

Story 11 : The Apostle Paul

Main Bible verse
[Acts 9:15]

But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! I have chosen this man to work for me.
He will announce my name to the Gentiles and to their kings.
He will also announce my name to the people of Israel."

Saul was a well-educated man but he did not know Jesus. Not only that, he hated those who believed in Jesus and persecuted them, putting them in jail. He went to the high priest and asked,

"Please write a letter that gives anyone the power to capture believers of Jesus and bring them to Jerusalem."

Saul left for Damascus to persecute and capture Jesus' disciples.

But when Saul neared Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

Saul couldn't open his eyes because the light was so bright.

Although he shaded his face with his hands, he couldn't see anything because of the bright light.

Then, he heard a voice from heaven say, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" Jesus answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting!"

Saul did not believe Jesus was the king of the Jews whom God had promised nor did he believe in Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. He was extremely astonished when he heard Jesus' words.

When Saul opened his eyes he could see nothing so the men traveling with Saul led him by the hand into Damascus.

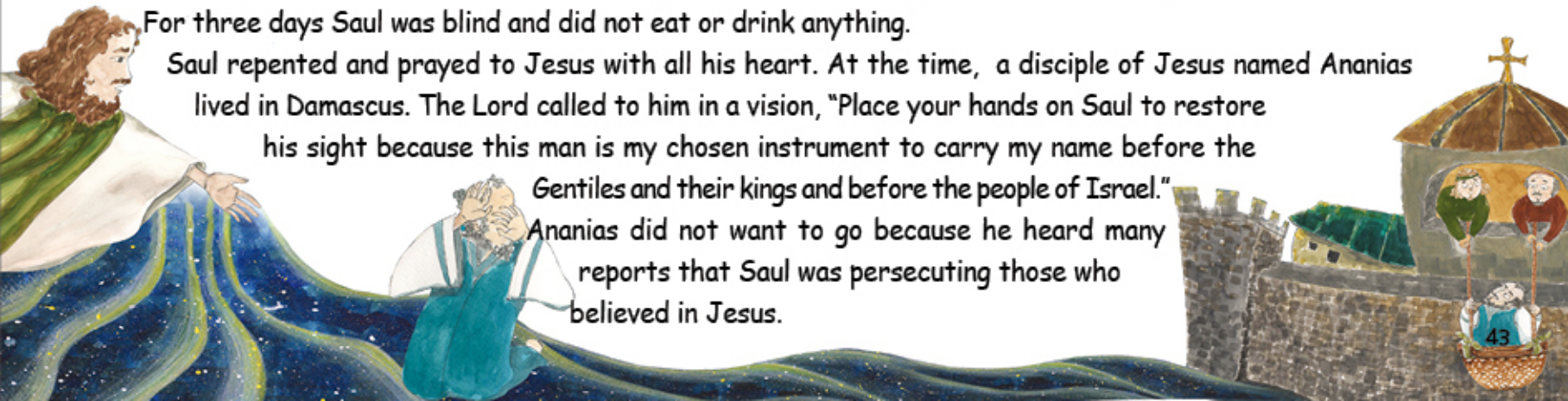
For three days Saul was blind and did not eat or drink anything.

Saul repented and prayed to Jesus with all his heart. At the time, a disciple of Jesus named Ananias lived in Damascus. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Place your hands on Saul to restore

his sight because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the

Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel."

Ananias did not want to go because he heard many reports that Saul was persecuting those who believed in Jesus.





But Ananias went to the house to find Saul and placed his hands on him.
As soon as Ananias finished praying, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again.
Saul got up and was baptized. Saul was now a disciple of Jesus.
After taking some food, Saul regained his strength and spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.
At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.
After many days had gone by, the Jews planned together to kill him.
Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him, but Saul learned of their plan.
So Saul's followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall so that he could escape.
This Saul is the famous evangelist, Paul.
Although Paul suffered many hardships and difficulties, he stayed faithful and preached the Word of God in many countries.
He also wrote 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament.



Activity 1.

Answer the following questions.

a. Who was Saul persecuting?

b. What happened to Saul on his journey as he approached Damascus?

c. Who did Jesus speak to through a dream?

