

CK OLDER
APRIL – 2020
MATERIAL
WEEK 3 & 4



THE APOSTLE PAUL – WEEK 3

SEEING THE LIGHT

Saul is going to Damascus to arrest those who are preaching the Good News. Blinded by the light of the Lord along the way, he turns his life around and instead of persecuting Christians, he starts preaching about the forgiveness of Jesus. In this lesson the children will learn that like Saul, we must acknowledge Jesus as our Lord wherever we are, and follow Him wherever He leads us.

TOPICS

Apostles, Following Jesus, Forgiveness, Light, Paul, Repentance

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 minutes)

All Sins Forgiven (Puzzle)

ALL SINS FORGIVEN

(Cross-out) Children cross out certain words in this puzzle to reveal the message of 1 Peter 3:18, that Jesus died for our sins to bring us to God.

TOPICS:

Cross, Forgiveness, Salvation, Sin

MATERIALS:

Cross-out puzzle for each child
Highlighters or markers

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give each child a highlighter or a marker and a copy of the cross-out puzzle.

Discussion Questions: (optional)

1. Is Jesus able to forgive all of our sins? (Yes.)
2. What did Jesus do because He loves us so much and doesn't want any of us to be separated from God? (He died on the cross.)
3. What do you think "the righteous for the unrighteous" means? (Jesus was righteous and without sin, but He suffered unto death in our place.)



ALL SINS FORGIVEN

Instructions:

Cross out all words that may be considered a sin or something that would be wrong in God's eyes.

(NOTE: Do not cross out the words "sins" and "unrighteous")

BITTERNESS	FOR	QUARRELSOME	WICKEDNESS	JEALOUSY	GOSSIP	CHRIST
HATE	UNFAITHFULNESS	FILTHY TALK	DIED	LYING	IMMORALITY	LAZINESS
FOR	ARGUING	SINS	SLANDER	COVETING	IDOLATRY	SLANDER
MURDER	ONCE	KILLING	BLASPHEMY	ADULTRY	FOR	SELFISHNESS
STEALING	SLANDER	RAGE	STINGY	ALL,	GREED	THE
RIGHTEOUS	ENVY	ARROGANCE	FOR	PRIDE	GLUTTONY	QUARRELSOME
FOOLISHNESS	THE	COMPLAINING	LUST	UNRIGHTEOUS,	IMPURITY	STEALING
TO	GAMBLING	BRING	RACISM	WICKEDNESS	YOU	WORRY
UNKINDNESS	PRIDE	TO	IDOLATRY	GOD	ANGER	DISOBEDIENCE



What do the remaining words say? Write them in order on the lines below.

1 Peter 3:18a NIV1984

ALL SINS FORGIVEN

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BITTERNESS	FOR	QUARRELSOME	WICKEDNESS	JEALOUSY	GOSSIP	CHRIST
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MURDER	ONCE	KILLING	BLASPHEMY	ADULTRY	FOR	SELFISHNESS
STEALING	SLANDER	RAGE	STINGY	ALL,	GREED	THE
RIGHTEOUS	ENVY	ARROGANCE	FOR	PRIDE	GLUTTONY	QUARRELSOME
FOOLISHNESS	THE	COMPLAINING	LUST	UNRIGHTEOUS,	IMPURITY	STEALING
TO	GAMBLING	BRING	RACISM	WICKEDNESS	YOU	WORRY
UNKINDNESS	PRIDE	TO	IDOLATRY	GOD	ANGER	DISOBEDIENCE



What do the remaining words say? Write them in order on the lines below.

For Christ died for sins once for all,

the righteous for the unrighteous,

to bring you to God.

1 Peter 3:18a NIV1984

OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE (5 minutes)

MEMORY WORK (12 minutes)

"The Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous." Psalm 146:8 NIV

Explain that God has the power to give sight to the blind and to lift up or help people who are burdened. God also loves those who have Godly desires. We must not doubt the presence of His power in our lives.

Divide the class into three teams and choose a leader for each team to help them get ready. Assign the first part of the verse to one team, the second part to the second team, and the last part to the third team. Start by having team one say the first part out loud, and quickly have team two say the next part. Then team three the third part. Everyone then says the reference. Continue this way, going faster and faster until there are no errors or hesitations. Then, switch parts and do it again.

