

Paul and Barnabas: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: God has a mission for me.

SuperVerse: “You will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere.” Acts 1:8b (NLT)

Bible Story: Acts 5:12–42; 11:19–30; 13:1–52; 14:1–28; 15:36–41

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today’s Superbook adventure is “Paul and Barnabas.” We’ll learn more about these men who served God fearlessly. We will also see why Chris is annoyed and embarrassed on the first day of school.

- Jia Wei, the hall monitor from school, witnesses how the disciples are jailed for preaching about Jesus and set free by an angel. Later, Chris is embarrassed when Jia Wei invites students to a Bible study and won’t defend him against some bullies.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to join Paul and Barnabas on their mission trip. In Paphos, Paul miraculously blinds a sorcerer and the Roman governor is saved. In Perga, John Mark abandons the mission, leading to a rift between Paul and Barnabas. In Lystra, Paul is nearly stoned to death. Back home, Chris, Joy and Gizmo stand up for Jia Wei and join his Bible study!

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Mission to Share (15 minutes)

Objective: Play a game to give God’s Word to others.

- The disciples were on a mission to witness about Jesus everywhere they went. He has given the same mission to us today!

Game Instructions:

- The gift bags represent God’s gift to everyone—His son, Jesus! The mission is to pass the gift bags to your teammates. This represents witnessing and sharing the free gift of Jesus. Two teams each forms 2 lines, passing the bag back and forth using the craft sticks, which have to be handed to the player next to you. The first team to return the bag to Player 1 and shout the SuperTruth wins.

Teaching: A Pattern to Follow (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss praying as Jesus did.

- Today, Jesus commissions us to make disciples, teaching us to obey Him. Jesus also gives His followers a wonderful promise—that He is always with us!

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- The mission is found on Sail #1. Memorize Psalm 96:3, and tell someone how Jesus helps you.

SuperVerse: Superbook Witness (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- The disciples had the benefit of personally knowing Jesus. They witnessed His ministry and miracles, which they could then share with others.
- In this activity you will be witnesses. Read the SuperVerse from the board together; then again, louder. Erase the board. Ask for a witness who saw the verse on the board to say the first word of the verse. Continue with a different witness for each word to complete the verse.

Prayer: Mission Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- Paul asked the believers in the city of Thessalonica to pray for success as He and the other disciples witnessed to people about Jesus.
- Let’s pray that we will be good witnesses for Jesus on our mission. Each of us will pray just a sentence or two for all who are here. Pray from your heart in your own words; it doesn’t matter if you repeat what others have said. If you don’t want to pray out loud, you don’t have to.

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

Relay Game: Play a game to find Jesus and tell others about your discovery. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Drawing Activity: Quickly draw and share Bible Story scenes. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Coloring Activity: Color a page about Paul and Barnabas’s journeys. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Activity: Race to find verses about Jesus. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Two small, purchased gift bags with handles; or any shopping bags with handles
- Marker
- Tape
- Four blunt sticks, rulers, or unsharpened pencils
- Optional: two sheets of paper

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Bibles for the children
- Mission: Witness Page
- Five Jesus Witness Pages
- File folder
- Cellophane tape or glue
- Scissors
- Mission Ship Pattern—one per child, plus extras
- Cardstock—one sheet per child plus extras
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Cellophane tape, or fast drying children’s glue
- Optional: if copying in black and white—crayons, colored pencils, or washable markers

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App