



JULY 2020 • Week 3

K-3 Parent Guide

BIBLE STORY

Paul Shipwrecked
Acts 27:1—28:10

MEMORY VERSE

*God's grace has
saved you because
of your faith in Christ.
Your salvation
doesn't come from
anything you do. It is
God's gift.
Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)*

LIFE APP

Faith

Trusting in what you
can't see because of
what you can see

BOTTOM LINE

Knowing Jesus
changes the way you
see your problems.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no
matter what.

ACTIVITY: SINK OR SWIM

WHAT YOU NEED:

A clear bowl of water and various items that will or won't sink, such as items made of wood, plastic, or glass; grass; marbles; blocks; uncooked macaroni noodles; foam toys; grapes; etc.

WHAT YOU DO:

Fill up the bowl with water. Gather the various items and your kid(s). Place each item beside the bowl and take a vote on which items everyone thinks will sink and which items will swim (float). If your family is particularly competitive, ramp up the competition by writing down everyone's votes.

Next, take turns letting everyone drop an item into the bowl of water. Make a note of which items sink and which items swim. And if you're making this a competition, make sure to crown the champion of the Sink or Swim Challenge!

WHAT YOU SAY:

Let's talk about Paul for a minute. He had some wild adventures, didn't he? He was a prisoner, shipwrecked in a dangerous storm, hungry, cold, snake-bitten, hated, and alone. Those were some very big problems. But as we learned today, **[Bottom Line] knowing Jesus changes the way you see your problems**, and that was certainly true of Paul. He believed that God would bring something good from even his most difficult situation. He could have become discouraged but instead he chose to have faith that God was with him. He knew that God's plan, even when it was hard, was the best plan for his life. Through it all, God used Paul's life to help bring other people to Jesus.



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GOSPEL MOMENT

We all have problems. Paul certainly did! When all of those difficult things kept happening to Paul, how was he able to keep going? Well, he knew that God was with him. He was determined to continue to do what God had called him to do: share the good news about Jesus. Because Paul trusted God, he could face his problems without being worried.

Having faith in God doesn't mean we won't get upset, angry, hurt, or left out. Following Jesus doesn't mean we won't have problems. But when we have hard times, we can know that God keeps His promises. And if God promises to take care of us, He will even when it doesn't feel like He is in the moment. When we know Jesus, it changes the way we see our problems.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In our story today, what happened to Paul's ship? (*It wrecked in a storm.*)
2. If you were Paul, how would you have felt? (*Scared, angry, sad, worried, hopeless*)
3. What did Paul do after the ship was wrecked? (*He encouraged the others by telling them that God was going to save them.*)
4. What happened next? (*Paul was right! His hope and faith encouraged the other people on the wrecked ship and they all were saved.*)
5. What are some problems that you have right now? (*Discuss*)
6. Do you think God keeps His promises? (*Yes*) And if God promises to be with us and help us through our problems, will he keep that promise? (*Yes! We can view our problems in a different way when we have faith that God is always with us.*)

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we love You. Thank You for Jesus! Help us to follow Him this week and remind us that You are with us, always. When things are great and when things aren't so great, we know we can put our faith and trust in You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.