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)

Introduction:

Saul was a mean man, a man who wanted to put everyone who followed Jesus in jail. One day on the way to Damascus, to arrest the Christians there, Jesus came to him as a blinding light. Saul fell to the ground as he heard someone speak. He didn't know that it was Jesus. Jesus told Saul that he was persecuting Him, and to go to the city and wait for further instructions. Saul was very confused and a bit scared. When the light vanished, he stood up and opened his eyes but he saw nothing! The men that were traveling with him could not explain what had just happened, so they did as Jesus said and they went to Damascus and waited to several days. Do you think someone like Saul could be used by Jesus? Let's find out if Saul got his sight back.

Read Acts 9:1-19

Discussion Questions:

1. Why was Saul going to Damascus? *(To put men and women who were following Jesus in prison.)*
2. Who did Jesus say Saul was persecuting? *(Jesus.)*
3. How was Saul persecuting Jesus? *(By trying to harm Jesus' disciples, and by putting Christians into jail.)*
3. What did Saul ask when the light made him fall down? *(Who are you, Lord?)*
4. How do you think Saul felt when he realized he was hearing Jesus' voice? *(Frightened.)*
5. What plans did Jesus have for Saul? *(He wanted Saul to preach the Good News.)*
6. Did Ananias believe it when the Lord said Saul was going to be a changed person? *(No, but he trusted what God told him.)*
7. What happened to Saul after Ananias placed his hands on him *(He regained his sight and was filled with the Holy Spirit.)*
8. What do you think Saul did after he regained his strength? *(Began preaching see verse 20.)*
9. Do you think Saul knew what to say to the people who he had been persecuting? *(Allow for answers.)*

CLASS EXERCISE

BLINDED

Children act out the story of Saul meeting Jesus on the road to Damascus, and learn a valuable lesson: When God wants to get our attention He can use anything! *(A skit for five persons: Saul, Two men, Jesus, Ananias)*

TOPICS:

Forgiveness, Light, Paul

MATERIALS:

Blindfold (To cover over Saul's eyes)

White Sheet (To wrap around Jesus)

Skit handout



Blinded

(Saul and the two men walk around the room several times while speaking.)

Man 1: Damascus is only a few more miles ahead.

Saul: Yes, we should find many of those Jesus followers there, ripe for the picking.

Man 2: What are we going to do with them?

Saul: *(Laughing)* Prison is the only place for them! Let's keep walking.

(Saul and the two men walk around a few more times. Jesus comes up to them wrapped in a white sheet. When Saul sees the light of Jesus, he falls to the ground and covers his eyes.)

Jesus: Saul, why are you persecuting me?

Saul: Who are you, Lord?

Jesus: I am Jesus, the one who you are persecuting. Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what to do.

(Jesus walks away and the men place a blindfold over Saul's eyes. Then Saul struggles to stand up.)

Man 1: What was that?

Man 2: I have no idea. Strange, I heard a voice, but didn't see anyone.

Saul: *(Frantic)* I can't see anything, I'm blind! Please help me!

Man 1 and 2: *(Grabbing Saul by each arm to steady him.)* Here, let us help you.

(The two men take Saul by the arms and lead him to the other side of the room. Then they help Saul to his knees and they all begin praying.)

Ananias: *(Walking into the room, with eyes towards heaven.)* Yes Lord? You want me to find Saul, and place my hands on him? Isn't he the one causing so much harm to your people? Yes Lord, because you have chosen Saul, I will go to him.

(Ananias walks over to Saul and puts his hands on his shoulders.)

Saul: Who is that?

Ananias: I am Ananias. The Lord has sent me so that you may see again and so you will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Saul: *(Removing the blindfold and blinking eyes fast)* Yes, I can see again!

Ananias: After you are baptized, you should get something to eat to regain your strength. The Lord has much work for you to do.

Saul: I was so wrong before, but the Lord forgives me for all I did. Now I am ready to serve Him.

