

# 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group Lesson

**Session Title:** Paul Before Rulers

**Bible Passage:** Acts 24:22-27; 25:1-14; 26:24-32

**Main Point:** Paul preached about Jesus to governors and kings.

**Key Passage:** Philippians 1:20-21

**Big Picture Question:** When should we tell others about Jesus? We should always tell others about Jesus even when it is difficult.

**Christ Connection:** *God had chosen Paul to take the gospel to Gentiles, kings, and the Israelites. (Acts 9:15-16) Paul met with people again and again to tell the good news about Jesus. He wanted everyone to believe that Jesus is Lord. Because Jesus has the power to save people from sin, Paul was willing to do whatever it took to share the gospel.*



## Missionary Activity

*Materials: Missionary information Sheet, World Map, Gospel Plan Poster, & index cards (1 index card per person)*

Show the group the Missionary information sheet below. This is some missionaries that our church supports who are currently serving in different parts of the world. Show the group the World map below to help recognize the distance and how they are all around the world sharing the Gospel. Talk about what difficult things these missionaries may face as they share Jesus with others. Then guide the group to pray for each of these missionaries, asking God to protect them and give them courage to honor Christ in all they do. Pray for missionaries and other believers who are sharing the gospel in these places.

**We can share the Gospel wherever we are, across the world or right here in Allen, Texas.** Give everyone an index card and encourage the group to think of a friend that they would like to pray for and share who Jesus is. Ask them to write the name on the 3X5 index card to remind them to pray for them.

Review The Gospel Plan motions with the group to help them feel comfortable in sharing the Gospel with others. The Gospel Plan Poster is attached below.

Motions:

- God rules [Place hands in a circle over you, as though setting a crown on your head.]
- We sinned [Hold both arms in front of you making a large X with your forearms.]
- God provided [Turn your X into a cross by rotating your arms.]
- Jesus gives [Hold hands together in front of you as though handing someone a gift.]
- We respond [Raise both hands into the air in celebration and praise.]

**A missionary is a Christian called by God who obeys and goes to tell another group of people the good news about Jesus. Whether it's in the USA or another country, the Bible says to go and tell others about Jesus.** When Paul was arrested, God protected him so he could preach about Jesus. **Even today, missionaries risk their lives to tell others about Jesus. Let's pray for them as they trust and obey Jesus.**

## Bolivia



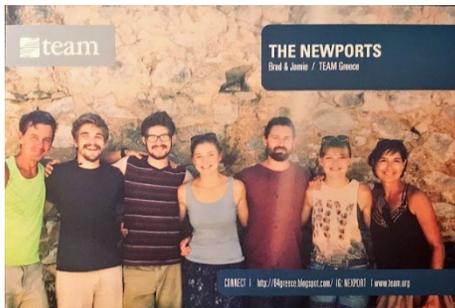
**Luis and Haleigh Vargas** are newlyweds and their calling is to plant churches and mobilize others to do the same with a focus on the chronological teaching of the Bible.

## Nigeria



**Pat & Heidi Rosendall** have served the Lord with Wycliffe in Nigeria for over 30 years. They support over 100 active Bible translation projects throughout Nigeria.

## Greece



**Brad & Jamie Newport** - TEAM is The Evangelical Alliance Mission. The Lord moved us to Greece in an unexpected fashion, where now we find ourselves immersed in refugee disciple making efforts among Afghan, Iranian & Syrian refugees.

## Kenya



**Bob & Julie Mendonsa** moved to Kenya in 2008 and broke ground on Naomi's Village Children's Home in 2009. They now work full-time at Naomi's Village in daily administration, intake of children, employee training, and continued fundraising. They plan to live in Kenya indefinitely to help raise Naomi's Village's children as future leaders of their nation.

## Japan



**Chad and Hiroko Farmer** In 2007, compelled by Christ's commission and the great need for the gospel in Japan, a team of church planters moved to Japan with a vision to make disciples by planting churches in urban Japan.



United States

Canada

United States

Mexico

PACIFIC OCEAN

Central America

Ecuador

Chile

Argentina

Uruguay

Brazil

Paraguay

Bolivia

Colombia

Venezuela

Suriname

French Guiana

Guiana (France)

Caribbean

Senegal

The Gambia

Guinea-Bissau

Guinea

Sierra Leone

Liberia

Cote d'Ivoire

Equatorial Guinea

Gabon

Angola

Namibia

South Africa

Lesotho

ATLANTIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Greenland (Denmark)

Iceland

U.K.

Ireland

Denmark

Norway

Sweden

Finland

Poland

Czechia

Hungary

Slovakia

Austria

Germany

France

Italy

Greece

Turkey

Israel

Lebanon

Syria

Jordan

U.A.E.

Svalbard (Norway)

Estonia

Latvia

Lithuania

Belarus

Ukraine

Georgia

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Iran

Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan

Kazakhstan

Algeria

Libya

Egypt

Saudi Arabia

Yemen

Oman

Qatar

Kuwait

Pakistan

Afghanistan

India

Sri Lanka

Maldives

China

Taiwan

Japan

ARCTIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

Russia

Mongolia

China

India

China

China

China

China

China

Australia

New Guinea

New Zealand

PACIFIC OCEAN

Philippines

Malaysia

Indonesia

Timor-Leste

New Guinea

Papua New Guinea

Solomon Islands

Fiji

New Caledonia

New Zealand

New Zealand

New Zealand

New Zealand

# the **GOSPEL** **GOD'S PLAN FOR ME**

gos-pel – *noun*. good news. the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation.



Gold

## **GOD RULES.**

The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. *Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17*

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." —Genesis 1:1*

# X

Dark

## **WE SINNED.**

We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. *Romans 3:23; 6:23*

*"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." —Romans 3:23*



Red

## **GOD PROVIDED.**

God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. *John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9*

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." —John 3:16*



White

## **JESUS GIVES.**

He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! *Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:8-9*

*"God shows his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." —Romans 5:8*



## **WE RESPOND.**

Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. *John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10, 13*

*"If you admit with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." —Romans 10:9*

# Hidden Words

DOWNLOAD THE  
TGP FAMILY APP

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Find and circle the words hidden in the picture. Then arrange them to form the main point.



**KEY PASSAGE:**

Philippians 1:20-21

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

- When should we tell others about Jesus? We should always tell others about Jesus, even when it is difficult.

**BIBLE STORY:**

**PAUL BEFORE RULERS**

- Paul waited in jail for a trial.
- Paul was unafraid to share the gospel with anyone.
- The rulers were convinced Paul had done nothing deserving of jail.
- Paul asked to see Caesar, and so remained in jail until he could.

**FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

- What are some ways God used Paul's arrest for good?
- Is it worthwhile to talk about Jesus if the person doesn't believe?
- Why wasn't Paul afraid of the rulers?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:**

- Play a series of "leader" games, like Simon Says or Follow the Leader. Talk to your kids about Jesus being the ultimate leader.

*Younger Kids Activity Pages*  
Unit 34, Session 2

