

2024 - Family Devo

May 5 - a



READ: Acts 9:26-31

Main Idea: Paul is now a Christian, which is great. Except the apostles are afraid of him, not believing he was truly converted. But Barnabas helped Paul by bringing him to the apostles and standing up for him. What a wonderful friend. This was a very critical time of Paul's transition from trying to stop the Jesus movement, to preaching it far and wide.

DISCUSS

Children: We can't blame the disciples for being hesitant to believe Paul's sincerity. After all, for so long, he had been trying to destroy the Christians! Now here he was claiming to be one of them...that is the difference Jesus can make. He takes something dirty and broken and makes it clean and usable.

Teen: Barnabas had a role in a great plan. Because Barnabas was willing to stand up for Paul, he helped Paul get to a place of preaching to others far and wide, and because of his actions many were told about Jesus. Can God use you in what might seem to be a small way, but with big outcomes? Is there any part too small in growing the kingdom of God?

Adult: Have you needed a friend? That one person to ...sit with you at the lunch table, to help you with a better way to do that complicated thing at work, to cry with you, or to encourage you when you were at a low? We don't know for sure how long it had been since Saul's conversion but verse 23 says "many days." Galatians 1 seems to indicate it might have been 3 years. Regardless, it had been more than a couple days. Yet the Christians were still afraid this was a ploy by Saul. He needed a friend. How much courage did it take for Barnabas to befriend Saul? Do you think Saul was grateful for Barnabas' willingness to get involved? At the end of Saul's life did he feel indebted to Barnabas? Can you imagine Christianity if Saul had been kept on the outskirts? How much would we have lost?

PRAY

MEMORIZE

Romans 15:13 (ESV)
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.



2024 - Family Devo

May 5 - b

READ: Acts 9:32-43

Main Idea: Peter is traveling preaching and healing. He heals a paralyzed man in Lydda. Then he goes to Joppa where a Christian woman Tabitha had died. Peter kneels beside her bed and prays. Then he tells her to get up. And she does. What an amazing miracle the Spirit performs at the hands of Peter.

DISCUSS

Children: This miracle shows that even the disciples had been given the power to raise the dead after Jesus ascended into heaven. Jesus instructed the disciples to spread the news about the Lord. Jesus empowered the disciples to do what He called them to do, such as raise the dead and heal the sick. The disciples demonstrated the Lord's power to raise the dead, but Peter remained in Joppa to help the people learn more about the Lord and His salvation for them.

Teen: Is there power in prayer? What evidence do you have for this being true? Because of these miracles many believed in God. How does the Spirit help you bring others to Christ today?

Adult: We are given a quick insight to what Tabitha's life was like. We can guess what her epitaph might have been: She served others; Seamstress to all; She did what she could do.

Most of us don't want to think about our death, but we should think what we want our epitaph to say – just a one liner to capture our life. How much impact can you make if you, like Tabitha, touch lives by what you do for them?

PRAY

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