



**ELEMENTARY  
LESSONS**

# **JOURNEY** to the **ENDS OF THE EARTH**

Five lessons about Paul's missionary life  
to help children find their role in the  
Great Commission



DOWNLOAD THE FUN AT  
**[www.iminc.org/wmo](http://www.iminc.org/wmo)**

# JOURNEY to the ENDS OF THE EARTH



These 30-minute lessons can be used in the weeks and months leading up to your World Missions Offering day as:

- Children's Church lessons
- Object lessons
- Sunday School classes
- VBS missions classes
- And much more!

## *A special note for teachers*

It is our prayer that as you prepare these lessons for the kids in your church that your heart will also be opened to the Truths that are found in each story, activity, and verse. May God use this time of reflection to show you His plan for the nations and the way He can use you to reach children who may eventually reach...the ENDS OF THE EARTH.

## Lesson One

# Journey with your HEART!

# JOURNEY to the ENDS OF THE EARTH



### Lesson objective:

Children will learn about the beginning of Paul's conversion on the Damascus road as they reflect on God's love for all people on the earth.



### Materials needed:

Copy of "Lesson 1: Activity Sheet" for each child  
Enrichment video downloaded or prepared to view online (optional)  
Pencils



### Bible connection (Acts 9):

Let's start our "Journey to the Ends of the Earth" by learning about Paul, a very important missionary in the Bible. When we first met him, his name was Saul. Did you know he had a heart problem? It wasn't high blood pressure or even high cholesterol. His heart problem was that he didn't love Jesus. He hated Jesus' disciples and anyone who said they loved Jesus.

One day Saul and his friends were on the road to a city called Damascus when a big, bright light from heaven flashed around him. Saul fell down to the ground. And at that moment, he heard a voice saying, "Saul, why are you saying such terrible things about me?" Saul was terrified. He asked, "Who are you?" And he heard the words, "I am Jesus. Get up and go into the city and you will be told what you need to do."

Just like Saul, his friends were surprised because they'd heard the voice as well. But they didn't see anyone either. When Saul stood up, he got his balance after seeing that big, bright light. It was then that he realized he was BLIND. He couldn't see a thing!



### Heart connection:

This passage about Saul can be found in Acts 9. We read about the main character in this story (Saul) who is blind...not just physically, but *spiritually*. His heart can't see God's love for him. How sad that must have been! But Saul, the future missionary and author of several books in the New Testament, isn't the only person in this world who's experienced spiritual blindness. There are almost 3.5 billion people who still haven't heard the name of Jesus\*. Many of them don't even have a way to hear about Jesus.

How many of you have ever...

- ...listened to a Christian radio station like K-Love?
- ...read a Christian book or clicked on a Christian website?
- ...lived in a city with at least one church that teaches about Jesus?
- ...owned a Bible?

If you have ever experienced these things, you are more privileged than the 42% of people in the world who are considered Unreached People Groups. That means they live in an area where they don't even have the opportunity to hear about Jesus.

\*[www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net)



For upper elementary students or for an enrichment activity, download the following 3-minute video about Unreached People Groups:  
[https://vimeo.com/128750127?embedded=true&source=vimeo\\_logo&owner=24644158](https://vimeo.com/128750127?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=24644158)



**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**  
John 3:16

What if John 3:16 were written like this?

For God so loved \_\_\_\_\_ (your name), that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever, including \_\_\_\_\_ (your name) believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

We could put lots of names in that blank. (Name a few people that you know in common...possibly children in the class, the Pastor, or someone famous.) Do you know what? God loves them ALL. He loves people in China, people in Kenya, and people in France. He loves ALL of the people in the world! Give students "Lesson 1: Activity Sheet" to complete by writing their name in the Bible verse and filling in the heart with three people they know who still need to hear about how much God loves them.



### **Closing connection:**

Let's think back to our Bible story today. Who was the main character? *Saul!* What kind of problem did he have with his heart? *He hated Jesus and anyone who was friends with Jesus.* Just like Saul, we learned that there are how many people in the world today with the same heart problem? *3.5 billion.* They're still stuck on Damascus roads, blinded to the Truth of the Gospel.

But there's a solution! There's Someone who loves them and wants to help them. It's Jesus. Jesus doesn't want that 3.5 billion people to continue without knowing and loving Him.

