tell them to raise their hands if they have an answer. Pass the silhouette to the person you call on and see how many of the answers below the children can come up with.

The Holy Spirit is:

- The Spirit of God (The Spirit of Christ)
- The third person of the trinity
- God
- The one who descended on Jesus as a dove at his baptism
- The one who Jesus and the Father sent when Jesus went back to heaven
- The one who convicts the world of sin
- The one who gives us power to be witnesses for Christ
- The one who lives in us when we become Christians

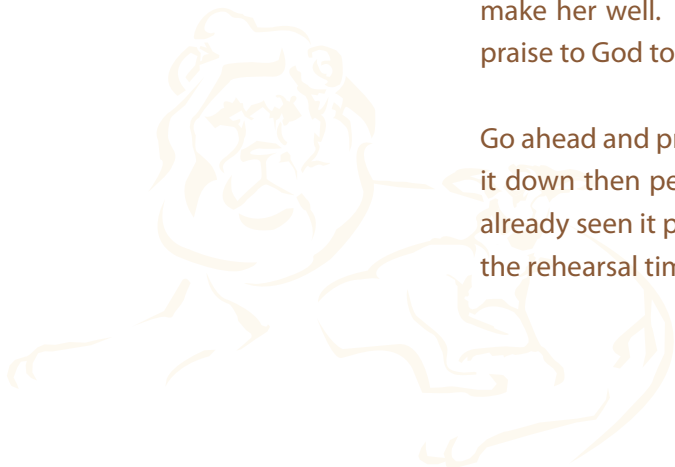
### THE MIRACULOUS APRON

Act out a scene of a very sick girl. The parents have sent an uncle or aunt to see if the apostle Paul will come to pray over their daughter. When the person sent returns, Paul is not with them. In the face of the family's disappointment, the uncle or aunt tells them this:

"I spoke to Paul. He told me that he is not the one who heals, but it is Jesus. Paul is not the one who saves, but it is Jesus. He gave me this cloth and told me to go and that our faith in Jesus as a God who heals will make the sick well again. People have told me that the power of God has so blessed Paul's ministry that just a cloth that touches him placed on a sick person can make them well."

The mother then places the cloth on her daughter and prays out to Jesus to make her well. Then the girl playing the sick child should recover and give praise to God to finish the story.

Go ahead and practice this in class a couple of times. Once you think you have it down then perform it for the class. It won't matter that the children have already seen it practiced, they will love watching anyway and the repetition of the rehearsal time will help reinforce the story.



## PAUL'S WORK IN EPHESUS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 19:1-12

### WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Paul asked the men of Ephesus what baptism they received. The men answered, "John's baptism." Paul realized that this was not sufficient. John's message was for men to repent of their sins but that was only to prepare them to put their trust in Christ. The Gospel is only found through Christ. Salvation only comes by the work of Christ; His death for the payment of our sins and His resurrection signifying His victory over death for all those who believe.

No one can be saved by trusting in John the Baptist or any other teacher. Under John's baptism, there was no infilling of the Spirit of God because there is no regeneration through John's baptism. With belief in Christ came the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the men of Ephesus. Acts 4:12 says it this way: "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

