

HomeWord
For Parents

There have been few conversion experiences that would top that of Saul of Tarsus. As a Pharisee, he was zealous for the Jewish law and openly and passionately persecuted those who proclaimed Jesus as Lord (Philippians 3:4–6).

Yet Saul was dramatically transformed into a new creation in Christ and then used by God to start numerous churches and write much of the New Testament. How did the Lord Jesus Christ get this murderous Pharisee's attention? It happened on the road to Damascus where Saul fully intended to find men and women of the Way (followers of Jesus) and bring them bound to Jerusalem for persecution and trial (Acts 9:1–2).

Saul fell to the ground when he saw a bright light and heard a voice speaking to him. It was Jesus asking, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" (Acts 9:3–4). Saul was astonished and afraid. He asked what the Lord would have him do. The Lord had a plan for him—and it would start in the city of Damascus, the very city he was headed to in order to further persecute the people of Christ. Blind Saul was helplessly led

by the hand into the city to await instructions from the Lord (Acts 9:6–8).

In Damascus, through His disciple Ananias, the Lord declared to Saul that he was His chosen vessel, and he would bear the name of Christ to the Jews, the Gentiles, and to kings (Acts 9:15). Saul's heart was dramatically changed so that "immediately he preached Christ in the synagogues, that Jesus is the Son of God" (Acts 9:20). Saul had become a new creation in Christ!

This Hebrew of Hebrews, a Pharisee breathing murderous threats, had persecuted Christians. He had stood by, guarding the clothes of those who dragged Stephen, the first martyr for Christ, out of the city to stone him (Acts 7:57–59). But after his conversion, Saul suffered greatly for His Lord through beatings, stonings, shipwrecks, and many other hardships (2 Corinthians 11:24–27). The Lord Jesus Christ made Saul, also known as Paul, into a new creation. And after meeting the living Jesus, Paul would no longer boast except in the Cross of the Lord Jesus Christ (Galatians 6:14).

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

Saul Is Converted

 **Key Theme**

• Jesus called Saul, and Saul was changed forever!

 **Key Passage**

• Acts 9:1–6



What You HEARD in the Word

- Saul tried to stop the Christians from talking about Jesus. But God changed Saul! Now Saul was a Christian who wouldn't stop talking about Jesus!

Ask your child these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Who called to Saul from heaven?
- 2 What did Saul see suddenly?
- 3 What happened to the old Saul after he heard Jesus call?



1) Jesus. 2) A bright light. 3) He changed. He was the new Saul.

 **OutWord** For Family Discussion

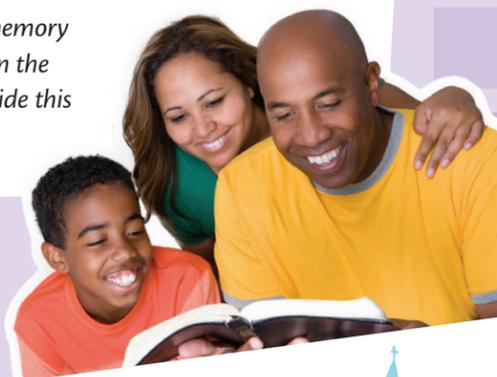
Suppose you heard someone say his sins are so bad that God could never forgive him. **What could you say?**

The Bible tells us everything we need to know about God. And it tells us that it's impossible to be too bad for God's forgiveness. You might be surprised to find out this amazing truth: no sin is so great that the blood Jesus shed on the Cross cannot wash it away. Before the Apostle Paul became a Christian, he used to persecute Christians and have them killed! But God had mercy on him and saved him. All people who are genuinely sorry for their sin, ask God for forgiveness, confess Him as the Lord of their life, and are obedient in baptism, will be forgiven and given new life in Christ—they become new creations! God's grace is that great! That's the good news of the gospel.

 **inWord** For Family Study

"The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of coins of gold and silver" (Psalm 119:72). Equip your children to desire God's Word above all else by encouraging your family to memorize and study it. The eternal rewards are priceless.

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



Read the Word with Mom & Dad

Monday (Acts 9:1)
Who is this verse talking about?

Tuesday (Acts 9:2)
Where did Saul want to bring the believers?

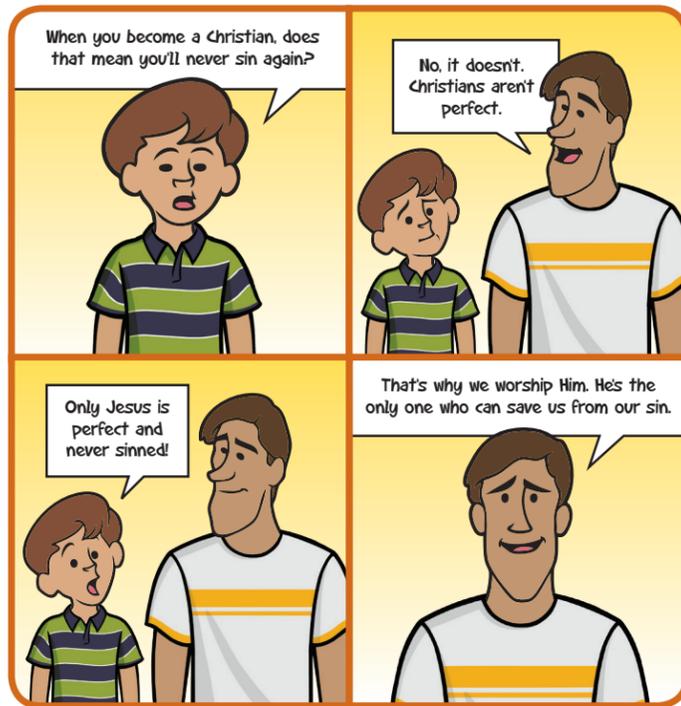
Wednesday (Acts 9:3)
What did Saul see?

Thursday (Acts 9:5)
Who spoke to Saul?

Friday (Acts 9:8-9)
What did Saul see when he opened his eyes? What had happened to him?

Saturday (Acts 9:4)
What did Jesus say to Saul?

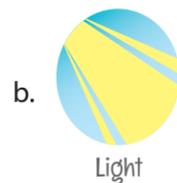
LIVE the Word with Johnny and His Dad



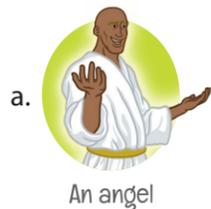
What Happened to Saul?

Have someone help you read the questions, then circle the right answer.

1. What did Saul see?



2. Whose voice did Saul hear?



3. God changed Saul. What did Saul do after he was changed?



ANSWERS: 1) B, 2) C, 3) B.

Learn the Word!

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.
Romans 1:16a

Saul Was Changed!

Follow the path from old Saul to new Saul! Then color the pictures.