Application:

God made Saul blind to get a point across. The point is that God might allow bad things to happen to us so we will realize that we need to take a closer look at what we are doing. Maybe we are doing something wrong, or maybe we are not seeking God like we should be. But remember, as in this lesson, God allowed Saul to have his sight back when He sent Ananias to him. God can speak to us in many ways. We need to be ready to hear what God says all the time. He wanted Saul to change his life completely, because He had a huge plan for his life. That plan included preaching about Jesus and using his own life as an example to show others how God can and will forgive us when we are willing to follow Him

CLOSING PRAYER (2 minutes)

THE APOSTLE PAUL – WEEK 4

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Shortly after Saul's conversion, he is busy preaching the Good News that Jesus is the son of God. However, his life is far from being perfect. He is now in more danger than ever, as the Jews plot to kill him as a traitor. In this lesson, the children learn that not only can God change a person's life, but He is also there to lead the way to keep us safe.

TOPICS

Apostles, Courage, Paul, Protection, Witnessing

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 minutes)

Paul's Friends Help Him Escape (Coloring Page)

PAUL'S FRIENDS HELP HIM ESCAPE

(Coloring Page) Paul's friends help him escape harm by lowering him from the city wall in a basket. (Acts 9:25)

TOPICS:

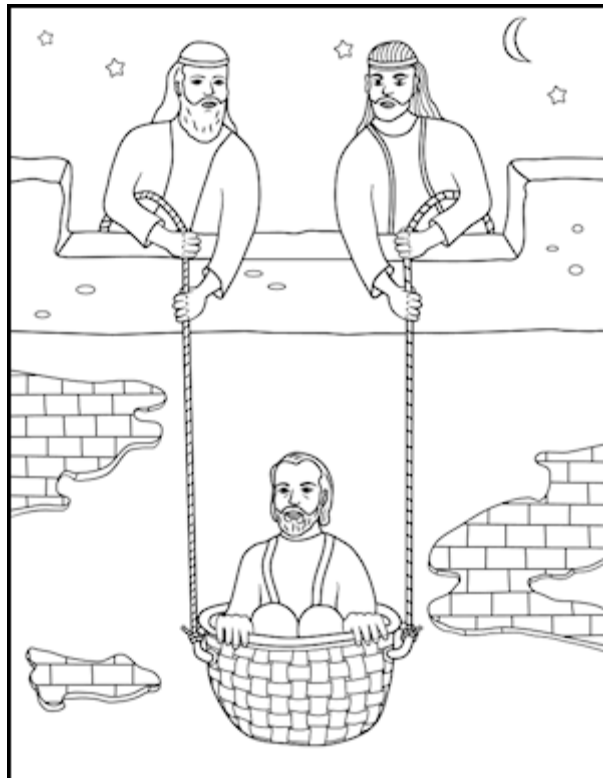
Apostles, Disciples, Friendship,
Paul, Protection

MATERIALS:

