

## Saul Becomes Paul, Acts 9:1-22

**Notes:** This is more similar to the format we will be switching to. However, it is not complete as we are working on some cool additions :)

If it's in a box - it's more of an explanation / routine. If it's next to a star ★ - this is something that will probably change between lessons and/or is something you should say to the kids. I just wanted to make sure we had a way to give tips and the lesson in one doc, but also make it a bit more reader friendly and not just repeating huge chunks of text in each lesson.

### **Introduction:**

**Context:** Give the kids some connection between the last few lessons and today's lesson.

- ★ After Jesus resurrected, He visited His disciples and others - as a way to show that He was alive! Then, He ascended or was lifted up to Heaven. But His work was not done. He wants more people to hear about Him and tell about Him, so that they can be saved and live with God! Today's story is about a man who wrote most of the New Testament and how God saved him! Two of his most famous verses tell us about the Fruit of the Spirit - so those are our memory verses for the next few weeks!

**Story:** Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

- ★ Paul was born in the city of Tarsus. When he was still just a boy, his family left Tarsus to go to Jerusalem so he could study the Jewish religion. Saul became a Pharisee.

Pharisees were men who were very well taught. They knew a lot about the law of Moses and about the Jewish religion. However, many of them did not

understand that God sent Jesus to be the Messiah, the Savior of the world. They had a different idea of who the Messiah would be and how he would rescue them from the Romans. Most of them did not accept that Jesus was the Savior and that he was God's Son.

Many of the Pharisees persecuted people who believed Jesus was the Savior. That means that the Pharisees would do terrible things to the believers. They often arrested them and sent them to prison. Saul was one of the Pharisees that mistreated Christians. In fact, many Christians left Jerusalem to go live in other places because they were afraid of Saul.

One day, Saul was on his way to Damascus to arrest Christians and bring them back to Jerusalem. He and the men that he was with were almost to Damascus when suddenly, a bright light appeared from the sky. Saul fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul asked who was speaking to him and the voice said, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting." And then Jesus told him, "Get up and go to the city, and you will be told what you must do."

The men who were with him could hear the voice too, but they could not see anyone. They were speechless. Saul got up from the ground and opened his eyes, but he could not see. The men that were with him led him into Damascus. For three days Saul could not see. He did not eat or drink.

There was a follower of Jesus in Damascus by the name of Ananias (a·nuh·nai·uhs). The Lord told him in a vision to go to the house where Saul of Tarsus was staying and lay hands on him to heal his blindness. Ananias was confused. He had heard of Saul and knew that he persecuted Christians.

The Lord told him to do as he was asked. He told Ananias that He had chosen Saul to do a great work. So, Ananias went to Saul and laid hands on him. He told Saul that Jesus had sent him so that he would regain his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately, something like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. Saul got up and was baptized.

For several days Saul stayed in Damascus with followers of Jesus. He spent much time in the temple, preaching that Jesus was the Messiah and the Son of God.

★ **Christ Connection:** Jesus' work on the cross was an important part of God's plan to save people from sin. Now, God wants people to share the Story of

God and His love for everyone. In today's story, Jesus asked Paul to share the story. He also asks you to share about Him.

**Follow Up:** As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

- ★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.
- ★ **Examine:**
  - Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
  - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
- ★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"
- ★ **Prayer**

**Memory Verse:** Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

- ★ **Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. -- Galatians 5:22-23

**Memory Verse Practice:**

**Song:** Every age group: Play the Books of the Bible song. Encourage kids to sing along. When in the Old Testament, play that song; when in the New Testament, play that song.

**Verse Look Up:** Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- Rainbow Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Have them open just to the book of the Bible.
- Fireweed Tip: Do the Rainbow tip above and then have them find the chapter and verse.

**Practice the Verse:**

- Rainbow: Not necessary :)
- Fireweed: Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- Trees & Mountains: Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines for the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

**Books of the Bible:**

- If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.
  - Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

**Sticky Activities:** No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities. Please see the following pages for activity ideas. You do not even need to use these, but I wanted to provide some ideas :)

**Send Home Page:** Labeled Lesson Recap. I am open to ideas on this. I made it smaller as I think many times they get trashed or left behind.



