

## UNIT 2: PEOPLE AT CHURCH

## Session 5: The Church Sent Missionaries

**BIBLE PASSAGE**

Acts 13

**LIFE POINT**

People at church help all people learn more about Jesus.

**CHRIST FOCUS**

Jesus said people should tell about Him.

**LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING**

People at church help others.

**SUGGESTED USE DATE:** July 30

**BIBLE VERSE**

Tell all people the wonderful things God has done.

Psalm 96:3 (*Paraphrase*)

Declare ... his wondrous works among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*CSB*)

Declare ... his wonders among all people. Psalm 96:3 (*KJV*)

Declare ... his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*NIV*)

Declare ... his marvelous works among all the peoples!  
Psalm 96:3 (*ESV*)

Declare ... His wonders among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*NKJV*)

**SCHEDULE AND PROPS**

**Huddle Ups** (*optional; time varies*)  
Supplies (*for each small group*):

- “Ways to Travel”—2 sheets of paper, marker, tape
- “The Church Sent Missionaries”—crayons, coloring sheets (*1 per child*)
- “Red Light, Green Light”—none

**Countdown Video** (*3 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Worship Song** (*3 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Welcome and Prayer** (*5 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Connection Point Game**  
(*10 minutes*)  
Props: 1 pool noodle, serrated knife, 4 marbles, painter’s tape

**Worship Song** (*3 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Bible Story** (*10 minutes*)  
Props: Bible, small duffel bag, shirt, toothbrush, pair of walking shoes

**Worship Song and Offering**  
(*3 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Connection Point Bible Verse**  
(*5-8 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Connection Point Missions**  
(*5-8 minutes*)  
Props: none

**Real Life Connections**  
(*3-5 minutes*)  
Props: long sheet of bulletin board paper, crayons, magazines, glue sticks or tape

**MUSIC AND MEDIA**

- **Countdown:**  
*Countdown* video
- **Worship Song:**  
“Church, Church, Church, Let’s Go!”
- **Welcome and Prayer:**  
*Life Point* and *Bible Verse* slides
- **Connection Point Game:**  
*Connection Point Game* slide
- **Worship Song:**  
“Just Like Jesus”
- **Bible Story:**  
*Bible Story* and *Christ Focus* slides; *Bible Story Time* video (*optional*)
- **Worship Song and Offering:**  
Worship song of your choice
- **Connection Point Bible Verse:**  
*Connection Point Bible Verse* and *Bible Verse* slides
- **Connection Point Missions:**  
*Connection Point Missions* and *Connect to Missions* slides
- **Real Life Connections:**  
*Real Life Connections* and *Life Point* slides

## **Huddle Ups (Optional)**

Huddle Ups are for churches that have a drop-off time before the session begins or a pick-up time as parents arrive at the end of the session. It's a great time for interaction with a small group leader through games, conversations, or review questions. Play the countdown video to signal the end of Huddle Ups and the beginning of the session.

- ➔ Estimated time: varies according to schedule
- ➔ Tech: none
- ➔ People: Small Group Leaders
- ➔ Supplies (*for each small group*):
  - “Ways to Travel”—2 sheets of paper, marker, tape
  - “The Church Sent Missionaries”—crayons, coloring sheets (*1 per child*)
  - “Red Light, Green Light”—none

### **Huddle Up (Before the Session) “WAYS TO TRAVEL”**

*Prep: Draw a smiling face on 1 paper and a frowning face on the other paper. Tape the papers to opposite walls.*

- Ask: “How did you get to church today?”
- Comment that there are many ways to travel.
- Gather preschoolers in the center of the Huddle Up area.
- Direct attention to the smiling face and then to the frowning face.
- Explain that you will name a way to travel.
- Tell preschoolers if they would like to travel in the way you name, they should travel to the smiling face. If they would not like to travel in the way you name, they should travel to the frowning face.
- Name one of the following travel methods: ride a camel; ride a bike; fly in a plane; sail on a boat; drive a car; blast off in a rocket.
- Encourage kids to move to the signs while they pretend to travel in the way you name. (*For example, “fly” or “drive” to the appropriate poster.*)
- Gather preschoolers back in the center of your Huddle Up area after you say each travel method.
- Continue as your time allows.

- Mention that preschoolers will hear about two friends who traveled many places and told people about Jesus.

