

GROUP TIME

SING TOGETHER

- Play “All God’s Creatures.” Sing and use the motions with the song.
- Encourage preschoolers to sing and move with you.
- Welcome the children back to Breaker Rock Beach.
- Say: “We have been learning about the Bible. We know that the Bible is ____.” (*true*)

REMEMBER TOGETHER

- Lay the four previous Bible story pictures on the floor (pack items 1–4).
- Ask children to tell you something they remember from previous stories at VBS. Prompt them as needed and correct any incorrect remembering.
- Say: “We have heard several true stories from the Bible. I’m so glad we could learn about these things together.”



PAUL ENCOURAGED THE EPHESIANS

Acts 9:1-6; 19:1-10,21-31; 20:1; Ephesians 3:14–4:16

After Paul started following Jesus, he told people about Jesus wherever he went. Ephesus was one of the towns Paul visited. He met some followers of John the Baptist who only knew part of the truth.

Paul told them the good news about Jesus, and they became followers of Jesus. Some people got angry with Paul for telling this good news. They started saying bad things about Paul and even started a fight in the city! A city official reminded the angry crowd that Paul had not said anything bad to them or about them. Paul didn’t want to fight. He wanted to honor God. Paul knew it was time to go to another town, but he told the new believers to keep following Jesus.

Later Paul wrote a letter to that church in Ephesus. Paul remembered what life was like there. People who believed in Jesus were often made fun of, and it was easy to get angry. Paul reminded the followers to show God’s love to others even when they did not agree with them. He prayed for them often that they would know how amazing God’s love was for them. Paul told the people to honor God by being kind to all people.

Paul said the people should grow and learn more about Jesus. He wanted them to know God’s Word is true so they could not be tricked by other people. Paul told the people in Ephesus to always speak God’s truth with love so people could grow to be more like Jesus.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Pull the letter from your bag. Ask kids to tell you what they think it is.
- After a few guesses, say: “This is a letter. People today may use text or email to send messages, but sometimes they write letters. Did you know that people in the Bible wrote letters too? We will hear a story about a man who wrote a letter.”
- Place the letter back in your bag.

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Say: “Listen carefully to discover who wrote a letter and why he wrote it.”
- Open the Bible and tell the Bible story.

GROUP TIME SUPPLIES AND PREP

- Bible
- Bible Story Pictures 1–5 (pack items 1–5)
- “Sandcastle Wall” (pack item 6)
- “Sandcastle Add-ons” (pack item 7)
- “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8)
- “Bible Verse Words” (pack item 12)
- “Questions and Prompts” (pack item 26)
- VBS 2024 Preschool Activity Book* (9781430090168) (1 per child if possible)
- VBS 2024 Preschool Music* (from the leader pack)
- VBS 2024 Memory Maker* (9781430088318) (1 per child if possible)
- VBS 2024 Beach Bag* (9781430092940) or large gift bag
- Large envelope
- Tape
- Prepare the add-on with the Day 5 Point (pack item 7). Place the Bible, story picture, and Today’s Point in the beach bag. Place the “Bible Verse Words” (pack item 12) in an envelope and seal it. Write an address (your class name/room number and church) on the front of the envelope. Place a sticker in the upper corner as a stamp. Place the “letter” in the beach bag.