

# TOPHER'S WEEKLY LESSON

In the Bible, in the Book of Acts, there was a man named Saul. At first, Saul didn't like people who followed Jesus. If he found a Christian, he would arrest them and take them to jail. But Saul didn't stay mean. One day, Jesus appeared to Saul in a bright light. After that, Saul loved and followed Jesus. Now, instead of arresting Christians, Saul became a Christian. He traveled all over town telling everyone that Jesus is the Son of God. When the people heard what Saul was saying, they were amazed. They said to each other, "Isn't that Saul? Didn't he used to arrest people for following Jesus? But now he is following Jesus." They were so surprised; they couldn't believe what was happening.

But not everyone believed that Jesus was the Son of God and they didn't like Saul saying that He was, so they came up with a terrible plan to stop him. The mean people decided to catch Saul and hurt him so he couldn't talk about Jesus anymore. Day and night, the mean people watched the city gates, waiting for Saul to walk through so they could catch him. But Saul found out about the mean people's plan. He knew he had to escape, but how? He couldn't just leave through the city gate—the mean people would find him and catch him. Fortunately, Saul had some helpers who loved and followed Jesus too. Together, they came up with a plan. The helpers tied a rope to a basket. Then Saul got into the basket and the helpers lowered him over the city wall. When Saul reached the ground, he ran away and the mean people never caught him.

**THE BIG IDEA:** MY CHURCH HELPS ME AND I HELP MY CHURCH  
**BIBLE BASIS:** ACTS 9:19–26

## ACTIVITY: MAY 3, 2020

**CHURCH FRIENDS** (Response to God Activity)

**Supplies:** GO! Home Guide (printed on back of coloring sheet, 1 per child), crayons

**Question:** What was your favorite part of that story to act out? Why did you like acting out that part of the story?

**Directions:** Give each child a GO! Home Guide and some crayons or markers. The sheet will have a space for children to draw. Tell the children to draw a picture of one of their friends from church. When finished, have the children show their drawing and tell about who their friend is.

**Say:** Today we learned that church isn't just a building, it's the people inside of the building who love and follow Jesus. Let's say a prayer and thank Jesus for our friends at church who help us learn and grow.

**Prayer:** Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they're finished, close the prayer by thanking Jesus for your friends at church as well as the friends mentioned by the children.

**WHAT'S THE  
BIG IDEA?**

