PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 6.4: The Church Extends

JOURNEY I DENTITY

SCRIPTURE READING

- » Acts 9:1–22
- » Acts 9:23-31; Galatians 1:10-24
- » Philippians 3:1–4:1
- » 1 Timothy 1:1–17

SUMMARY:

This week's lesson series helped us get to know the apostle Paul. Paul's life showed us Christians should be ready to share the Gospel at any time in their Christian journey. Paul told people about Christ immediately after he was saved!

A Christian's life shouldn't stay stagnant. After becoming saved, we should continuously grow more like Christ through the Holy Spirit. Paul took time to study God's Word and seek the Lord's will for his life. Then he followed as the Lord instructed.

In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he talked about his greatest desire: to know Christ better. Paul knew that even though a Christian's transformation isn't complete until they reach heaven, God still uses them while sanctifying them on Earth.

On Day 4 of this lesson, we looked at Paul's letter to Timothy and the impact sharing your testimony can have. Paul realized his past didn't define him but was a powerful tool that demonstrated the grace and mercy of Jesus in his life.

Paul sets a great example for all Christians to follow. When we follow Paul, we are pointed to Jesus, who set the ultimate example of how to live a life pleasing to God.

■ MEMORY VERSE OPTIONS

- » 2 Corinthians 5:17*
- » Philippians 3:10
- » 1 Timothy 1:5

D IDENTITY INSIGHT

In every season of life, I can be a witness for Christ. Reading and studying God's Word matures my faith so I can be an effective tool for the kingdom.

▶ IMPORTANT IDEAS:

SAUL AND PAUL: Saul was his Hebrew name, used in Jewish circles (Acts 9:10–14); Paul was his Roman name, used in gentile environments. Paul was a Hebrew Jew born in Tarsus, a Roman colony city (Acts 13:9).

JUSTIFICATION: the aspect of salvation in which God declares He has forgiven someone's sins (Romans 4:5–8) and has made them righteous by grace (Romans 3:23–24)

SANCTIFICATION: the aspect of salvation in which God consecrates or sets apart Christians as His holy people who should reflect His holiness; the process of becoming more like Christ through the Holy Spirit's work in us as we learn more about Him

GLORIFICATION: the aspect of salvation in which God completes the work He began, perfecting the believer at the day of Christ, when Jesus returns (Romans 13:11; Philippians 1:6, 9–11; 1 John 3:2)

DOXOLOGY: a statement, hymn or religious pronouncement of praise to God