

LESSON 3

PAUL AND BARNABAS

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: The Holy Spirit Gives Us Power

SCRIPTURE: Acts 13

GOD'S BIG STORY: The Holy Spirit sends Paul and Barnabas to tell others about Jesus. When Elymas tries to stop them, the Holy Spirit gives Paul and Barnabas power to carry out their mission.

INTRO ACTIVITY: Flashlight Power

ACTIVITY: Transportation Toys

WORSHIP

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

ACTIVITY: Boat Ride

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Intro Activity: Flashlight Power

SUPPLIES: flashlight

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I am so happy you're here!

Gather the kids together and show them a flashlight.

Today, we're going to learn about power. Hold up the flashlight. **I have a flashlight. Batteries give the flashlight power.**

Turn the flashlight on and off several times while saying "on" and "off" each time. Encourage the kids to repeat after you and say "on" and "off."

Batteries give the flashlight power to turn on so it can shine brightly! God gives us power through the Holy Spirit!

Leader Tip: If you can't darken the room, you can use a battery-operated toy that plays music or moves, and turn it on and off to show power.

Activity: Transportation Toys

SUPPLIES: transportation toys (cars, trucks, planes, trains, boats, etc.), shallow container of water for toy boats (optional), towel (optional)

Provide a variety of transportation toys for the kids to play with and explore. Consider adding a shallow container of water for toy boats and have a towel nearby for drying up spills.

We're talking today about how the Holy Spirit gave power to two people who traveled different places to tell others about God. We'll learn how God gives us power too!

Invite kids to play with the transportation toys and think about all the places they can go. As you play and interact with the kids, narrate your actions (e.g., "Wow—look, the car goes fast!" or "Can you make the boat go in the water?", etc.).

Our Wonder Truth today is: THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US POWER.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

THE HOLY SPIRIT—Point up.

GIVES US—Place hand on chest.

POWER.—Lift up arms and flex muscles

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Transformed Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we're learning that the Holy Spirit gives us power. We'll learn in God's big story how God gave power to Paul and Barnabas through the Holy Spirit!

Play songs from the [Transformed Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#)

In this part of God's big story today, we're learning a great story from the Bible about two people named Paul and Barnabas. Encourage the kids to say, "Paul" and then "Barnabas." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Paul and Barnabas!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible, or use the script provided.

We're going to use some of the motions we just did. When I say, "Holy Spirit," we'll point up (demonstrate pointing up and allow kids to point up as well), **and when I say, "power" we'll make a strong motion like this** (flex muscles and have kids flex as well).

Paul was one of the leaders in the church. The Holy Spirit (point up) **told Paul and Barnabas that they should go on a special mission to tell people about Jesus. The Holy Spirit** (point up) **is God with us.**

So Barnabas and Paul went on a trip to share the good news of Jesus. They got on a boat and went to a place called Cyprus. The leader there was named Paulus. He was excited to meet Paul and Barnabas, but there was a man there who lied to people. That man told Paulus not to listen to the good news about Jesus.

But Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit (point up) **and told the man that he was wrong. When the leader Paulus saw what happened, he knew that the Holy Spirit** (point up) **was with Paul and Barnabas and gave them power** (flex muscles). **Now, Paulus was ready to listen and learn about Jesus!**

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit (point up) **to be with His people. The Holy Spirit** (point up) **gives us power** (flex muscles)!

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. When I say, "power," show your muscles.

God, thank You that when we trust in You, You give us the Holy Spirit. We are thankful that You make us strong and give us power (show your muscles). **We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May God give you power as the Holy Spirit works in you. May the power He gives you help you follow Jesus all your days!

Activity: Boat Ride

SUPPLIES: blanket or towel, toy or paper fish (optional)

Lay a blanket (or towel) on the floor. Place pretend fish on the floor around the room (optional).

Paul and Barnabas rode in a boat to go tell people about Jesus! Let's pretend to ride in a boat like Paul and Barnabas did!

Invite kids to sit on the blanket and pretend that the blanket is a boat. Show the kids how to pretend to row the boat. Use your imagination and look for fish and other water animals as you "travel."