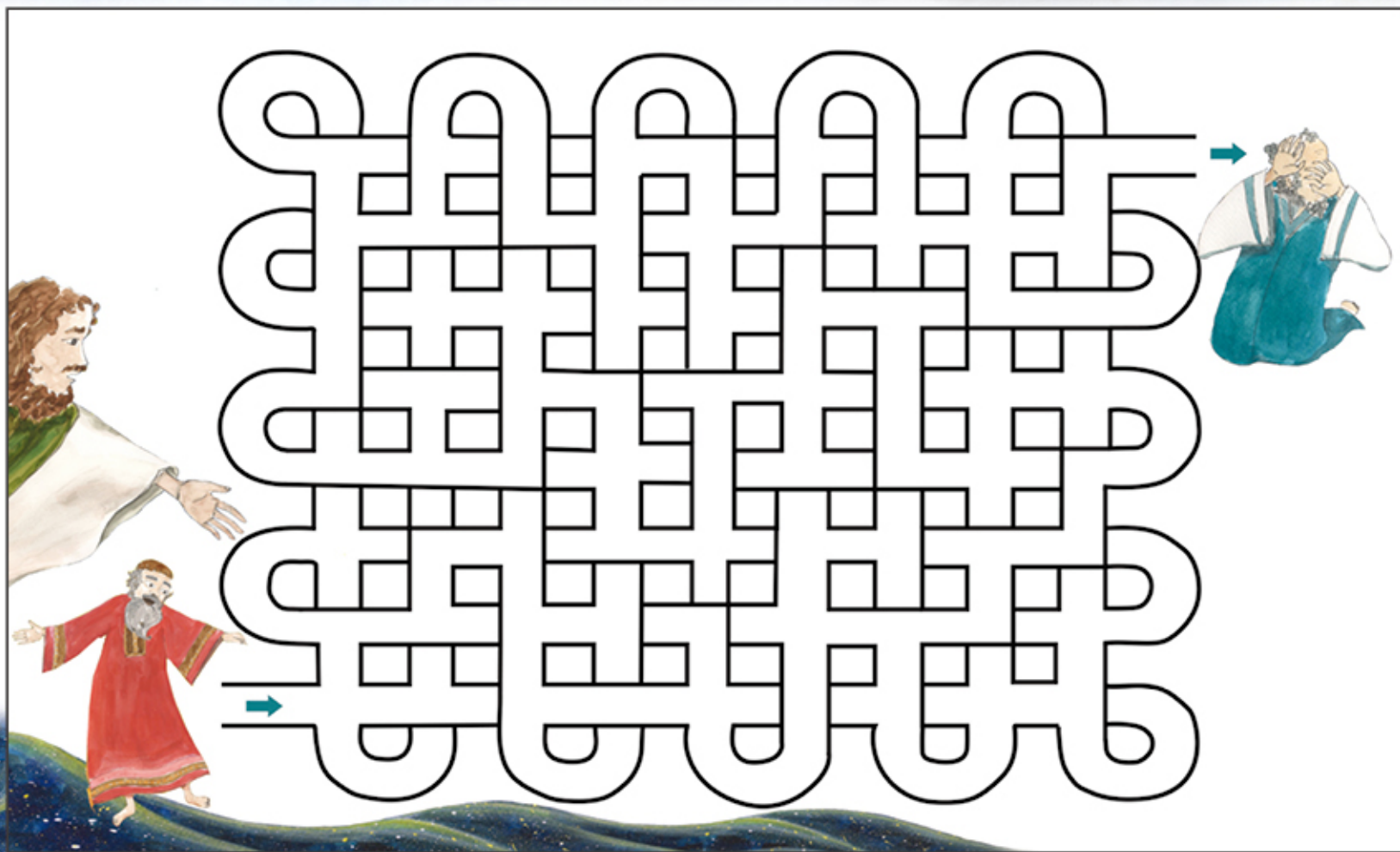
d. When Saul accepted Jesus as his savior, what was the new name he received?

- Read and memorize the Bible verse. (Acts 9:15)

**I have chosen this man to work for me. He will announce my name to the Gentiles and to their kings.
He will also announce my name to the people of Israel.**

Activity 2.

Please help Ananias find the blind Saul.





Name :