## Lesson Recap

**Lesson:** *Saul Becomes Paul*  
Acts 9:1-22

**Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.  
-- Galatians 5:22-23



## Lesson Recap

**Lesson:** *Saul Becomes Paul*  
Acts 9:1-22

**Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.  
-- Galatians 5:22-23



## Lesson Recap

**Lesson:** *Saul Becomes Paul*  
Acts 9:1-22

**Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.  
-- Galatians 5:22-23



## Lesson Recap

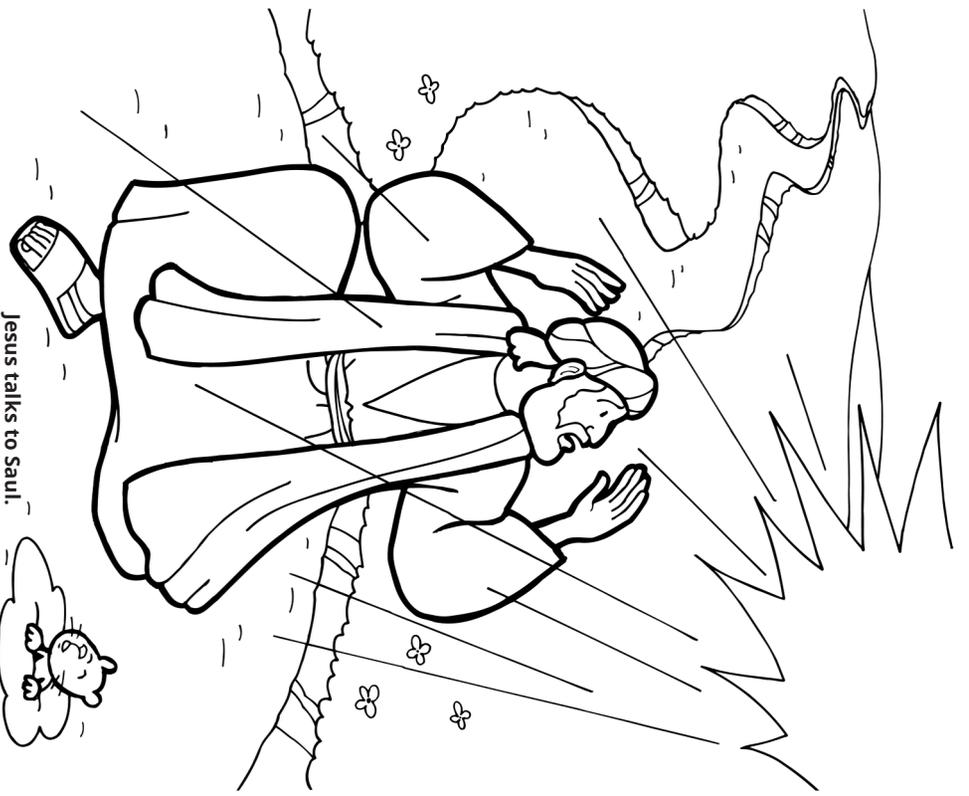
**Lesson:** *Saul Becomes Paul*  
Acts 9:1-22

**Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.  
-- Galatians 5:22-23



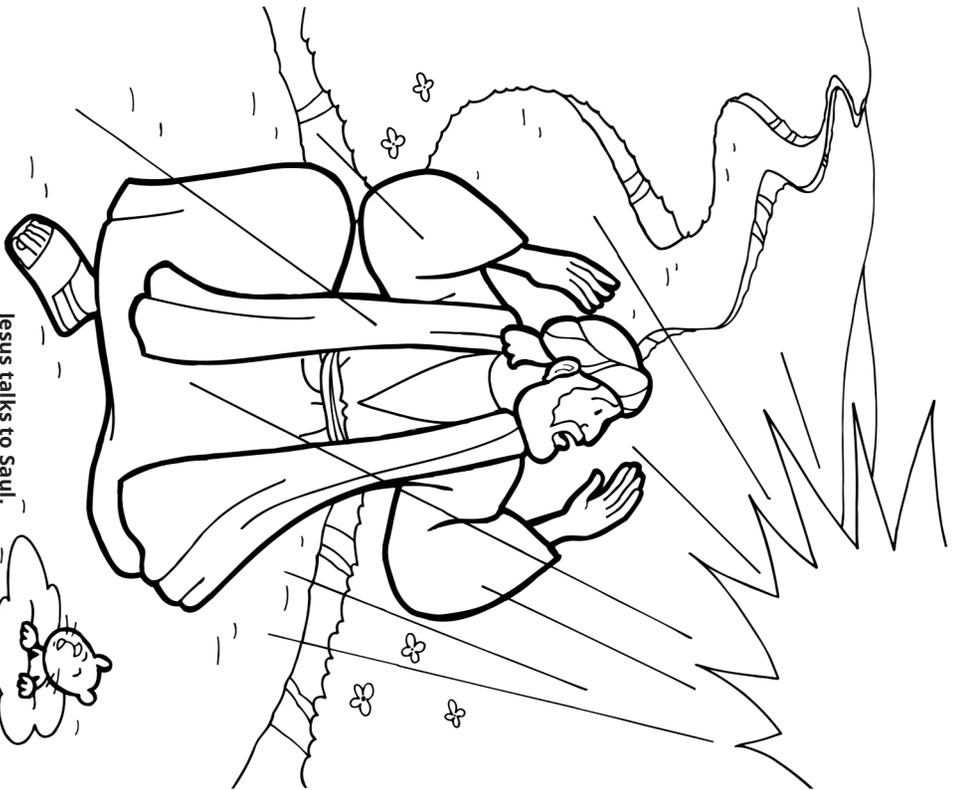
Jesus talks to Saul.

©1997 by GospelLight. Permission to photocopy granted. Bible Story Coloring Page # 221  
Acts 9:1-19



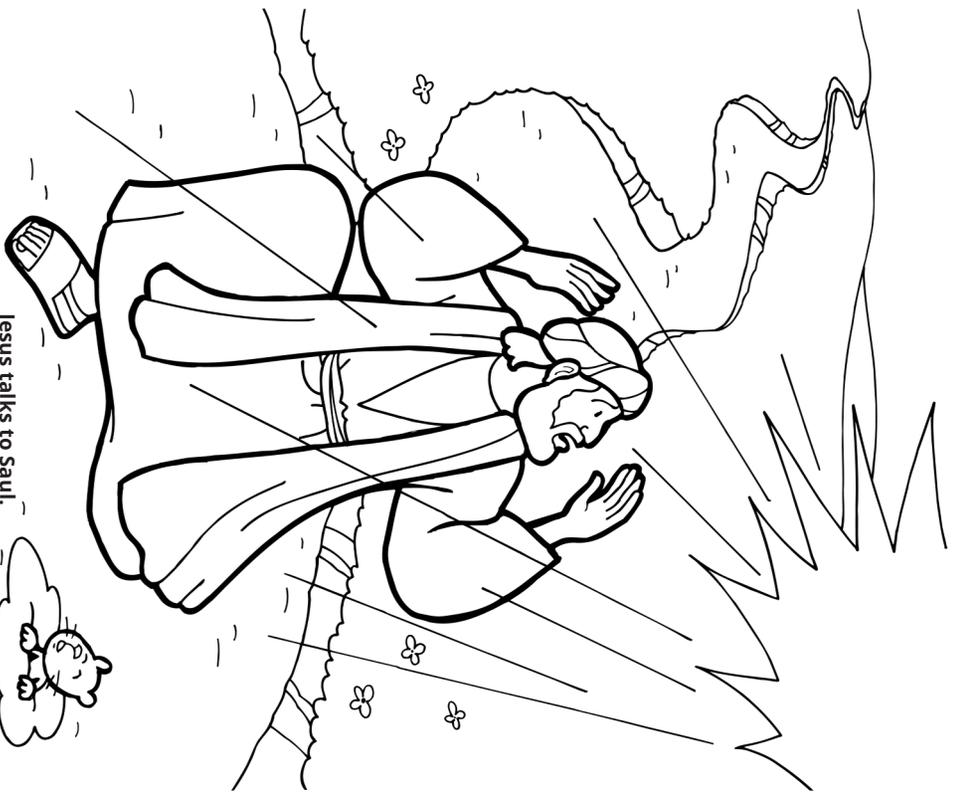
Jesus talks to Saul.

