

# BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

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## CONVERSATION

### Paul Preached to an Angry Crowd

**ACTS 21:15-40; 22:1-30**

When Paul went to Jerusalem, the Jewish believers welcomed him. They listened as Paul told about the good things that God was doing among the Gentiles in other places.

The Jewish believers in Jerusalem praised God for all that He was doing. Then they told Paul that some of the Jews were upset. These Jews thought Paul was not teaching the Gentiles to obey God's laws.

These Jews had seen Paul in Asia. They came and stirred up the crowd. "He teaches against our people and our law," they declared, and they tried to kill Paul. The Roman commander sent soldiers to arrest Paul. When the crowd saw the soldiers, they stopped beating him. The mob became so angry that the soldiers had to take Paul to the Roman jail to protect him.

Paul could have entered the jail without facing the crowd who tried to kill him. Instead, with permission, Paul spoke to the people in their own language. Paul said, "I am a Jew, and I wanted to please God, just as you do. I arrested people whom I thought were against God. One day on my way to Damascus to arrest more people, I saw a bright light. I fell to the ground and heard someone call my name.

"Why are you persecuting Me?" the voice asked.

"Who are you?" I answered.

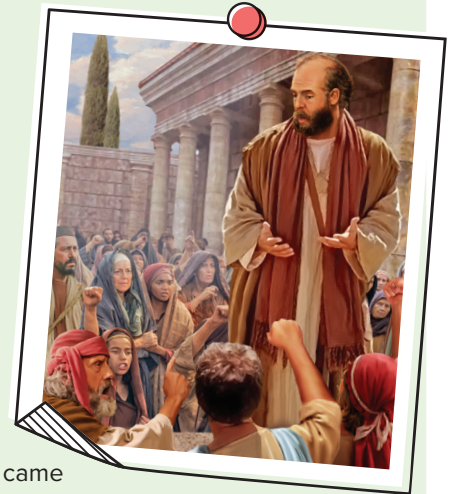
"The voice explained He was Jesus. I was to go into Damascus where someone would tell me what to do. Because I was blind from the light, a believer named Ananias came to me and made me see again. He explained that God planned for me to tell about Jesus to everyone.

"I got up, was baptized, and left for Jerusalem. While I was praying, I saw Jesus warning me I was in danger. I knew the Jews remembered me. I had helped persecute others, including Stephen. God told me to go and preach to the Gentiles. God wants everyone to be saved."

When the men heard this, they shouted for Paul to be killed. The commander ordered him beaten and questioned. When Paul said he was a Roman citizen and was entitled to a fair trial, the commander stopped the beating. He took Paul before the Jewish leaders to learn what happened.

**WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE:** Romans 8:28

**LIFE POINT:** People can tell about Jesus even in difficult times.



#### THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, your child learned that people can tell about Jesus, even in difficult times. Paul stood on the steps of the temple and spoke to an angry crowd. He knew why they were angry, but that did not deter him from sharing the good news about Jesus.

#### LIVE IT OUT

Has your child ever experienced difficulty because of her belief in Jesus? The times in which we live are becoming increasingly difficult for Christians. Help your child talk about ways to stand up for what he believes even when he faces resistance.

#### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Missionaries are Christians called by God to tell another group of people the good news about Jesus.

#### DAILY BIBLE READING

**Sunday:** Romans 8:28

**Monday:** 2 Corinthians 1:4

**Tuesday:** Psalm 94:19

**Wednesday:** Romans 15:5

**Thursday:** Matthew 5:4

**Friday:** 2 Timothy 1:7

**Saturday:** Romans 8:15

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** Check out the *Paul Preached to an Angry Crowd* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.

## SPRING 2020

Unit 3, Session 4

### CONNECTION POINT:

Humbly place the needs of others before your own.

### THE BIBLE MEETS

**LIFE:** Humility is a character trait that many people equate with weakness; they wrongly equate humility with being a doormat or being passive and totally pliable. That idea of humility allows one person to be domineering or dictatorial, and the other person simply to be treated as an object. The Book of Philippians paints a far better picture of humility, and it points us to Jesus to see just how humility is to be carried out.

**LIVE IT OUT:** Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

## PRESCHOOL

**Scripture:** Acts 16:16-34

**Live It Out:** Help your child think of ways and times to tell about Jesus, such as praying in a restaurant or telling people in a store that Jesus loves them.

Some people were unhappy with Paul and Silas for telling about Jesus. They put Paul and Silas in jail. The jailer locked their feet in chains.

While they were in jail, they began to pray and sing songs to God. The other prisoners listened to them.

At midnight, there was an earthquake. The ground shook, the prison doors opened, and the prisoners' chains came loose.

The man who worked in the jail woke up. When he saw the jail doors open, the jailer was afraid the prisoners were gone. The jailer heard Paul say, "We are all here! Do not be afraid!"

The jailer took Paul and Silas to his house. They told the jailer and his family the good news about Jesus and how much Jesus loved them. The jailer and his family believed in Jesus.

## KIDS

**Scripture:** Acts 21:15–22:30

**Live It Out:** The times in which we live are becoming increasingly difficult for Christians. Help your child think of ways to stand up for what he believes when he faces resistance.

Paul was at the temple in Jerusalem. Some people were angry that he was telling the Gentiles about God. The people became angry at Paul. They rushed toward him and dragged him out of the temple.

The Roman officials hurried to Paul and bound him with two chains. The people were shouting. Paul asked to talk to the crowd. The official gave his permission. The people became very quiet and listened carefully.

Paul told the crowd about his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. He recalled that he could not see, and his friends took him into the city. Then, a Christian named Ananias came to help Paul. Ananias told Paul that God had chosen him to tell about Jesus. Paul became a follower of Jesus. God told Paul to travel and tell the Gentile people about Jesus.

## STUDENTS

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:1-5,13-15

- How do we balance our responsibility to ourselves and to others?
- When do you find it particularly difficult to have the same attitude as Jesus?
- How does your attitude affect your witness to the people in your life?

**Live It Out:** We're naturally bent toward having selfish perspectives. This shows up in disagreements with our friends, arguments with our siblings, and even in disobedience. But the Bible teaches us in Philippians that we are to consider others' perspectives and needs as more important than our own—the opposite of selfishness. Further, we are to do everything without complaining at all. This can be challenging, yet when we have the attitude of Jesus, we'll find that obedience can become a natural expression of our love for and submission to God.

Ask your student any ways he or she has chosen to follow his or her own desires instead of following Christ. Consider some ways you can put personal desires aside to follow Christ.