Let's close in prayer and ask Jesus to help us open our spiritual eyes to see God's love for us and for all of the people in the world.

**JOURNEY**  
to the  
**ENDS OF THE EARTH**



# Journey with your heart

Read John 3:16 and write your name in the blanks as you think about how much God loves YOU. Then, on the heart below, write the names of three people you know who still need hear about how much God loves THEM.

For God so loved \_\_\_\_\_,  
that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whosoever (including \_\_\_\_\_)  
believeth in him should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.

John 3:16





## Lesson Two

# Journey with your MIND!

# JOURNEY to the ENDS OF THE EARTH



### Lesson objective:

Students will be challenged to open their eyes to people all over the world who need to hear about Jesus.



### Materials needed:

Copy of "Lesson 2: Photo" (found on the next page)

IM missionary poster\*

Copy of "Lesson 2: Activity Sheet" for each child

IM Travel Guides\* (optional for enrichment activity)

\*Free copies can be ordered by contacting [kjohnson@iminc.org](mailto:kjohnson@iminc.org) or by downloading at [www.iminc.org/wmo](http://www.iminc.org/wmo)



### Bible connection (Acts 9):

Today we are going to continue our story about Saul. In our last lesson, we left him blinded on the road to Damascus. Remember that big, bright light and how he heard Jesus' voice and he fell down blinded? As we pick back up on the story, we see that his friends had compassion on him and took him by the hand and led him into the city.

When they got there, God sent a man named Ananias to see Saul. "Saul," Ananias said, "Jesus, who you saw on the road, sent me to you. He wants you to be able to see again and He also wants you to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He wants you to know and love God." Ananias went on to tell Saul that God wanted him to travel to the ends of the earth telling people about Jesus. And you know what? All of a sudden...Saul could see again! His blindness was gone!



### Missionary connection:

(Use with "Lesson 2: Photo")

Sangeeta is a believer in India who loves to read the Bible. Her husband is not a believer and is a drunkard. He regularly beats his wife. One day he intentionally struck her in the eye because she reads Scripture. She was not able to see out of that eye and went to the doctor a couple of times for medical treatment. She was told she would never recover her sight. There was no medicine or surgery that could help her to see again.

In a worship service, she gave her testimony and she was in tears as she described how she cried out to the Lord. The Lord had compassion on her. She has miraculously recovered her sight and can read again. She finished her testimony by saying: "Whatever may come or happen, I am ready to die for my King Jesus who gave me sight."

Sangeeta, just like Saul, had her sight restored. Now she is praying for others to have their eyes...and their minds...opened to new spiritual truths. Let's join Sangeeta on a "Journey with our minds" as we learn more about where IM works around the world.

Look at this missionary poster from IM, which shows where our Free Will Baptist missionaries and partners serve. Right now, they are working in 34 different countries spread out all over the world. (Point out a few to your students: Japan, Ecuador, Spain, Bulgaria, etc.)

#### CHALLENGES:

- See how many countries where IM has a presence the students can name. (Hint: Some of the countries aren't listed, but have a flag across the bottom that represents them.)
- Show the poster quickly and then put it away. See which child can guess the closest number to the number of missionaries listed. (Have fun counting them together at the end!)
- Using the IM Travel Guide, practice saying "Jesus loves me" in each language represented.



#### Mind connection:

If you watch the news on TV, you have heard of some of the countries where IM missionaries work. You've probably heard of famines or earthquakes in some of them. Maybe you've seen cultural things like bullfights and sushi. One of the best ways to have compassion on people who are different from you is to learn more about them and what they are like.

Let's look at the book of Job, and specifically Chapter 28, which talks about wisdom and how important it is to find it. The passage says that we should explore the deepest places of the earth and the hardest things to understand, looking for wisdom as if it were gold and silver. Job 28:24 says, "For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven." Miners must go through rocks that are deep in the earth to find precious treasures. They have to work in dark, dirty places. But they end up with precious treasures. That's what will happen when we (like the miners) work to learn about other cultures and people groups. We, too, will find treasures!



#### Closing connection:

Today we're going to use our *mining minds* to do a word search together. Some of the words on the globe at the top appear in the word search. Let's mine them together and learn more about the work that IM is doing around the world.

#### Enrichment activity:

Use the IM Travel Guides to learn more about IM missionaries and ministries around the world. The stickers that are included are a great way for children to interact with the map as they learn about the places where IM missionaries and partners are serving.

