

Paul and the Shipwreck: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: I can accomplish God's mission when I focus on Jesus.

SuperVerse: *Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.*

Hebrews 12:1b–2a (NKJV)

Bible Story: Acts 21–28

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today is a new Superbook video for you today called “Paul and the Shipwreck.” Paul focused on the mission for Christ he was given to do to make sure he reached the finish line. Our new life began with Jesus, and our goal is to become more like Him every day. From the starting line to the finish line, we need Jesus every step of the way!

- Joy, Gizmo, Chris, and his parents are helping people in a remote village after a flood—but the work is so hard, Joy feels like quitting.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo back in time to meet the Apostle Paul, who has been arrested and put aboard a prison ship to stand trial in Rome. They see how Paul has the strength to face many dangers—including a dreadful storm, a terrible shipwreck, and a poisonous snake. The children learn to look past weakness and fear to focus on the Lord and His mission for them.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Focus on the Finish (15 minutes)

Objective: Play a game to accomplish a mission.

- Sometimes our race or mission in life will be smooth; sometimes it will be more difficult. As long as we keep our eyes on Jesus, we will accomplish His purposes!

Game Instructions:

- The goal of this game is to travel to the Jesus Sign and the finish line. Along the way, let's visit a few places where Paul went. Every player will spin the spinner and find out what the challenge is before starting the mission.

Teaching: Paul's Focus (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss Paul's mission.

- The Apostle Paul was a man of determination and strength. It seemed that nothing could stop him from accomplishing the mission God gave him to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- Children use their craft booklets to learn the names of the first two sets of books. By knowing the books of the Bible in order, it makes it easier to look up Scriptures in God's Word.

SuperVerse: Superbook Pass (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- Whether we are new Christians or have been believers for 90 years—we always need to keep our eyes on Jesus. He is the source of our faith and the One who perfects or completes our faith!
- Each child shouts a word of the SuperVerse, then tosses the ball to the child directly across who catches the ball, shouts the next word of the verse, and so on until the entire verse is completed.

Prayer: Selfless Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- Paul did not concentrate on his own hardship. He did not complain about being in chains, even though he had been doing good things and was arrested on false charges. Paul only wanted to complete his mission, which was to spread the Gospel boldly to the Jewish and Gentile people.
- Take time to pray for boldness to share the Gospel, no matter where we are or what seems to be going wrong around us. Give children a chance to pray and focus on God's mission for them.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Object Lesson: Demonstrate how Jesus completes our faith. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

Acting Game: Play a game similar to charades. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Shipwreck Game: Play a game to safely move the ship's crew to Malta. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Study: Race to look up verses about Paul. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Mission Spinner Pattern
- Jesus Sign
- Cardstock to make two spinners
- Two metal round-head paper fasteners
- Scissors
- Optional: painters tape or masking tape
- Two balloons, plus extras if they pop
- Permanent marker
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Jesus Sign from Game
- Hardship Sign Pattern
- New Testament Books Pattern and Instructions
- Scissors
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Ball or inflated balloon
- Whiteboard and markers or chalkboard and chalk
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App