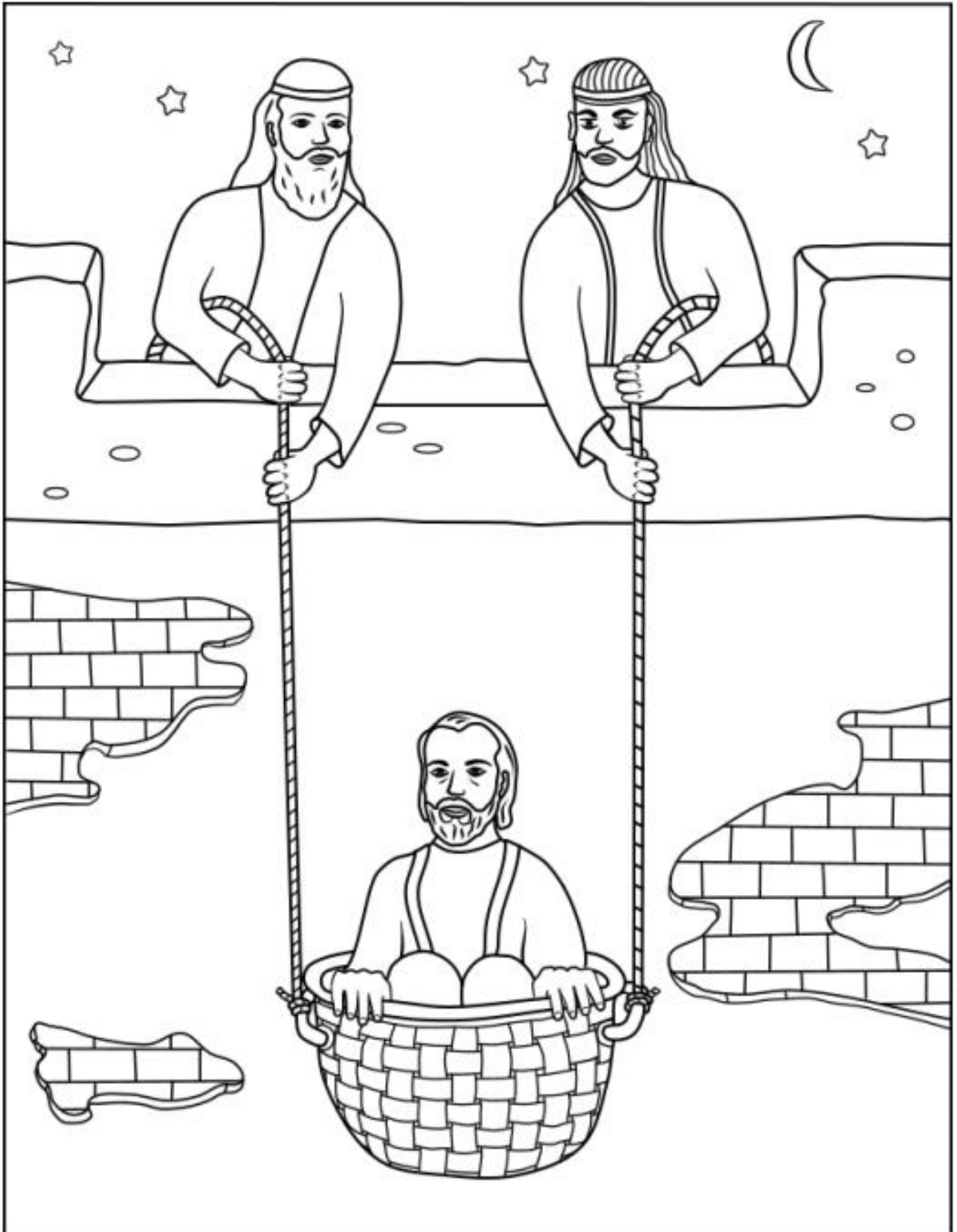
Coloring page
Crayons or colored markers

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



PAUL'S FRIENDS HELP HIM ESCAPE (Acts 9:25)



OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE (5 minutes)

MEMORY WORK (12 minutes)

"But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one." 2 Thessalonians 3:3 NIV

Divide the class into two teams. The challenge is for each team to outdo the other in saying the memory verse in a creative way. The teacher will lead one team, and a helper lead the other team. Teams alternate saying the verse and its reference. Example: The leader of team 1 will have his/her kids say the verse while hopping on one foot. The leader of team 2 will respond by having the kids say the verse while clapping after each word. Team 1 then says the verse while turning around in circles, team 2 while doing the twist, and so on. There really is no winner, but the kids will have a lot of fun, and they will unknowingly memorize the verse.

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)

Introduction:

After Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus, he was blind for three days. But then he met a man named Ananias, who helped him regain his sight. Immediately after that Paul believed and was baptized. Before he was an enemy of those who followed Jesus, but now he knew the truth. He was a follower too, and he had to tell others about this wonderful news. In this next account of Paul's ministry, he is still in Damascus. He belongs to Jesus now, but his life is no bed of roses. In fact, it is far, far from perfect.

