



HEROES OF THE FAITH

Large Group

LESSON 9: LARGE GROUP

Paul

MAIN IDEA

God has the power to turn his enemies into his friends. When we surrender what we have to him, he can transform something broken into something beautiful.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Acts 9:1–32

MEMORY VERSE

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Romans 5:8, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the student this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any changes and additions needed for the Large Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- 1 rock
- (Optional) 1 goldfish cracker
- Printout 1, 4 copies

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)



"Who is Jesus"
Call and Response

INTRODUCTION

Welcome the students to Crossroads and tell them you are glad they came this week.

(Optional) Go through the "Who is Jesus" call and response.

(Optional) As a group, say the memory verse for this week.

Open with prayer for the students.

OBJECT LESSON: THE ROCK AND THE GOLDFISH CRACKER

Ask for one student volunteer to come forward. Give this student a rock.

Say, **I would really like it if you would please make this rock into a goldfish because the rock is pretty ugly and useless.**

After a few seconds, thank the student for the help, and ask him or her to sit down again.

Ask:

- **Why couldn't this rock change into a goldfish?**
- **Do you think that God could change it into a goldfish?** (The answer, of course, is that he could if he wanted to because God can do everything that he desires to do.)

(Optional: You will have to pre-arrange this part before club.) Have an adult volunteer interrupt and say that they can turn the rock into a goldfish. Have them try to hide the rock in their pocket and pull out a goldfish cracker.

Say, **Today's hero is Paul. God worked through Paul to do amazing things. Originally, his name was Saul, but when he encountered Jesus, his life was transformed, and God gave him the new name, Paul. Before his transformation, Saul was a man who hated Christians, even traveling to different cities to arrest them for sharing the message of Jesus.**

Saul started out as an enemy of God. But God can take one thing and make it into something completely different. (Remember that rock?) Let's read about Paul's change now from Acts Chapter 9.

Read Acts 9:1–20 in parts. Consider having volunteers read the following parts—Narrator, Saul, God, Ananias.

Scripts are provided in Printout 1.

WRAP IT UP

Paul was burdened with great concern for all the churches. Paul was completely dedicated to serving Jesus no matter what the cost to him personally, and this is why we have chosen him as a hero.

God can take one thing (or person) and make it (or them) into something (or someone) completely different—and radically better. Paul was a fearless servant of God, but he didn't start out that way. He started out fighting against God until God changed him. So, no matter how much you have fought against God or how unworthy you feel you might be, God can use you! Will you turn to him and allow him to transform your life into something truly beautiful?