

Life Changer - Family Lesson 2

Divine Attribute: God is Life Changer

Heart Response: Believe in Him

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!”

Points of Emphasis:

1. We are all sinners and need Jesus to change our lives.
2. Only God can change our hearts and lives.
3. When you believe in Jesus, you become a new person.
4. When God changes our lives, we want to tell other people.

Family Worship

Gather your family and play the [worship video](#) found on the curriculum resource page! Have fun, sing loud, and follow along with the motions!

Memory Verse

Supplies:

[Memory verse video](#)

Optional printed memory verse poster

Open your Bible to 2 Corinthians 5:17. Show your child that this is where we find today’s verse in the Bible. Watch the memory verse video together. If you printed the memory verse poster, display it for your child to see. Practice the verse and motions with the video. Then, practice it as a family. Consider saying it in funny voices or as you stand, hop, or other fun motions. Maybe even try making it a song!

Bible Lesson

***Note to - the lesson is written to be read like a story. Read the bold words aloud. The words in parenthesis give direction to pause, allow for response, or read Scripture.*

Supplies:

Bible (Acts 14:8-23)

We’ve been learning that God is able to change lives. God changed Saul’s heart and life, and he began telling people that Jesus was God’s Son. Some people in Damascus were very angry at what Saul was saying and were trying to catch Saul, but God helped him escape. His friends lowered him in a basket from the top of the city wall, and Saul left Damascus.

After Saul became a follower of Jesus, God changed his name to Paul. Can you say, “Saul became Paul”? (Have your child repeat.) Paul became a new person on the inside, and he had a new name. God changed his life! Remember our verse? “Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17. (Repeat with your child a couple of times.)

Paul was glad that God changed him. God didn’t just change Paul’s name; he also changed his heart. Paul now loved Jesus. Because Jesus changed his life, he wanted to tell other people about him. Remember, not everyone was happy about that, though.

Paul’s old friends, the Pharisees, were not happy, and neither were some of the leaders in the cities Paul visited. There were still rules that said you could not talk about Jesus in many of these places, but Paul knew he had to tell others about God. God had changed his life, and he wanted to share that Good News with others.

(Open your Bible to Acts 14:8-23.) God chooses Paul and a man named Barnabas to be set apart and preach the Good News about Jesus. Paul and Barnabas travel from place to place, excited to tell others about Jesus. When they arrive in 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.

As Paul speaks the truth about Jesus, the man listens closely. Paul looks right at the man. Paul sees that the man has faith and believes that he can be healed. So Paul calls out, “Stand up on your feet!” Then the man jumps up and begins to walk. His life is changed! Who changed his life? 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. Paul and Barnabas then share the Good News with the crowd. They tell them to turn away from worthless things and turn to the living God. He is the one who made the heavens and earth. He is the provider of everything—the food you eat and the joy that can be in your hearts.

God uses the changed lives of Paul and Barnabas to tell others about Jesus. They continue to travel around, teaching people that Jesus can change their hearts and lives like he has changed theirs. Many people believe and their lives are changed. There are still many who do not want to hear about Jesus, but Paul continues to do what God wants him to do.

When we believe in Jesus and understand his love for us, we want to tell others all about him. We want to tell people how he changed our lives and how he can change theirs, too!

Prayer

God, thank you so much for changing lives with your perfect love. Thank you for the Bible and all that we learn about you from your words. Help us believe that you can change our hearts and lives like you changed the man and healed him so he could walk. Help us to tell others about you. Amen.

Paul and Barnabas Coloring Sheet

Supplies:

Coloring sheet (found on [Kids Resource Page](#))

Crayons

Have your child color the picture. While your child is coloring, consider asking them the review

questions below. These questions can also be saved for conversations over dinner or while driving.

Review Questions

1. **When God changed Paul’s heart, he also changed his name. What was Paul’s name before God changed his life?** (Saul.)
2. **Who was traveling with Paul in the town called Lystra when they met the man who couldn’t walk?** (Barnabas.)
3. **What was the lame man doing while Paul told the people about Jesus?** (He listened closely, had faith, and believed that he could be healed.)
4. **What happened when Paul told the man to stand up on his feet?** (He was healed, jumped up, and began to walk.)
5. **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 lives too!)

Optional Additional Activities

Trash to Treasure

Supplies

Box containing an assortment of empty bottles, boxes, cardboard tubes, etc. that can be used to make a “recycled robot”

Masking tape

Place these random things in the center of the table and ask your child 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 your child 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 Now have your child try to go through the course without the blindfold on.

