

## 1

SERIES: OUTRAGEOUS FOR KIDS

# The Story of Paul

4th-  
5th[PursueGOD.org](http://PursueGOD.org)

## Lesson Overview

Today we're starting a new series called Outrageous. That's just a fancy word for something totally cool and amazing. We're going to look at the story of Paul and what he learned about the outrageous power of God's forgiveness. Paul was one of the most famous people in the whole Bible so you might think he was this super Christian who never did anything wrong. But the truth is, Paul once was a really bad guy. He actually hated followers of Jesus and would hunt them down to hurt and kill them. But one day Jesus appeared to him and told him that what he was doing was wrong and sinful. From that day on, Paul was a different person. He didn't hang his head and think he was worthless to God because of his past. He accepted God's forgiveness and went on to do great things for God. This can be our story, too!

### Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) PLAY:** Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
- (5 min) WARM UP:** Describe the most outrageous or cool thing you've ever seen. (Tip: Ex. the ocean, a big waterfall, or a cool stunt. In this lesson, we'll learn about God's outrageous forgiveness.)
- (5 min) PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP:** Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- (3 min) KQ:** Answer the Key Question. (Answer: Because God wants to use us to do great things. (If we don't forgive ourselves, we'll get stuck feeling sorry for ourselves or feeling like we aren't good enough for God. But that's not true so those feelings are just a waste of time. The Bible says that when we confess our sins to God, we are forgiven and God forgets those mistakes. He wants us to forget them, too. He wants us to learn from our mistakes and move forward living our lives to honor him)
  - Bonus Questions:** What happens if we don't forgive ourselves? What does God do with our past mistakes?
  - 4-5th:** How have you learned from some of your past mistakes? Why is God's forgiveness so important to us?
- (5 min) EXPLORE:** Read 1 John 1:9. What does it mean to confess our sins? What does Jesus promise to do when we admit our sins? (Answer: To confess means we tell Jesus what we've done wrong. We admit that we messed up and tell him that we're sorry. When we do that, our sins are forgiven. That means God forgets our mistakes and doesn't hold them over our heads.)
- (10 min) PLAY:** Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- (5 min) CLOSE:** Share prayer requests and pray as a class. Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

**Big Idea**

God's forgiveness means we can forget our past mistakes.

**Key Question**

Why is it important to forgive ourselves?

**Memory Verse**

*Philippians 3:13 | I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.*

**Teacher instructions:** Choose an activity for your classroom.

## OPTION 1: THE STORY OF PAUL JEOPARDY

**Instructions:**

- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a bell or ringer.
- Ask a question from below. First team to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, that team gets a point. If wrong the other team gets a chance to answer for a bonus point.
- The team with the most points, wins.

**Supplies needed:**

Bells or ringers

**Questions:**

1. Who did we learn about today? (Paul)

2. From what book in the Bible is our memory verse found? (See board)
3. T or F: God's forgiveness is outrageous. (T)
4. What's the name of the book full of God's truth. (Bible)
5. Why did Jesus die for us? (forgive our sins)
6. T or F: Paul was always a nice guy. (F)
7. Paul used to hunt down and kill \_(Christians)
8. Where did Jesus die for us? (cross)
9. What is the Big Idea today? (See board)
10. T or F: God's forgiveness means we can forget the past. (T)

**Bonus Activity: "Bible Hangman"**

**Words or phrases:** Forgiveness, Paul, Forget the past

## OPTION 2:THE STORY OF PAUL TIC TAC TOE

**Instructions:**

- Draw a Tic Tac Toe board on the whiteboard.
- Divide the class into two teams and assign them either an "X" or an "O". Give each team a bell or ringer.
- Ask a question from below. First team to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get to put their symbol up on the board. If wrong, the other team gets a chance to answer. First team to get 3 across, wins.

**Supplies needed:**

Bells or ringers

**Questions:**

1. Who did we learn about today? (Paul)
2. From what book in the Bible is our memory verse found? (See board)
3. T or F: God's forgiveness is outrageous. (T)

4. What's the name of the book full of God's truth. (Bible)
5. Why did Jesus die for us? (forgive our sins)
6. T or F: Paul was always a nice guy. (F)
7. Paul used to hunt down and kill \_(Christians)
8. Where did Jesus die for us? (cross)
9. What is the Big Idea today? (See board)
10. T or F: God's forgiveness means we can forget the past. (T)

**Bonus Activity: "Find the Book"**

Have the class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the books below. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

**Books:** Numbers, Mark, Philippians

**1**

SERIES: OUTRAGEOUS FOR KIDS

# The Story of Paul

4th -  
5th[PursueGOD.org](http://PursueGOD.org)**Paul \_\_\_\_\_ he was all that**

Paul was smart, good at his job, and had a lot of money. He thought he had everything he could ever need. In his mind he was the coolest guy to ever live. Not only did he think he was better than everyone else, he was also really mean to Christians. He spent his time hunting down Christians so he could hurt or arrest them. He didn't think there was anything wrong with what he was doing until one day something crazy happened.