# Sangeeta

“Whatever may come or happen,  
I am ready to die for my King Jesus who gave me sight.”







# Journey with your MIND

Use your *mining mind* to find words to help you learn more about what IM is doing around the world.



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

GOSPEL  
EDUCATION  
BODY OF CHRIST  
DISCIPLESHIP  
GLOBAL  
LEADERSHIP  
GIVING  
MISSIONS  
EVANGELISM  
AROUND THE WORLD  
MISSIONARY





# ANSWER KEY

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





## Lesson Three

# Journey with your PRAYERS!

# JOURNEY to the ENDS OF THE EARTH



### Lesson objective:

Students will learn about the importance of prayer for missionaries around the world.



### Materials needed:

Audio download of Lea Edgmon's message\*

IM missionary poster\*

Copy of "Lesson 3: Activity" for each child

\*Free copies can be ordered by contacting [kjohnson@iminc.org](mailto:kjohnson@iminc.org) or by downloading at [www.iminc.org/wmo](http://www.iminc.org/wmo)



### Missionary connection:

Today we will take a break from our story about Saul and the beginning of his missionary journeys to hear from a modern-day missionary who is serving with IM in Spain. Meet Lea Edgmon:



Hi! My name is Lea Edgmon and I love getting to be a missionary in Spain. I know you've been learning about Saul and his journey on the Damascus road, and I hope that my story will encourage you as you learn more about missions and how you can "journey with your prayers"!

"Prayer is so important for missionaries. In our case, they led us to the right place at the right time! God placed it on our hearts to start a church in Alpedrete, Spain. Later, a believing friend told us she had spent years asking God to send her one believer to be her friend in town. God's answer? He built a church here! Another friend told us how when she first moved to our town she loved the parks, the neighborhoods, and the people. The only thing missing was a Gospel-preaching church for their family to attend. Shortly after that, we met, and she found out what we were doing in Alpedrete. Recently, we were praying for God to put people in our path who wanted to know Him. A family with three children then came to our church asking how they could be born again. This family is now growing in their faith.

God's answers are truly amazing!"

*Lea Edgmon*



### Learning connection:

Let's look at the IM missionary poster that we used in our last lesson. Can you find Lea Edgmon on there? What is the name of the country where she is serving? Who can tell me one of the things that happened in her ministry because of prayer? How do you think people knew to pray for Lea and her family in Spain?

How can we learn about the needs of missionaries to know how we need to pray? Here are some ideas (you'll need to ask your parents to help you with a few of these):

- Personal visits when missionaries share at your church during stateside assignment
- Missionary prayer cards\*
- Email updates, printed newsletters, and social media posts
- Hotline (weekly list of prayer requests)
- IM website ([www.iminc.org](http://www.iminc.org))



### Prayer connection:

Below you will find a few requests from a recent Hotline. Help students find the photo of each missionary on the missionary map and ask students to pray for their requests.

#### **Tim & Lydia Awtrey (Bulgaria)**

The church has experienced growth in the past few months and now we are also experiencing a lot of spiritual attacks. Pray for God to increase faith for all of us and to give us the victory over physical and spiritual attacks by the enemy.

#### **Adam & Carol Duncan (Ecuador)**

We thank God that Adam's sermon in Spanish went well and many were receptive. Pray for our family as we travel to the Esmeralda province for a teen retreat. Adam will be teaching (mostly in English).

#### **Matt & Cristina Price (France)**

Pray for calm in the country of France. The government is pushing through retirement reform which has caused violent protests across the country.



### Closing connection:

Let students complete the crossword puzzle about prayer.

