

The Blind Man's Testimony

Read John 9:1-38 and 1 Timothy 4:1-4

Key Verse:
"Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done."

Psalms 105:1

Extra: What are some times when we need to speak up about Jesus?

Level 3 lesson 33

SPEAK UP! Giving a testimony about Jesus, is telling others who He is and what He has done. Sometimes this can seem scary because people don't always want to listen. In the Bible we meet people who spoke about the Lord Jesus ANYWAY!

Last month, we learned some important lessons from people that lived in the OLD TESTAMENT. This month, we'll see what we can learn from the people in NEW TESTAMENT times. Although times may change, God always stays the same!

Try walking through your house blindfolded. Isn't it hard? It's scary not knowing where to put your feet so that you don't trip over things. That's what being blind is like - except blind people don't get to take a blindfold off like you can. Wouldn't it be the most awesome thing for someone who's blind to get their sight back?

Well, Jesus once met a man who had been born blind. He made some mud from the ground, put it on the man's eyes, and sent him to wash the mud off. The man did as Jesus told him and then he could see!

Most of the people were excited because they knew this man had been blind all his life - they had even seen him begging for food and money. But Jesus' enemies, the Pharisees, were angry about it and they questioned the man and his parents. They acted like this because they didn't want to believe that Jesus was the "Light of the world" (John 9:5) or that Jesus had healed him.



How would you feel if an important person asked you questions about Jesus? Would you feel a little scared? Would you just hope that you'd know what to say? The man Jesus healed stayed alert and answered them so well that they got angry with him! How did this man - who never had any learning because he'd been blind all his life - answer these important men who knew so much?

In Matthew 10:17-20, Jesus gave a promise to His followers: He knew many of them would get into trouble for believing in Him. So He told them not to worry when they got in trouble for being a Christian (like the man in today's lesson), because God would give them the right words to say.

Paul wrote to Timothy and told him to always share God's Word with others. We can follow the example of this man who was born blind, but healed by Jesus: we can trust God to give us the words to say when we tell others about Him.

Choose words from the WORD BANK below to finish this sentence:

'The h _____ wasn't _____ to s _____ about the _____'

man	Lord
Jesus	afraid
speak	healed

1. Why did the Pharisees get so angry about the blind man being healed?

2. What did Jesus say to encourage people who would get into trouble for following Him?

My Name is Age

Ananias' Courage



Ananias was brave because the Lord was with him

Key Verse:

“Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Deuteronomy 31:6

Extra: What are some things you feel scared about? How can God help you?

Level 3 lesson 34

Read Acts 9:1-19 and Psalm 23:1-4

BRAVE STEPS: Sometimes the Lord asks us to do things that seem risky, but He always promises to go before us and stay with us.

Think back to a time when you felt scared or really worried. Perhaps you had to go somewhere in the dark alone, or do something that seemed too hard to do all by yourself. We always feel safer (and braver!) when we have someone else to be with us and help us out, don't we? Well, if we are true believers in the Lord Jesus, we don't ever have to be afraid, because He always goes with us.

Ananias was a faithful Christian who always wanted to please God. One day, the Lord spoke to him and said, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and lay your hands on Saul of Tarsus." Ananias must have become a little afraid, because Saul was a man who hated Christians and the Lord Jesus, and tried to stamp out the Church wherever he could. He dragged Christians off to prison and even had them put to death.

"Lord, are You sure?!?" we can imagine him asking! Jesus basically told him not to worry though. He had made Saul one of His servants now, and Ananias didn't have to fear him. Isn't it amazing that even one of the Lord's worst enemies could be changed like that? It shows how powerful the Lord is, doesn't it?

So Ananias obeyed the will of God, feeling braver now that he realized God had it all under control.

If we disobey and don't do what God wants, then we're on our own and we should feel afraid. But when we do God's will, we don't have to fear what might happen. God has promised to always be there to help, guide, and protect those who follow Him.