**Paul met \_\_\_\_\_ face to face**

Paul was on his way to hurt more Christians when suddenly Jesus was right in front of him! Jesus showed him how powerful he was and made Paul realize that what he had been doing was wrong and sinful. Paul felt terrible for how he had treated so many people and how he had made God sad. But Jesus' message to Paul wasn't to make him feel bad for all the yucky stuff he had done. He told Paul that he forgave him and that he had a job for Paul to do. Did you know that Paul went on to be one of the most famous guys in the Bible? He was! We can learn from Paul's outrageous experience, too.

**We can forgive \_\_\_\_\_ when we do something wrong**

Paul could have easily thought that he wasn't good enough to be Jesus' friend because of all the bad things he had done. But he knew better than that. Let's take a look at what he said. Memory verse!

**Philippians 3:13** No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing:  
Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead...

Paul knew that even though he sinned, Jesus had forgiven him. So Paul needed to forgive himself too. He needed to forget that past and look to the future.

So kids, next time you feel like you don't deserve forgiveness remember Paul and the outrageous forgiveness Jesus offered him and that he also offers us.

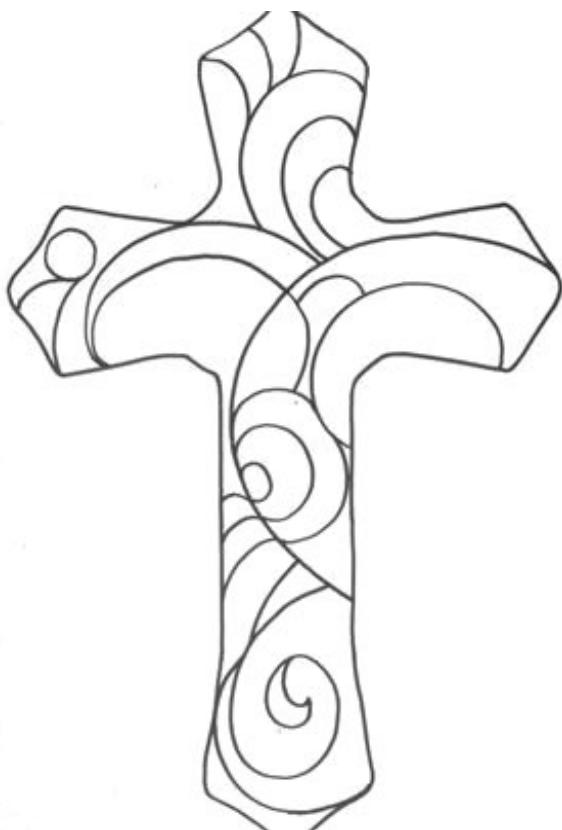
Answers: *thought, Jesus, ourselves*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions:**

1. *What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?*
2. *Describe the most outrageous or cool thing you've ever seen. (Ex, the ocean, a big waterfall, or a cool stunt)*
3. *What was Paul's opinion of himself before he met Jesus?*
4. *What happened to Paul after he met Jesus?*
5. *What does it look like to accept God's forgiveness in our lives?*
6. *Read 1 John 1:9. What does it mean to confess our sins? What does Jesus promise to do when we admit our sins?*
7. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

**Instructions:** Color the picture and solve the puzzle.



### Big Idea

### Key Question

### Memory Verse

*Philippians 3:\_\_\_\_\_ | I focus  
on this \_\_\_\_\_ thing:*

*\_\_\_\_\_ the past  
and looking \_\_\_\_\_ to  
what lies ahead.*

### Word Search

Find the list of words at the bottom of the page in this jumble of letters!

A	K	N	Y	V	F	X	R
C	F	Z	S	M	O	Y	O
P	T	F	U	H	E	W	A
A	U	B	I	B	L	E	D
A	U	L	P	M	J	K	T
L	E	L	E	T	T	E	R
R	O	I	B	V	X	A	F
W	C	S	E	R	O	M	E

#### WORDS TO FIND:

PAUL  
ROAD

ROME  
LETTER

BIBLE