### **Huddle Up (Before or After the Session) “THE CHURCH SENT MISSIONARIES”**

*Prep: Print this session’s coloring sheet (available on the DVD-ROM).*

- Explain that a *missionary* is “a person whom God sends to another place to tell about Jesus.” Mention that Paul and Barnabas were missionaries.
- Distribute crayons and coloring sheets.
- Invite preschoolers to color on their pages while they wait for the session to begin.

### **Huddle Up (After the Session) “RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT”**

*Prep: none*

- Review the Life Point: **People at church help all people learn more about Jesus.**
- Lead preschoolers in a traditional game of “Red Light, Green Light.”
- Guide kids to stand side by side on one side of your Huddle Up area.
- Say: “Green light.” Allow children to begin moving across the Huddle Up area to the other side.
- Say: “Red light.” Require kids to stop and “freeze” in place.
- Ask a review question from the Bible story each time you say: “Red light.” Use the following questions or make up your own:
  - Whom did the church send out as missionaries? (*Paul and Barnabas*)
  - Why did Paul and Barnabas travel from place to place? (*They traveled to tell people about Jesus.*)
  - What do missionaries do? (*Missionaries go and tell people about Jesus.*)
  - Whom can you tell about Jesus? (*Answers vary.*)
- Say: “Green light” to resume the game.
- Play until each child reaches the opposite side of the Huddle Up area.
- Repeat the activity as time allows.

**COUNTDOWN VIDEO**

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Countdown video*
- ➔ People: none
- ➔ Props: none

*(Play the Countdown video to signal the beginning of worship time. Kids will count aloud as they join the large group.)*

**WORSHIP SONG**

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: “Church, Church, Church, Let’s Go!” *(lead sheet available on DVD-ROM)* or download a worship song of your choice
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

**WORSHIP LEADER**

Hi, everyone! It’s great to see you today! I’ve been excited about coming to church and singing songs with you. Let’s stand and sing, right now!

*(Show the music video.)*

*(Kids stand to sing.)*

**WELCOME AND PRAYER**

- ➔ Estimated time: 5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Life Point* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: none

**BIBLE STORY LEADER**

Have you ever heard of a *missionary*? *(Allow for responses.)* *Missionaries* are “people whom God sends to another place to tell about Jesus.” Today’s Bible story is about two friends who were missionaries. Their names were Paul and Barnabas. They wanted everyone to know about Jesus!

*(Show Life Point slide.)*

**People at church help all people learn more about Jesus.** Let’s say that together: **“People at church help all people learn more about Jesus.”**

Everyone needs to know about Jesus! Our Bible verse says that we should tell all people about the great things that God has done. Listen as I say the Bible verse, and then we will say it together.

*(Show Bible Verse slide—select preferred version.)*

*(Say the verse. Lead kids to repeat it after you.)*

**BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):**

- Tell all people the wonderful things God has done. Psalm 96:3 *(Paraphrase)*
- Declare ... his wondrous works among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 *(CSB)*
- Declare ... his wonders among all people. Psalm 96:3 *(KJV)*
- Declare ... his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 *(NIV)*
- Declare ... his marvelous works among all the peoples! Psalm 96:3 *(ESV)*
- Declare ... His wonders among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 *(NKJV)*

People at church help others. A really big way we can help people is to tell them about Jesus! Let’s pray and ask God to help us!

*God, thank You that You love all people. We pray for people everywhere to learn more about Jesus. Please help us tell others what we know about You and Your Son, Jesus. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.*

**CONNECTION POINT GAME**

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Game* slide
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, 4 kids
- ➔ Props: 1 pool noodle, serrated knife, 4 marbles, painter’s tape

**GAME INSTRUCTIONS:**

- *Cut the pool noodle in half.*
- *Cut each noodle section in half lengthwise.*

- Tape a start line on the floor.
- Choose 4 kids.
- Give each child a pool noodle section.
- Demonstrate how to place a marble in the groove of the pool noodle, turn it loose, and watch it roll down the noodle and across the floor.
- Lead players to place the ends of their pool noodles behind the start line.
- Give each player a marble.
- Instruct players to roll their marbles.
- Observe which marble rolls the furthest distance.
- Choose 4 new players and roll the marbles again.
- Continue as your time allows.
- **Safety note:** Wait to distribute the marbles until it is time to roll them. Watch carefully that preschoolers do not put marbles in their mouths.

### CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Game slide.)

It's time for a game! Who would like to play?  
(Choose four kids. Give each player a pool noodle. Lead players to place the pool noodles behind the start line.)

Players, let's see how far we can roll marbles.  
(Demonstrate as you speak.) When I say: "Go," put your marble at the top of your pool noodle and let it go. If your marble travels the furthest distance, you are the winner!

Does everyone know what to do? (Answer any questions and play the game.)

Wow! Those marbles rolled a very long way! Today's Bible story is about two friends who traveled a long way, too. Their names were Paul and Barnabas. They traveled many places and told people about Jesus.

Let's sing another song. After we sing, we will hear about the places where Paul and Barnabas went.

### WORSHIP SONG

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights (optional)
- ➔ Music: "Just Like Jesus" (lead sheet available on DVD-ROM) or download a worship song of your choice
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

### WORSHIP LEADER

I'm excited to hear about Paul and Barnabas! All people need to know about Jesus. Let's practice telling others that Jesus loves them. Turn to the person next to you and say: "Jesus loves you!" (Allow kids to respond.)

Great work, everyone! Jesus said people should tell about Him. We can tell all people what we know about Jesus!

(Show the music video.)

(Lead kids to sit as song ends.)

### BIBLE STORY

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Christ Focus, and Bible Story slides; Bible Story Time video (optional)
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: Bible, small duffel bag, shirt, toothbrush, pair of walking shoes

**Option 1:** Show the Bible Story Time video and conclude with a short prayer.

God, thank You for sending missionaries to tell people everywhere about Jesus. Please use our church to tell people how much You love them. Help us tell others what we know about Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

**Option 2:** Tell the following Bible story. Put the Bible, shirt, toothbrush, and shoes inside the duffel bag.

**BIBLE STORY LEADER**

*(Show Bible Story slide.)*

Have you ever heard of a missions trip? A missions trip is when someone goes to another place to tell people about Jesus.

People who go on missions trips pack things they'll need. *(Show duffel bag. Take out each item as you mention it.)* They may take their clothes, an extra pair of shoes, and their toothbrush!

Hmm ... I think something important is missing. What special Book would a missionary need to tell people about Jesus? *(Allow for responses.)* You're right! A missionary needs a Bible! *(Show the Bible.)* The Bible tells true stories about Jesus. Let's hear a Bible story about two missionaries who told people about Jesus.

*(Open the Bible to Acts 13.)*

God spoke to the leaders at the church in Antioch.

*(Read Acts 13:2.)*

**“Set apart for me Barnabas and [Paul] for the work to which I have called them.”**

God said to give Paul and Barnabas an important job. God wanted the two men to go and tell people about Jesus. The church leaders obeyed God. They prayed for Paul and Barnabas and sent them off as missionaries.

Paul and Barnabas sailed in a boat to Cyprus. They taught the people there about Jesus. When Paul and Barnabas left Cyprus, they went to other cities. Everywhere they went, they told people about Jesus. Many people believed what Paul and Barnabas taught about Jesus.

The people wanted Paul and Barnabas to tell them more about Jesus. Paul and Barnabas explained that God loved all people! They said that anyone could choose to believe in Jesus.

*(Read Acts 13:49.)*

**The word of [God] spread through the whole region.**

*(Close the Bible.)*

Paul and Barnabas were happy to tell people about Jesus. They were the first missionaries!

*(Show Christ Focus slide.)*

Jesus said people should tell about Him. Jesus gave His friends special instructions. Jesus said they should go to every place in the world and tell everyone about Him!

God still sends missionaries today. Missionaries serve God all around the world! Right now, missionaries are telling Bible stories, singing songs about Jesus, and teaching about God. We can pray and give offerings to help missionaries with their work.

Missionaries have very important jobs! Let's pray for them, right now.

*God, thank You for sending missionaries to tell people everywhere about Jesus. Please use our church to tell people how much You love them. Help us tell others what we know about Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.*

**WORSHIP SONG AND OFFERING**

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: Use a favorite song or download a worship song of your choice.
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

**WORSHIP LEADER**

Paul and Barnabas talked to people about Jesus. Many people learned about Jesus and believed what Paul and Barnabas said about Him.

We can tell what we know about Jesus, too! We can tell our family and friends Bible stories and that Jesus loves them.