©1997 by GospelLight. Permission to photocopy granted. Bible Story Coloring Page # 221  
Acts 9:1-19



Jesus talks to Saul.

©1997 by GospelLight. Permission to photocopy granted. Bible Story Coloring Page # 221  
Acts 9:1-19



Jesus talks to Saul.

©1997 by GospelLight. Permission to photocopy granted. Bible Story Coloring Page # 221  
Acts 9:1-19



**Jesus talks to Saul.**

Acts 9:1-19

# Jesus talks to Saul.

Acts 9:1-19

Saul was certain that Jesus' friends were telling lies. Saul didn't believe that Jesus was God's Son. Saul wanted to make people stop talking about Jesus. Saul was so angry that he even wanted to kill people who believed in Jesus!

Saul went to Damascus to find people who believed in Jesus and take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he walked along the road with some friends, a bright light suddenly flashed around Saul. Saul fell to the ground. Jesus talked to Saul. "Why are you hurting me?" Jesus said. "Go to Damascus and you will be told what you must do." Saul got up, but he could not see. Saul's friends helped Saul walk to Damascus.

For three days, Saul was blind and he didn't eat anything. He prayed to God. God sent a man who loved Jesus to help Saul. The man went to the house where Saul was staying and said, "The Lord Jesus sent me so that you may see again." Right away, Saul could see. Now Saul loved and obeyed Jesus.

# Games and Activities

## Flashlight tag

Create a dimly lit environment. Either in dark room or wait for the evening. Make sure the space is safe and there is nothing dangerous for the children to hurt themselves on. Select one person to be 'it'. Give them a torch (Flashlight).

'It' closes their eyes and counts to a number while the other players hide. When they are finished counting, they must search for the other players and tag them by shining the torch on them.



## Recognise the voice

To prepare for this activity, use your phone to record some people your child knows well saying a simple sentence. For example. "Hello. Do you know who I am?" Alternatively, you could find some videos of people from your child's favorite cartoons.

One by one, play a voice to your child. They must then guess who's voice it is. If they find it too difficult, you can give a clue and play the voice again.

Share how Saul heard a voice from Heaven and asked who it was. Remind them it was Jesus.

## Blindfolded walk with a Guide

Place a blindfold on your child. Have them hold onto your arm. Explain that you will be their guide. Take them on a short walk around the room, house or garden. Ask them where they think they are?

