

## SAUL KNOCKED TO THE GROUND

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 9:1-19



## The STORY

Read about Paul's conversion in Acts 9:1-19.

**Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What was Saul like before meeting the Lord? (He was very committed to stopping the spread of Christianity. He wanted to protect Judaism from this influence.)
- Why did Saul go to the High Priest? (Saul went to the High Priest to get letters of permission to arrest Christians and bring them to Jerusalem.)
- In what other Bible story do we find Saul? (He stood by during the stoning of Stephen giving his approval.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Saul knocked to the ground by a great light. Engage the children by asking:**

- What do we learn about God from this story? (We learn that God is all-knowing and all-powerful. God knew what Saul was doing and He knocked Saul to the ground and blinded him. We also learned that will God will protect the church.)
- What did Saul see? (Saul saw Jesus who rose from the dead.)
- What happened to Saul next? (He was blind and had to be led by the hand until Ananias laid hands on him and prayed for him.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

**While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:**

- Why was Ananias nervous about going to meet Saul like the Lord directed? (Ananias knew about Saul and the great evil he did against the people of God.)
- What gave Ananias the confidence to go to Saul and prophesy the word of the Lord to him? (Ananias heard the voice of the Lord and was filled with faith so he obeyed.)
- What happened when Ananias laid hands on Saul? (Saul was filled with the Holy Spirit and he regained his sight. Saul then believed in Jesus and was baptized into the church.)

### 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.*

When the voice came out to Saul asking, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul did not know who was speaking. He questioned, "Who are you, Lord?" What an amazing answer came to him, "I am Jesus."

We, like Saul, are sinners who do not know Jesus. Saul knew that Jesus was a teacher, a man who lived and died on the cross. But Saul did not yet know and believe that Jesus was Lord, the Son of God, risen in power!

We come to know Jesus in a similar way to Saul. Not with a visionary appearance but by God's initiative while we were yet sinners. Saul was on his way to kill more disciples when Jesus revealed Himself to him. Saul immediately then knew the stories of Jesus' resurrection were true. Jesus was alive!

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

#### BE A DOER OF THE WORD

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*