David wrote these famous words in Psalm 23, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me." That's why David didn't fear; even when he faced all kinds of dangers, God was with him. That's why Ananias went to heal Saul of Tarsus, even though Saul had been a dangerous enemy of the Church. He knew that the Lord was his 'shepherd' too, and was going to make sure he was okay.

So, do YOU walk in the way of the Lord? If you do, here's some great news! The same God who guided and protected David and Ananias, will also look after you.

Spot

the Difference!

Check the picture above and then circle 10 changes in this picture!



COLOUR IN

1. Why was Ananias so worried about going to see Saul?

2. If Ananias had come to see you before he went to Straight Street, what Bible verse would you give him to help him be brave?

Tabitha's Reputation

Key Verse:

"A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold."

Proverbs 22:1

Extra: What sort of things should we be known for doing or being?

Level 3 lesson 35

Read Acts 9:36-43 and 1 Peter 2:12

A GOOD NAME: Some people don't care if they get a bad reputation, but God's people are to live so that others will speak well of them.

'He's a good guy!' 'She's terrible.' 'He never tells the truth!' 'She's a good friend to have.' The things we do and say give us a REPUTATION with others: in other words, we either end up with a 'bad name' or a 'good name.' The Bible says that we should desire a 'good name' or reputation.

One day, the Apostle Peter was visiting a town called Lydda. While he was there, some Christians from Joppa (which wasn't far away) came to see him and said, "Please come at once!" Back in Joppa, Peter found that a lady named Tabitha had died, and her friends were very upset. He made everyone leave the room, and then he knelt down and prayed for her. When he turned to her and said, "Tabitha, get up," she did! How amazing - God brought her back to life through Peter's prayer!

There's something important we can learn from Tabitha: her good reputation. She was known by others as being a good person. How did she get such a good reputation? Verse 36 says she was "ALWAYS doing good and helping the poor." And we can tell by what happened in verse 39 that she worked hard, too.

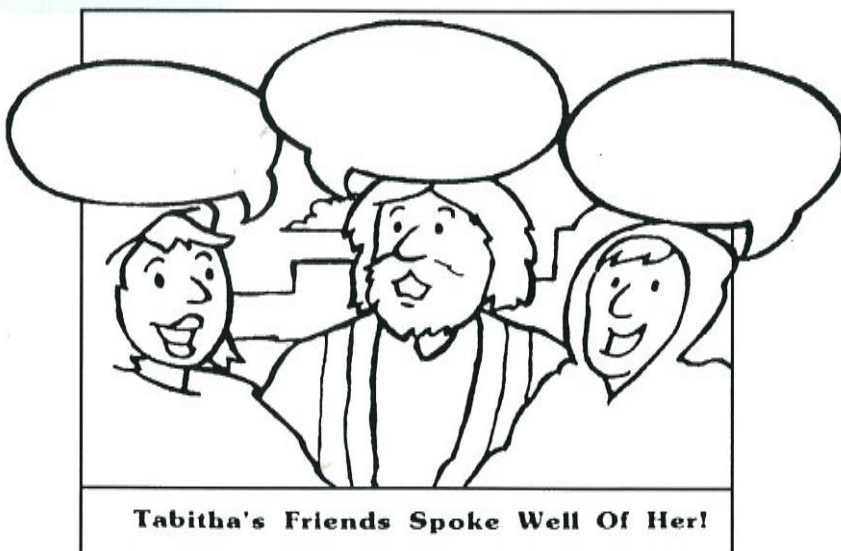


How do we get a good name? By being the kind of person who is ALWAYS doing good and helping others. But being good 'every now and then' won't do it. Tabitha was ALWAYS doing good things and that's why she had a good reputation. It takes time to get a 'good name,' but it's worth it.

Why should someone who is a Christian have a good name? Well, imagine what people would say if they knew a Christian who lived a bad life: "Huh! That guy says he's a Christian, and then he does things like that. Looks like all that Christianity stuff is a waste of time!" Or maybe, "She says she believes in God, but she's a terrible person to be around. Maybe God isn't really good either!"