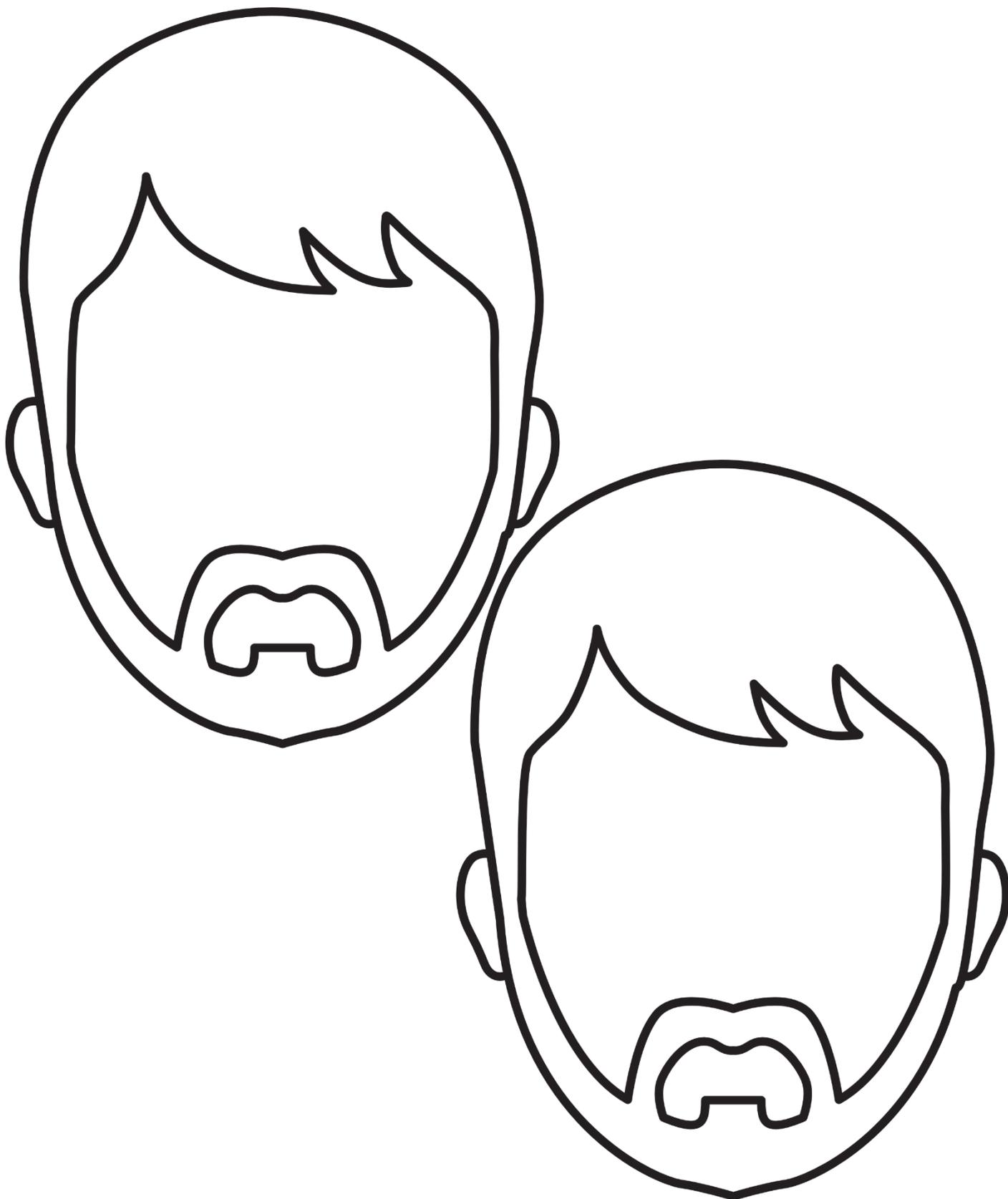
Speak about how Saul was left blind after seeing the bright light and needed others to help him.