*Optional Giving Segment:*

It's time to give an offering. Some of the money that people give at church sends missionaries to places around the world. If you would like to give an offering today, ... .

*(Give your own directions for how the kids can give their offerings. After you collect the offering, guide kids to stand for the worship song.)*

**CONNECTION POINT BIBLE VERSE**

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Bible Verse* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, all kids
- ➔ Props: none

**ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

- *Select your preferred version of the Bible verse.*
- *Say the verse and lead kids to repeat it after you.*
- *Suggest preschoolers say the verse as if visiting different locations in the world:*
  - *Travel to the jungle. Say the verse and swing your arm like an elephant's trunk.*
  - *Travel to the arctic. Say the verse and waddle like a penguin.*
  - *Travel to the Australian plains. Say the verse and hop like a kangaroo.*
  - *Travel to the beach. Say the verse and swim like a fish.*
- *Remind preschoolers that missionaries travel to all parts of the world to tell people about Jesus.*

**BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):**

- Tell all people the wonderful things God has done. Psalm 96:3 (*Paraphrase*)
- Declare ... his wondrous works among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*CSB*)
- Declare ... his wonders among all people. Psalm 96:3 (*KJV*)
- Declare ... his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*NIV*)
- Declare ... his marvelous works among all the peoples! Psalm 96:3 (*ESV*)
- Declare ... His wonders among all peoples. Psalm 96:3 (*NKJV*)

**CONNECTION POINT LEADER**

*(Show Connection Point Bible Verse slide.)*

It's time to say our Bible verse! Listen as I say the verse, and then we will say it together.

*(Show Bible Verse slide—select preferred version.)*

*(Say the verse. Lead kids to repeat it after you.)*

Jesus said people should tell about Him. Whom can you tell about Jesus? *(Allow for responses.)* Everyone needs to know about Jesus and the wonderful things that God has done.

God sends missionaries to places all around the world to tell people about Jesus. Let's pretend to travel to different places in the world as we say our Bible verse.

*(Lead the activity.)*

**CONNECTION POINT MISSIONS**

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Missions* and *Connect to Missions* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader
- ➔ Props: none

**CONNECTION POINT LEADER**

*(Show Connection Point Missions slide.)*

God sent Michael and Traci Byrd to help people in St. Louis know that Jesus loves them.

*(Show the Connect to Missions slide.)*

The Byrds started a new church called Faith Community Bible Church. They meet people in the neighborhood by sharing meals with them, giving cooking lessons, and taking people to the grocery store. Michael and Traci meet the people and tell them about Jesus.

Let's pray for the Byrds as they tell people in St. Louis about Jesus. Pray for believers to start more churches in other neighborhoods.

*God, we pray for Michael and Traci. Please help them do work for You in St. Louis. Help them meet people in their neighborhood and tell them about Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.*

**REAL LIFE CONNECTIONS**

- ➔ Estimated time: 3-5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Real Life Connections* and *Life Point* slides
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: long sheet of bulletin board paper, crayons, magazines, glue sticks or tape

**ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

- *Tear photos of people from magazines. Select a wide assortment of ages and ethnicities.*
- *Roll a long sheet of bulletin board paper on the floor.*
- *Invite preschoolers to sit along the edges of the paper.*
- *Provide crayons and encourage preschoolers to make drawings of their favorite Bible stories.*
- *Remind preschoolers that all people need to know about Jesus and the stories in the Bible.*
- *Distribute the magazine photos.*
- *Assist preschoolers in gluing the pictures onto the paper.*
- *Talk about the Bible stories as children draw them.*

**BIBLE STORY LEADER**

*(Show Real Life Connections slide.)*

People everywhere need to know about Jesus! Let's think about what we know about Jesus. Who would like to tell me about your favorite Bible story? *(Allow for responses.)*

You know lots of things about the Bible and Jesus! Let's draw pictures of our favorite Bible stories.

*(Lead the activity.)*

*(Show Life Point Slide.)*

**People at church help all people learn more about Jesus.** Let's say that together: **"People at church help all people learn more about Jesus."**

I'm glad you came to church to learn about Jesus. Remember to tell others what you know about Jesus! I'll see you again soon!

**Leader note:** *If you plan to utilize the after-session Huddle Up, dismiss kids to their small groups.*