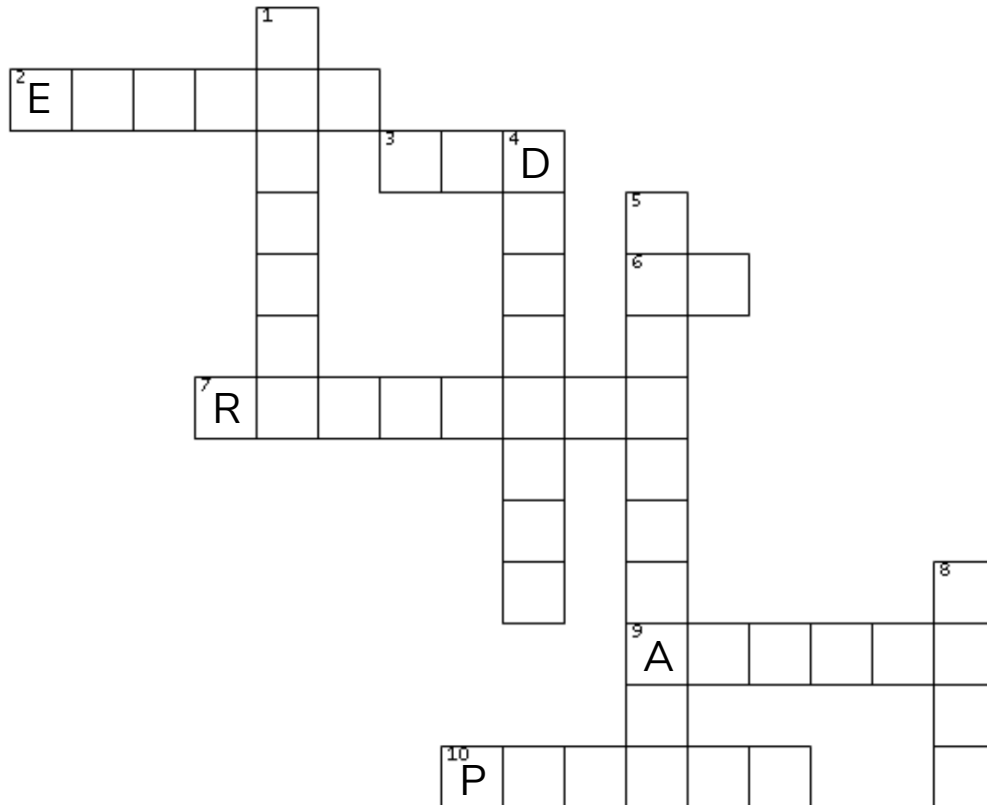
Enrichment:

Have children ask their parents to find the current Hotline requests on the IM website and pray for the needs each week. ([www.iminc.org/go/hotline-prayer-requests/](http://www.iminc.org/go/hotline-prayer-requests/))

\*Missionary prayer cards can be ordered by contacting [kjohnson@iminc.org](mailto:kjohnson@iminc.org)

# Journey with your PRAYERS!

Fill in the blanks of the crossword puzzle to learn more about the importance of prayer in missions.



## ACROSS

2. Which modern-day missionary did we learn about today? Lea \_\_\_\_\_
3. For \_\_\_\_\_ so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)
6. The name of our Free Will Baptist mission agency
7. Be careful for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your \_\_\_\_\_ be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)
9. Call unto me, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. (Jeremiah 33:3)
10. How can we talk to God and ask Him to help our missionaries?