# Find 7 differences

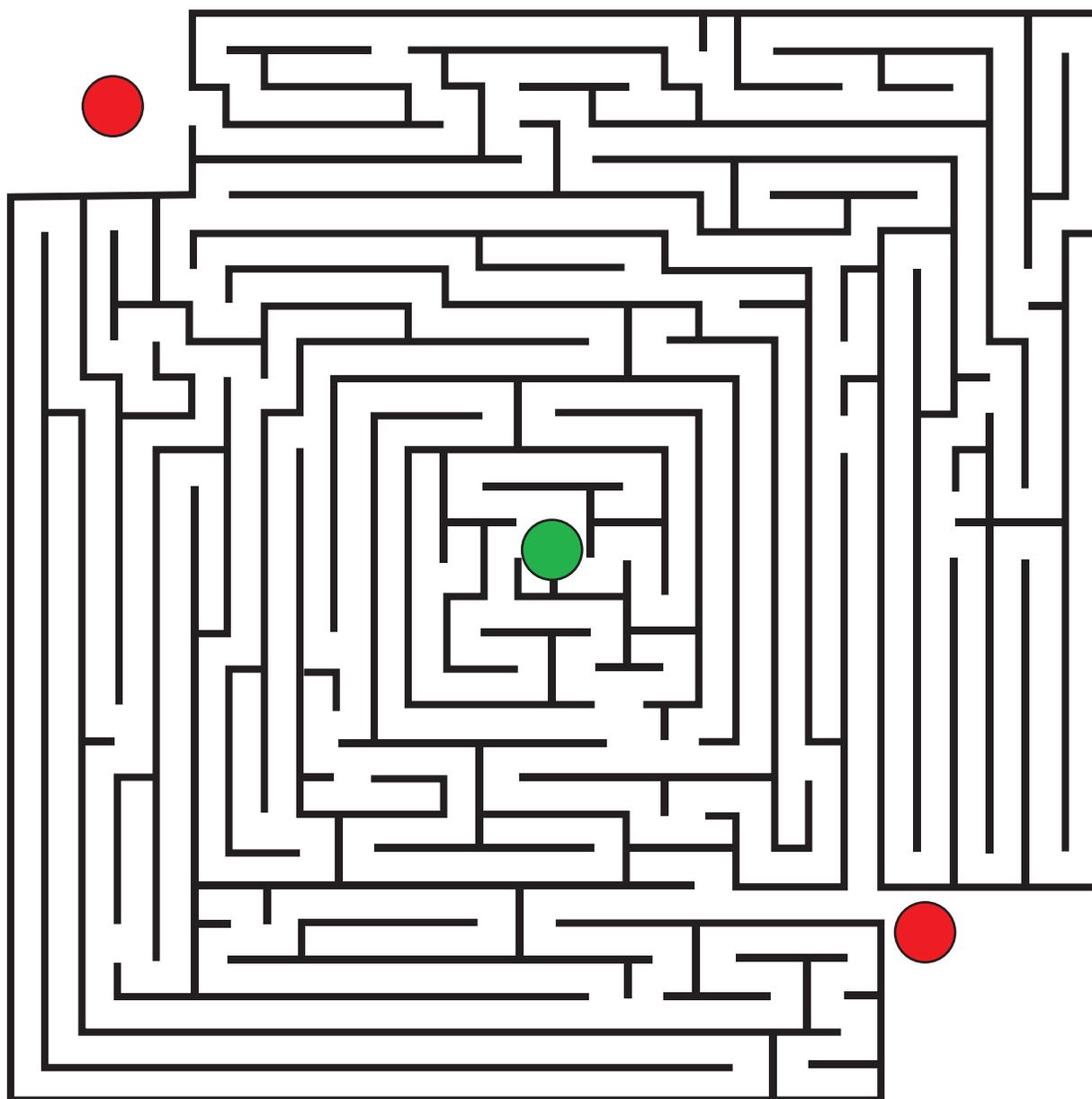


**Draw Saul's face before and after his transformation**



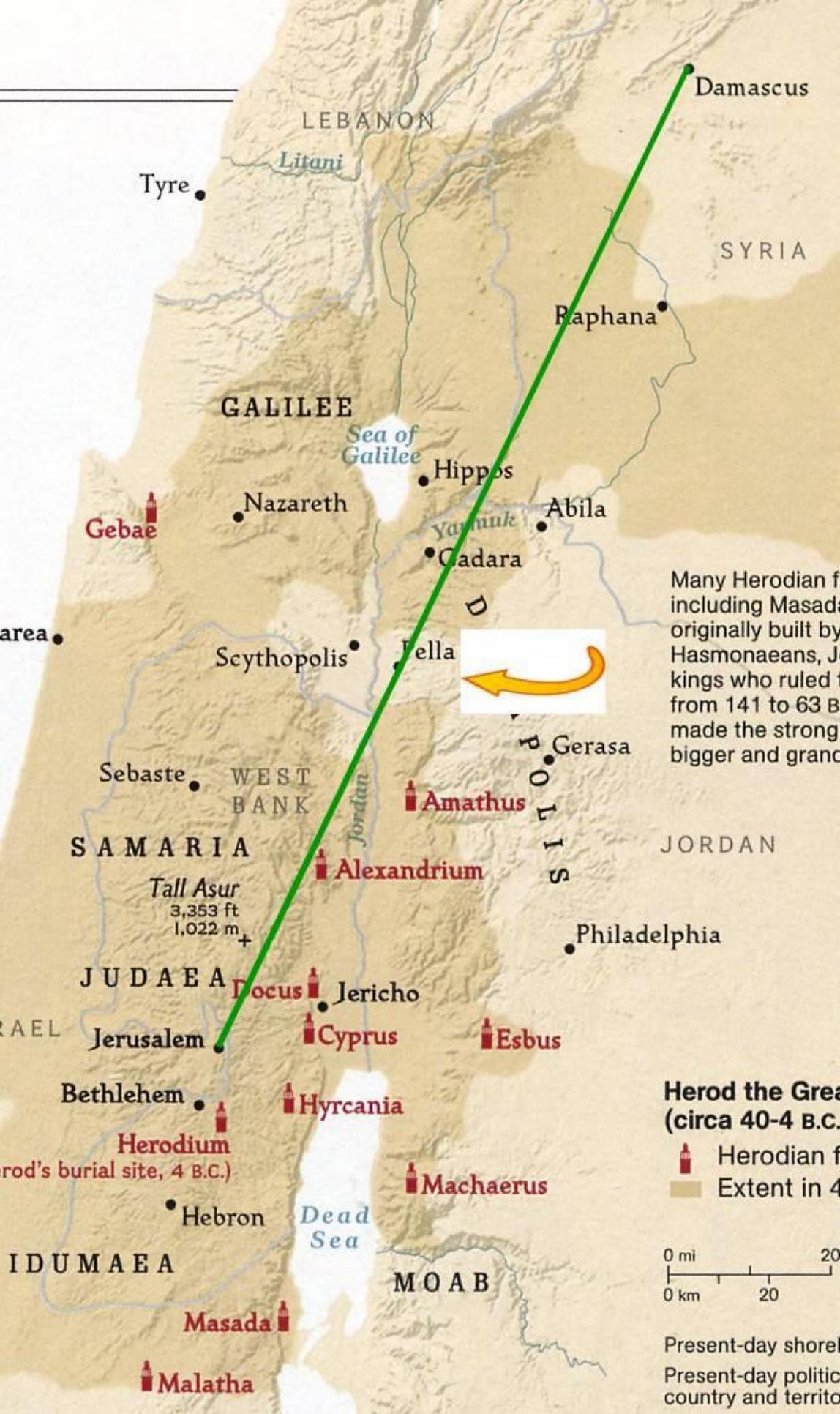
# THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS MAZE

Travel to the center of Damascus. Choose one of two routes.  
You may find alternate undiscovered shortcuts along the way.

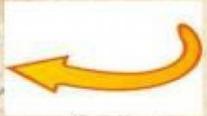


# Connect the Dots



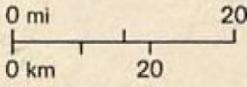


Many Herodian fortifications, including Masada, were originally built by the Hasmonaeans, Jewish kings who ruled from 141 to 63 B.C. Herod the Great made the strongest bigger and grander.