You see, a Christian is like an advertisement for God - if a Christian has a 'good name,' others might think about getting to know the Lord Jesus, too. But if a Christian has a bad reputation, it turns people away from the Lord 'BIG time!' What kind of 'name' do you have? What's your reputation like? What would your friends, family, or teacher say about you? Our key verse says, "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." How can you start 'earning' one today?

Colour in this picture and give Tabitha's friends nice things to say about her



1. What does the Bible mean when it says we should have a 'good name'?

2. Write down some things you can do at home or school to help earn a 'good name.'

Paul's Patience

Key Verse:

"Guide me in Your Truth and teach me, for You are God my Saviour, and my hope is in You all day long."

Psalm 25:5

Extra: Write down some helpful ways we can remind ourselves to patiently trust in God when things get tough.

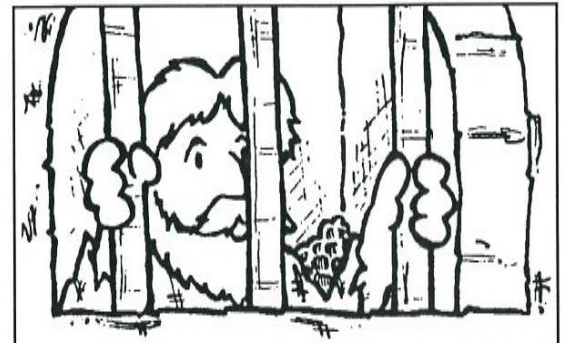
Level 3 lesson 36

Read Acts 24

NO COMPLAINTS! Jesus promised that being a Christian would be tough sometimes. But we can get through the tough times if we follow Paul's example.

Have you ever been sick and had to take pills or medicine? At the chemist, you can see thousands of different pills and potions for just about every kind of illness. Did you know that there's a 'pill' you can take for bad attitudes? It's true! If you're feeling grumpy, or discouraged, or you want to yell at someone or lose your temper about something, there's some 'medicine' you can take: it's a little 'pill' called PATIENCE!

When the Apostle Paul first became a Christian, he might have thought that everything was going to be great for the rest of his life. He was saved, and going to Heaven, and now he was a friend of the Lord Jesus Christ. Then things started to get tough for Paul. People started to dislike him and behave badly because he told others about the Lord Jesus. They were his enemies now. Wherever Paul went they followed him and tried to cause trouble. They even hatched plots to kill him! In the end, Paul was arrested and put in prison. Not because he had done anything wrong, but because his enemies told lies about him.

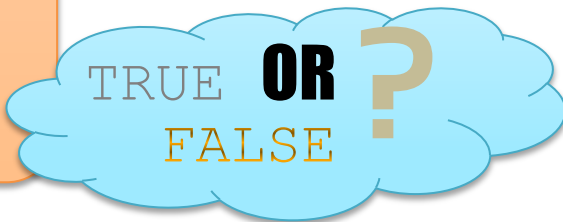


Paul patiently trusted in God.

Paul ended up in prison for years! Can you imagine that? Being stuck in prison when you knew you had done nothing wrong? Some people would have got angry for being lied about. They would have been mad at their enemies for getting them into so much trouble. They might have been discouraged after years in prison, thinking they were never going to get out. But not Paul - he kept writing letters to other Christians to encourage them.

How could he do that when he was stuck in jail? It was because he had PATIENCE. Paul waited for the Lord to do everything in His time. That's why Paul didn't feel sad or depressed or angry; instead he was filled with joy! (Philippians 1:12-19)

When someone is full of complaints, anger, and frustration, it's a sure sign they are not being patient. Someone who isn't patient, isn't really trusting God. But when, like Paul, someone has taken the 'pill' of patience, they can be full of joy as they trust in the Lord, no matter what happens!



1. After Paul became a Christian, how did his enemies behave towards him?

2. How does PATIENCE help us not to complain, be grumpy, or get frustrated?

	T	F
Paul went to jail for breaking the law	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paul was in prison for 8 months	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PATIENT people trust in the Lord	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paul asked God to get him out of jail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paul was joyful in prison	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being PATIENT stops us being grumpy!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>