## DOWN

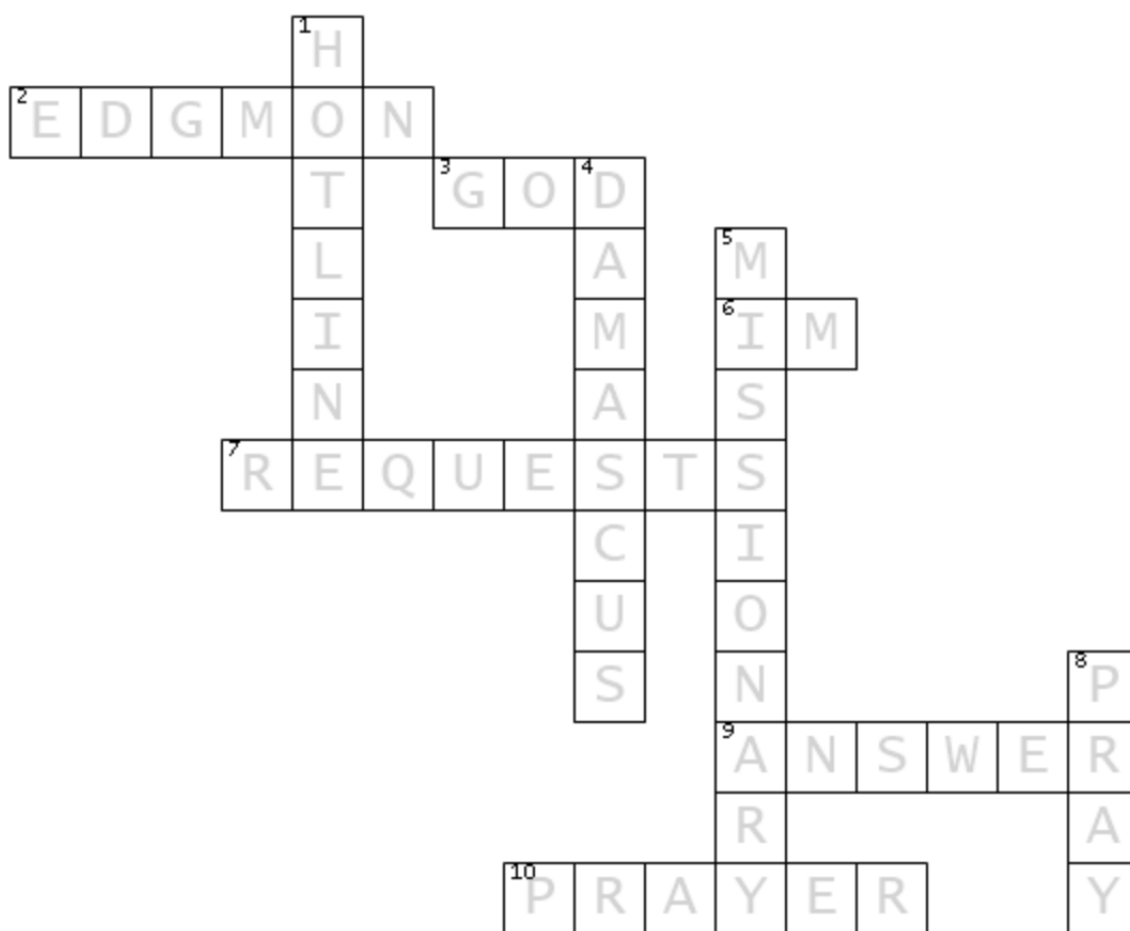
1. Where can requests be found on the IM website each month?
4. The name of the road where Saul saw a great light
5. A person who leaves his or her home to go and share the Gospel with others
8. \_\_\_\_\_ without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)





# Journey with your PRAYERS!

ANSWER KEY







## Lesson Four

# Journey with your OFFERINGS!

## JOURNEY to the ENDS OF THE EARTH



### Lesson objective:

Students will learn about the importance of offering their talents, time, and money for the cause of missions.



### Materials needed:

Dollar bills cut out on "Lesson 4: Activity Sheet 1" ahead of time

Copy of "Lesson 4: Activity Sheet 2" for each child



### Bible connection (Acts 9):

Today we will return to our Bible story and continue learning about Saul and how God called him to be a missionary. When we last saw him, he'd just learned about how God wanted him to travel to the ends of the earth to tell people about Jesus and how his sight had been restored. Oh happy day, right? Well, sort of!

Saul was soon baptized and he spent many days studying with the disciples. He realized that God had special work for him to do. He even had to change his name....he was now called Paul. He was going to be traveling to many places to teach people about Jesus. He was about to learn more about the cost of being a disciple of Jesus.

Paul needed to give up some of the comforts he'd had in life because God was asking him to do something even bigger. Sometimes God also calls us to do something "bigger" in life when He asks us to give offerings to the church and to missionaries.



### Missionary connection:

The World Missions Offering is a special offering that churches all around the world take up once a year. This offering helps missionaries plant churches, disciple new believers, minister to needs, and partner with national churches. That's a LOT of work, right? And it needs a big offering! This year the goal for the offering is one million dollars.

That sounds like a lot of money, right? And it is! But, did you know that it's not impossible? If every Free Will Baptist church gave just \$500, the World Missions Offering would easily reach one million dollars.

Matthew 6:21 says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Giving to missions is a matter of our HEARTS. If we treasure something, we will give our money to it. What do YOU treasure? The best way to answer that is to think about how you spend your money.

Distribute the "dollar bills" with the words to Matthew 6:21. Have the children put the "dollars" in order to make the memory verse. When it is completed, ask each child to read it out loud.



