

CITY SG – September 16-18, 2023

Today's Bible Story: I'll Stand by You (Barnabas and Saul) • Acts 9:26-30

Today's Bottom Line: Friends stand up for one another.

Monthly Memory Verse: *A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.*
Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

1. Hot Potato

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Hot Potato Review" Activity Page (1 per bin), ball (1 per group), *optional: phone to play music*

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Instruct the kids to pass the hot potato (ball) around the circle when you start the music.
*****If you don't have the option to play music on a phone, just close your eyes as the kids pass the ball and yell stop after some time.***
- Start the music and let the kids move the ball around the circle.
- Stop the music.
- When the music stops, ask the kid who's holding the ball a review question from the "Hot Potato Review" Activity Page.
- If the kid is unsure of the answer, allow them to ask a friend for help.
- Once the question has been answered, start the music and stop it periodically to ask the next question from the "Hot Potato Review" Activity Page.
- Continue playing until all questions on the "Hot Potato Review" Activity Page have been answered.
- Say, "We saw that Saul's life was changed because Barnabas encouraged him. But there was also a ripple effect that allowed the church to grow and many other people to believe in Jesus, too, because of what Barnabas did! Sometimes, standing up for someone can have a bigger impact than we'll ever know."

2. Think-Pair-Share

Application Activity

What You Need: "Think-Pair-Share" Activity Page (6 per group)

What You Do:

- Direct the kids to partner up.
- Ask a question from the "Think-Pair-Share" Activity Page.
- Encourage the kids to silently **think** of an answer in their heads.
 - Allow enough time for them to think (around 15-20 seconds).
- After giving the kids some time to think, encourage the kids to **pair** up with their partner and exchange thoughts.
 - Allow enough time for both partners to talk (around 30 seconds to a minute).
- After giving the pairs some time to talk, ask kids to volunteer to **share** their answers with the group.
- Continue the same process until you've shared all scenarios.
- Say, "There are so many ways to be a good friend, and we learned that **friends stand up for one another**. We all have an opportunity to make a big impact in the lives of others when we stand up for our friends!"

3. Hopscotch Verse

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bible and floor tape

What You Do:

- Create a winding path of dots on the ground floor tape.
 - create 14 dots of tape.
- Invite the kids to line up behind the spots.
- Look up Proverbs 17:17 in the Bible and read it out loud to the kids.
- Instruct the kids to hop from one spot to the next, saying the next word in the memory verse as they do.
- Be available as a reference to help the kids remember a word as they need help.
- When the kids reach the end of the path and jump off the last spot, instruct them to shout, "Proverbs 17:17!"
- Repeat as time and interest allow.

4. Pray

- "God, thank You for being a friend who we can talk to at all times. Thank You for giving us Jesus, the best friend of all! As Jesus shows us, **friends stand up for one another**. Help us have the courage to speak the truth about our friends, the heart to encourage our friends, and the eyes to see when our friends are lonely and invite them in. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."