

To the
Ends
of the
Earth



To the Ends of the Earth

Bible Connection:

"You will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

There was a man named Saul who did NOT love Jesus. Saul hated Jesus' disciples and anyone who said that they loved Jesus. One day Saul and some of his friends were on their way to the city of Damascus, when suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed all around him. Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying, "Saul, why are you saying such terrible things about me?"

"Who are you?" asked Saul. "I am Jesus. Get up and go into the city and there you will be told what you need to do."

Saul's friends were so surprised. They had heard the sound, but they didn't see anyone. When Saul got up from the ground and opened his eyes, he was blind! Saul could see nothing. Saul's friends took his hand and led him into the city.

In Damascus God sent a man named Ananias to Saul. "Saul," Ananias said, "Jesus, who you saw on the road, sent me to you. He wants you to see again and he wants you to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He wants you to know and love God. He wants you to travel to the ends of the earth telling people about Jesus." All at once Saul could see again! Saul was baptized and spent many days studying with the disciples. God had special work for Saul to do. Saul changed his name to Paul and traveled to many places teaching the people about Jesus.

On one of Paul's journeys he traveled with three friends, Timothy, Silas and Luke to the city of Philippi. It was the Sabbath day and they went down to the river to pray. They sat down and began talking with some women who had gathered there. There they met a woman named Lydia who sold beautiful purple cloth in the marketplace. Lydia listened closely as Paul talked about Jesus. The Holy Spirit opened Lydia's heart as she learned about Jesus and how he had died on the cross for the sins of the whole world. Lydia and her whole household were baptized.

God wants us to be his witnesses too! We are God's witnesses when we tell our friends and family about Jesus love.

Praise: *(tune: The Itsy Bitsy Spider)*

Go and tell the world
About the Savior's love
How he died for all
Sent down from heav'n above
You can be my witnesses
Everywhere you go
Share the news of Jesus
So all the world can know.

Prayer:

Dear God,
Teach me to be your witness. Help me and everyone to share the story of Jesus' love with their friends and family, so that your good news can be shared to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Parent Connection:

- Re-read the story from Acts 9:1-19 and 16:11-15 or in this story connection.
- Help your child think about who they can tell about Jesus.
- Look at a map or a globe and talk about the many places all over the world that need to hear about Jesus' love.
- Talk with your child about ways that we can help to spread the good news of Jesus to the ends of the earth.