**Mind connection:**

What would you do if you had one million dollars? Would you spend it right away? Or save some of it? Would you share it with someone? Or keep it all for yourself? Now, ask yourself another question...what would you do if you had a special talent, some money, or maybe some extra time? Would you keep those to yourself? Or would you share them with others who had less of those things? Missions is about using the talents we have to make sure that others can hear about Jesus and His love for them.



**Prayer connection:**

Lead the students in prayer, asking God to guide them as they learn about missions and give of themselves and their offerings to share the Gospel with those who don't yet know about God.



**Closing connection:**

Give students "Lesson 4: Activity Sheet 2" and help them think of ways they can participate in missions. After they fill in the answers, let them color the globes.

# MEMORY VERSE

Cut out the "dollar bills" and then put the words in order to learn about giving to missions.

**FOR**

**WHERE**

**YOUR**

**TREASURE**

**IS**

**THERE**

**WILL**

**YOUR**

**HEART**

**BE**

**ALSO**

**MATTHEW  
6:21**









World Missions Offering

Write three examples of ways YOU can give to missions. It could be your time, your talent, or your offerings. Then color the globe.





## Lesson Five

# GO AND TELL as you Journey to the Ends of the Earth

**JOURNEY**  
to the  
**ENDS OF THE EARTH**



### Lesson objective:

Students will learn about how they can be a part of going and telling God's story to people who still need to hear it.



### Materials needed:

Copy of "Lesson 5: Activity Sheet" for each child

NOTE: To find the mailing addresses to send PAUL ON A CALL to IM missionaries, use the download "IM Directory 2023-24". Remember to check international postage rates before mailing.



### Bible connection (Acts 16):

Today we will hear the last part of Paul's story of his conversion and calling. On one of his missionary journeys, he traveled with three friends: Timothy, Silas, and Luke. They were going to the city of Philippi on the Sabbath, and they went down by the river to pray. When they sat down, they began talking with some women who were gathered there. One of the women was named Lydia, who sold beautiful purple cloth in the marketplace.

Lydia was very interested in Paul's story and listened closely when he talked about Jesus. Her heart was opened by the Holy Spirit, especially when she learned about how Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the whole world. Lydia believed, and she and everyone in her house were baptized.

God used Paul's witness to reach out to Lydia. He wants us to be like Paul and be His witnesses when we tell people around us about Jesus and His love for them. In fact, Acts 1:8 talks about this witness, saying "...and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The uttermost part of the earth means the ends of the earth. That's the farthest place you can imagine.

How exciting it is that we get to be a part of God's plan for reaching the ends of the earth with the Gospel message. But how can we do that? By telling God's story.

Have the children sit in a circle. The teacher will whisper the phrase "I love to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love," to one child. That child will then whisper it to another child, until each one "around the world" in the circle has heard the message.

Sing the following hymn together:

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longing as nothing else can do.*

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**Missionary connection:**

Telling God's story is what missionaries do every day. Did you know that there are opportunities for young people to be a part of God's plan, too? You can go on an ETEAM trip when you are in high school for a two-week missions experience in another country. But you don't have to wait until then to tell God's story. You can start now!

Today we are going to do an activity where you will get to "go" (with your imagination) to a mission field. How many of you have ever heard of Flat Stanley? Flat Stanley is a book character who goes to different places around the world to experience life in other countries. Today, instead of Flat Stanley, you're going to get a chance to meet...PAUL ON A CALL.

Paul will get to travel to one of the places where IM missionaries serve: Japan, Spain, France, Bulgaria, Kenya, Ecuador, or International Student ministry areas. As children choose mission fields, encourage them to pray for the missionaries there. (You can use the missionary map from past lessons to help children visualize where each PAUL ON A CALL will be traveling. Use "Lesson 5: Activity Sheet" for students to color PAUL ON A CALL and write any messages they want to send. Help them (with parents' permission) put their names and email addresses so that missionaries can reach out to them with messages about Paul's adventures in their countries.

**Closing connection:**

God not only used Paul and Lydia to be tools to spread the message of Jesus to the ends of the earth, but how He can use you also to be His tools to GO and TELL people about Jesus.

**JOURNEY**  
to the  
**ENDS OF THE EARTH**

# PAUL ON A CALL

Help send Paul on a "Journey to the Ends of the Earth." Draw his face and clothes and then color him. Mail him to an IM mission field for his adventure to begin. If you want to hear back from him, please include your name and email below.



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

