



UNIT 34 | SESSION 1

THE CHURCH MET TOGETHER

ACTS 15

CHRIST CONNECTION: Anyone who trusts in Jesus will be saved.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Tell people of God's wonderful works. Psalm 96:3

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS:

- Church leaders met to answer a question.
- God saves anyone who trusts in Jesus.
- Jesus is all we need.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

Paul and Barnabas told people about Jesus. People believed in Jesus, and God's church grew. But some people in the church said people had to follow certain rules to be saved. Paul and Barnabas met with church leaders to answer the question. They agreed that God saves everyone who trusts in Jesus. Then they wrote a letter to other church leaders that said, "God wants everyone to be saved!"



TODDLER ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible story picture as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to Acts 15. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the key passage phrase card and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 GROW THE CHURCH

Provide each child with a "Grow the Church" printable and crayons. Invite toddlers to color the church. Fold papers back on the outer fold lines. Then fold in on the inner fold lines, so the church shrinks in size. Pull apart to reveal how to "grow" the church. Review the story.

SAY "We can help make the church grow! Who can we tell about Jesus? People! Paul and Barnabas told people about Jesus, and the church grew!"

3 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Review the Bible story. Then sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb":

"Tell people of God's wonderful works, wonderful works, wonderful works.

Tell people of God's wonderful works. Psalm 96 verse 3."

SAY "Who did Paul and Barnabas tell people about? Jesus! We can tell people about Jesus too!"

4 FIND THE NEEDS AND WANTS

Invite children to sit in a circle on the floor. Hold up various toys representing needs and wants. (Suggested toys for needs: food, house, bottled water. Suggested items for wants: stuffed animal, candy, gift bag.) Include a picture of Jesus as well. Lead children in identifying the objects and talking about the differences between a need and a want. Finally, show the picture of our greatest need, Jesus.

SAY "Who is all we need? Jesus! He gives us so many things we need, and sometimes what we want too! But all we really need is Jesus!"

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.