

NURSERY AtHome - A Parent Resource

As the primary spiritual nurturer of your home, this resource is designed to inspire, equip, and support you as you share God's Word with your child.

God Statement: The Holy Spirit Transforms

Memory Verse: Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2a

The Holy Spirit Transforms | Paul's Conversion

Acts 9

Jesus' followers were going around and telling many people about Jesus. But there were still some Jews who didn't believe in Jesus. They knew all about God, but they didn't believe that God had sent Jesus to die for our sins and that He had come back to life. One of these people was named Paul. He was very mean to Jesus' followers. One day, Paul was on his way to a place called Damascus when Jesus appeared to him as a bright light and told Paul who He was. Immediately after, Paul was blind. His friends had to lead him to Damascus. God loved Paul and had big plans for him, so He sent a man named Ananias to heal Paul. When Paul was healed, he started telling everyone about Jesus! The Holy Spirit transformed Paul's whole life.



.....
• I wonder what light looks like to your eyes? Color this space with the color of light.
.....



Repetition is an important part of your child's development and growth. Enjoy re-reading the story and declaring the Holy Spirit Transforms throughout the day. Use the extra activities below to connect with God's Word this week.

PRAY

- Open a Bible to Acts 9.
- Read Acts 9:3-5. What happened to Paul on his way to Damascus? (Jesus appeared to him in a bright light.)
- Read verse 20. What did Paul do after God healed him? (He started to tell others about Jesus.)
- What part do you think you can play in The Big God Story?

EXPERIENCE

Today we heard that Jesus appeared to Paul as a bright light!. Paul became blind. Blind means you can't see.

- Close your eyes and cover them with your hands (no peeking!).
- What's it like with your eyes covered?
- Take your hands away and open your eyes.
- What's it like when your eyes are opened?
- The Holy Spirit gives you eyes to see Jesus and to know how much He loves you!

BLESS

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in *HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource* @ HomeFrontMag.com.

Child's name, may you know that your Heavenly Father loves you. May know the transforming power of the Holy Spirit as you grow each day. May His love fill you to love others.

We Bee-lieve...The Holy Spirit Transforms

In today's part of The Big God Story, Paul became a man changed by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. He used to work against Jesus' disciples with everything in his power, but after he knew God's love for him, Paul began to share with everyone about Jesus. This shows how the Holy Spirit can transform (change) us. (Acts 9)

- I wonder ... How would you feel if you saw a bright light from heaven?
- Close your eyes and cover them with your hands. What do you think it would be like to lose your sight?
- I wonder ... How did Paul feel when his sight was restored?
- I wonder ... How do you think the Holy Spirit can transform you?



God Statement :: The Holy Spirit Transforms

Memory Verse :: *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.* *Romans 12:2*

JULY | Week 1

Paul's Conversion **Acts 9**

Jesus' followers were going around and telling many people about Jesus. But there were still some Jews who didn't believe in Jesus. They knew all about God, but they didn't believe that God had sent Jesus to die for our sins and that He had come back to life. One of these people was named Paul. He was very mean to Jesus' followers. One day, Paul was on his way to a place called Damascus when Jesus appeared to him as a bright light and told Paul who He was. Immediately after, Paul was blind. His friends had to lead him to Damascus. God loved Paul and had big plans for him, so He sent a man named Ananias to heal Paul. When Paul was healed, he started telling everyone about Jesus! The Holy Spirit transformed Paul's whole life.

Discover

- In Acts 9, after Christ met Paul on the road to Damascus, Paul found himself blinded for three days. He spent these days fasting and in prayer, meditating on what he had seen and heard.
- Blindness had huge social repercussions in the first century, especially to the Israelites. The Jews believed that most illnesses and deformities were the result of a sinful life. A Pharisee could not be blind; it would register him as unclean.
- Clearly, after this incident, Paul couldn't simply go back to his old life—his physical impediment wouldn't allow it. But it was his conversion to Christ, far more than his blindness, that kept him from returning to his former life.

Experience

Read **Acts 9:1–19**. Suggest that your children keep their eyes closed tightly as you read. When you've finished reading this part of The Big God Story, have your children open their eyes. Encourage them to share how they think Paul must have felt when all of a sudden, he couldn't see anything. Ask your children why they think Ananias might not have wanted to help Paul. What happened when Ananias obeyed God? Share together as a family the ways God's love changes how you think about things.

Follow

After reading through **Acts 9:1-19**, discuss these questions together:

- How has The Holy Spirit transformed your life?
- How did The Holy Spirit transform Paul's life?
- How does God show His love?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to have conversations about how The Holy Spirit Transforms in your everyday life.

Bless:

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource @ HomeFrontMag.com.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's Name), **may you know that your Heavenly Father loves you. May you know that The Holy Spirit transforms! The Holy Spirit has the power to transform hearts and minds. As you go throughout your week, may you be empowered to pray for those who need the Holy Spirit to transform lives.**

The Holy Spirit Transforms