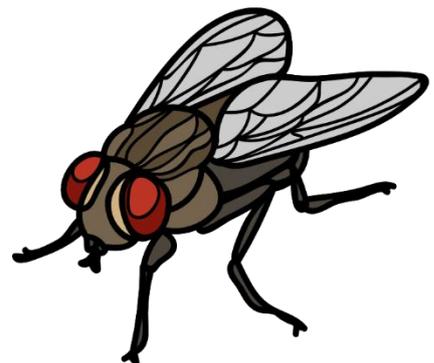
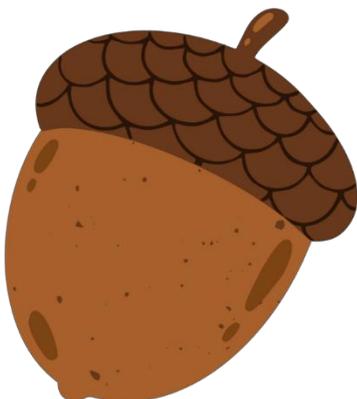
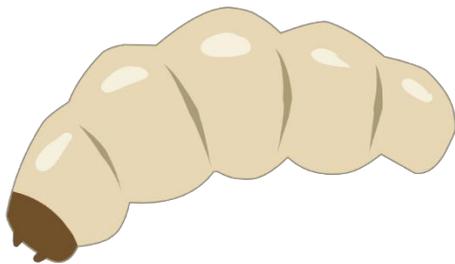
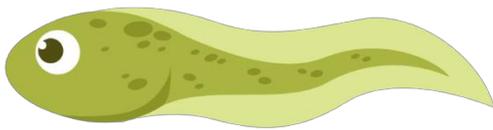
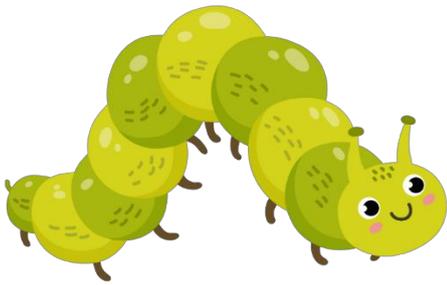
**Herod the Great (circa 40-4 B.C.)**

-  Herodian fortification
-  Extent in 4 B.C.



Present-day shoreline  
 Present-day political country and territories

# Match the transformations



# Circle the Correct Answer

Saul was traveling to Damascus on a:



Saul saw a:



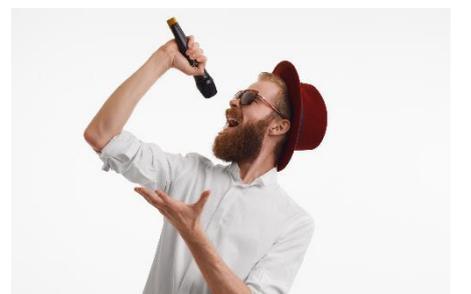
What was Saul going to do to Christians?



After Saul could not:



God sent Ananias to do what for Paul:



“Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked.

“I am Jesus,”  
Acts 9:5





# Fill in the Blank Verse

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Hand out to the students. Help them complete this, if they need it.

Students: Use the Bible or the memory verse poster to help you fill in the blanks on this verse.

**But the \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_ is love,  
\_\_\_\_\_, peace,  
patience, \_\_\_\_\_,  
goodness, \_\_\_\_\_,  
gentleness, and self-  
\_\_\_\_\_. The law is  
\_\_\_\_\_ against such  
things. -- \_\_\_\_\_**

**5:22-23**

# Fill in the Blank Verse

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Hand out to the students. Help them complete this, if they need it.

Students: Use the Bible or the memory verse poster to help you fill in the blanks on this verse.

**But the \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_ is love,  
\_\_\_\_\_, peace,  
patience, \_\_\_\_\_,  
goodness, \_\_\_\_\_,  
gentleness, and self-  
\_\_\_\_\_. The law is  
\_\_\_\_\_ against such  
things. -- \_\_\_\_\_**

**5:22-23**

# Verse by Phrase

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Then cut each section apart on the lines. Mix up the phrases and put each set in its own envelope. Help the students and make sure they get it right.

Students can work by themselves or in partners.

Students: Take the phrases and use the Bible/memory verse poster to help you put the verse back in order.

# Verse by Phrase

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Then cut each section apart on the lines. Mix up the phrases and put each set in its own envelope. Help the students and make sure they get it right.

Students can work by themselves or in partners.

Students: Take the phrases and use the Bible/memory verse poster to help you put the verse back in order.

**But the fruit of the Spirit is**

**love, joy,**

**peace, patience,**

**kindness, goodness,**

**faithfulness, gentleness,**

**and self-control.**

**The law is not**

**against such things.**

**-- Galatians 5:22-23**

**But the fruit of the Spirit is**

**love, joy,**

**peace, patience,**

**kindness, goodness,**

**faithfulness, gentleness,**

**and self-control.**

**The law is not**

**against such things.**

**-- Galatians 5:22-23**



