

THE BIBLE STORY: PAUL PREACHED TO AN ANGRY CROWD Acts 21

NOTE: Let the children use a paper plate or paper faces (front and back) to identify the emotions throughout the story. (Happy Face, Sad Face)

Paul went to Jerusalem. The believers welcomed Paul warmly. (*happy face*) Paul met with the Jewish leaders in the church in Jerusalem. Paul told the leaders all the good things that God was doing among the Gentile people. The leaders were happy and praised God. (*happy face*)

The leaders warned Paul that people were angry that he was telling the Gentiles about God. (*sad face*) Paul went to the temple. Some Jews pointed Paul out and made many people be angry with him. They rushed toward Paul and dragged him out of the temple. (*sad face*)

The people were trying to kill Paul when the Roman officials heard what was happening. The officials hurried to Paul. The people stopped beating Paul when they saw the officials. The official took Paul and bound him with two chains. (*sad face*) The official ordered Paul into the barracks. Paul got to the steps, but he had to be carried by the soldiers because the crowd was so violent. The people screamed, "Get rid of him!" (*sad face*)

Paul asked the official if he could address the crowd. The official gave Paul permission to speak. Paul stood on the steps and motioned with his hand to the people. The people became very quiet and listened carefully. (*happy face*)

Paul told the crowd that he used to hurt and kill people who believed in Jesus. (*sad face*) One day when he was traveling to Damascus, Paul saw a very bright light. He heard a voice saying, "Why are you persecuting me?" (*sad face*) Paul wondered who was speaking to him. The voice replied, "I am Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus told Paul to get up and go to Damascus. (*happy face*)

Paul could not see. His friends led him to Damascus. A Christian named Ananias came to see Paul. Ananias told Paul that God had chosen him to tell others about Jesus. God told Paul to travel and tell the Gentile people about Jesus. (*happy face*)

The crowd listened to Paul's story, but then they became angry again. They yelled at Paul. They threw their clothes and dirt into the air. The official took Paul into the barracks and was about to beat him again. (*sad face*) Paul told the official that he was a Roman citizen.

The official released Paul from his chains. (*happy face*) Paul continued to tell people about Jesus.

—BASED ON ACTS 21:15–22:30

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- What city did Paul meet with the leaders in the church? (*Jerusalem*)
- How did the leaders feel about Paul's ministry to the Gentiles? (*They were happy and praised God.*)
- How did the crowd at the temple feel about Paul's ministry to the Gentiles? (*They were angry.*)
- What message did Paul give to the crowd? (*He told them about Jesus.*)
- What did the crowd do to Paul? (*yelled, were violent, threw clothes and dirt*)
- True or False: People can tell about Jesus even in difficult times. (*true*)