

# PAUL'S MISSION

**Timeless Truth:** Without Jesus, all fall short of God's glory.

**Bible Basis:** Acts 16:1–40; 1 Thessalonians 1:2–5; 3:9–13; 4:16–18; 5:16–28; 1 Corinthians 1:10; 12:12–18, 27; 13:1–7; 15:21–22; 16:23–24; Galatians 5:22–25; 6:18

**Key Verse:** He asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus."  
—Acts 16:30–31, NIV

**Resource:** *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 29: "Paul's Mission"

## PARENT TIPS

Read and discuss the key point from the class your child(ren) attended. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table during the week. The Living Faith activity encourages your family to make a thankfulness chain. The Extra Mile takes your family to an inspirational video that talks about Paul's life.

## GET THE POINT

Jesus saves us if we believe in him. I can choose to believe.

## TABLE TALK

- Paul suffered a lot for Jesus Christ. He was blinded, beaten, stoned, and jailed. But he said suffering was good because it creates perseverance, character, and hope. Have you ever suffered for something and then come out better in the end? Tell that story.
- Paul warns Christians to stay away from sinful acts, such as sexual immorality, impurity, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, jealousy, fits of rage, drunkenness, etc. Do any things in this list stand out as extremely bad or not so bad sins? In God's eyes is all sin the same?
- Looking at the above list, talk about specific ways you can overcome certain sinful behaviors. With all the pornography on the Internet and sexualized commercials on TV, is it harder today to stay pure and sexually moral?
- Paul writes some great things about love. It's patient and kind. It's not envious, boastful, or self-seeking. How does this kind of biblical love differ from the love that boyfriends and girlfriends have for each other?
- What's your favorite part of Paul's definition of love? (Look up 1 Corinthians 13:4–7.)

## LIVING FAITH

Paul endured many trials for his faith. Through everything, he remained hopeful and thankful. For this family activity, you'll need pieces of colored construction paper, scissors, markers or pens, and glue. Gather your family and explain that Paul spent a lot of time in chains, but he didn't let anything dampen his faith. Paul said, "How can we thank God enough," (1 Thessalonians 3:9).

Create a thankfulness chain as a family by cutting construction paper into 8-inch strips that are about one-and-a-half inches wide. (Regular white paper would work, too.) Have each family member take five to ten strips of paper. Write down something you're thankful for on each strip. Then glue the ends of the strip together to create a chain link. Make sure the words are on the inside of the link. Interlock the links as other family members write what they're thankful for and watch your chain grow. Try not to say what you're writing down on your chain. When everybody's finished and a long chain is created, hang it over a doorway. Leave it hanging for a few days and then plan a time to get together as a family again. Tear off a link of the chain and read what's on the inside. Have the person who wrote that message explain why they're thankful. Keep going until you've totally dismantled the chain. Thank God for breaking the chains in your life and giving you so much to be thankful for!

## EXTRA MILE

God doesn't want us to live half-heartedly for him. He wants our total commitment. He wants us to be passionate about the things he's passionate about. He wants us to have the faith to persevere like Paul.

Go to YouTube and watch "Ray Vander Laan—Run!" It's at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cizsb\\_GE\\_zc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cizsb_GE_zc). After you've watched this short video, talk about Ray's message.

- **Why don't we live passionate lives for Jesus?**
- **Why is it easy to fall into part-time discipleship?**
- **How can we live as Christian Olympians?**

Remember: **Don't hold back in your Christian life. How we live shows others that God is King!**