Read Acts 9:19-31

Discussion Questions:

1. What was the next thing Paul did after being baptized, and regaining his strength in Damascus? *(He began to tell the people that Jesus is the Son of God.)*
2. In verse 22, we read that Paul (Saul) became more and more powerful. What do you think this means? *(His witness became more effective. Greater numbers of people heard what he was saying and believed.)*
3. Why do you think some of the Jews wanted to kill Paul when they heard him preaching the Good News about Jesus? *(They saw Paul as a traitor. Instead of helping them like he did before his conversion, now he was working against them. For this reason they also had a hard time believing that what Paul said was true.)*
4. What plan did God provide to help Paul leave the city? *(His friends lowered him in a basket through an opening in the city wall.)*
5. After Paul reached Jerusalem, were his fears over? Why or why not? *(No, because some of the Grecian Jews in Jerusalem also tried to kill him.)*
6. Although Paul faced fear and death in Jerusalem, how did he speak to the people in verse 28? *(Boldly.)*
7. We can be afraid of many things. How can we overcome fear with God's love and power? *(Allow for answers.)*
8. What does this story tell you about witnessing. *(We should do it, we should speak boldly, some will believe, some will not, some who do not may even become angry.)*

CLASS EXERCISE (15 minutes)
Over the Wall (Game)

OVER THE WALL

Don't be the last one to get the Apostle Paul over the wall in a basket.

TOPICS:

Courage, Difficulties, Fear, Paul

MATERIALS:

Paper cupcake holders or small paper cups
Marbles, Masking tape
Rope (about 12 feet long)



DURATION:

Approximately 15 minutes

PREPARATION:

Stretch a rope across the middle of the room. Use masking tape to mark a starting line and a finish line about six feet either side of the rope.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

You will use a cupcake holder, or small paper cup as a basket and place a marble inside. The kids must balance the basket with the marble on the back of their hand, while racing to climb over a make believe wall.

Along with a helper, grab one end of the rope and raise it off the floor about six inches to start. The kids will line up with both feet on the starting line, and at the word "go" race to the other line while stepping over the rope, and while balancing the basket with the marble on the back of their hand.

If the marble falls to the ground, that child must go back to the starting line and begin again. The last child to get over the wall and to the opposite finish line is out. The finish line then becomes the starting line and race again back to the other side. Each time the rope is raised about 6 inches higher. Continue until you have one winner.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

After the Apostle Paul turned his life over to follow Christ, some of the Jews wanted to kill him. His friends lowered him over the city wall in a basket to escape. The wall was pretty high, but what made it even more dangerous was being in a basket. Baskets in those days were designed to hold food and other soft goods, not people.

We are going to play a little game that will help us remember how God helped Paul escape the city and certain death. For fun, let's pretend this (cupcake holder) is a basket, and the marble is Paul inside our basket. We don't want him to fall out, but we still need to get him over the wall.

ALTERNATE CLASS EXERCISE (12 minutes)
Scripture Match-Up (Activity)

SCRIPTURE MATCH-UP

A quick search through the Bible to match up verses about God's peace and protection with their correct scripture reference.

TOPICS:

Fear, Peace, Protection, Trust, Wrath

MATERIALS:

Activity sheet for each child
Pencils or markers

DURATION:

Approximately 12 minutes



WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give each child an activity sheet face down. You can have them work at their own pace, or make it into a race to see who finishes first. The kids must look up the scripture reference on the right-hand side, and decide which verse on the left is a match. Then draw a line from the verse to the correct scripture reference. There is one scripture reference that does not have a matching verse. The children must read them all and write the extra reference at the bottom of the activity sheet.

When everyone is finished, ask the following questions.

Discussion Questions:

1. According to these verses, who does God protect? (The righteous: people who trust and love Him)
2. In what ways does He protect us? (He watches over us, He is our shield and refuge)
3. What might happen to those who do not trust in Him? (God's wrath)
4. What is the scripture reference that does not match-up with any verse? (2 Timothy 4:18)
5. (Have someone read 2 Timothy 4:18 again out loud.) According to this verse, God is keeping us safe so we can go where? (Heaven)

"The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom." 2 Timothy 4:18

SCRIPTURE MATCH-UP

Instructions: Look up the scripture reference on the right-hand side, and decide which verse on the left is a match. Then draw a line from the verse to the correct scripture reference. There is one scripture reference that does not have a matching verse, so you need to read them all.

Verse	Scripture Reference
I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.	Psalm 16:1
The LORD will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life.	Psalm 121:7
For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.	Psalm 4:8
The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.	Proverbs 29:25
Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge.	2 Timothy 4:18
Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.	Psalm 145:20
As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.	Psalm 18:30
	Psalm 1:6

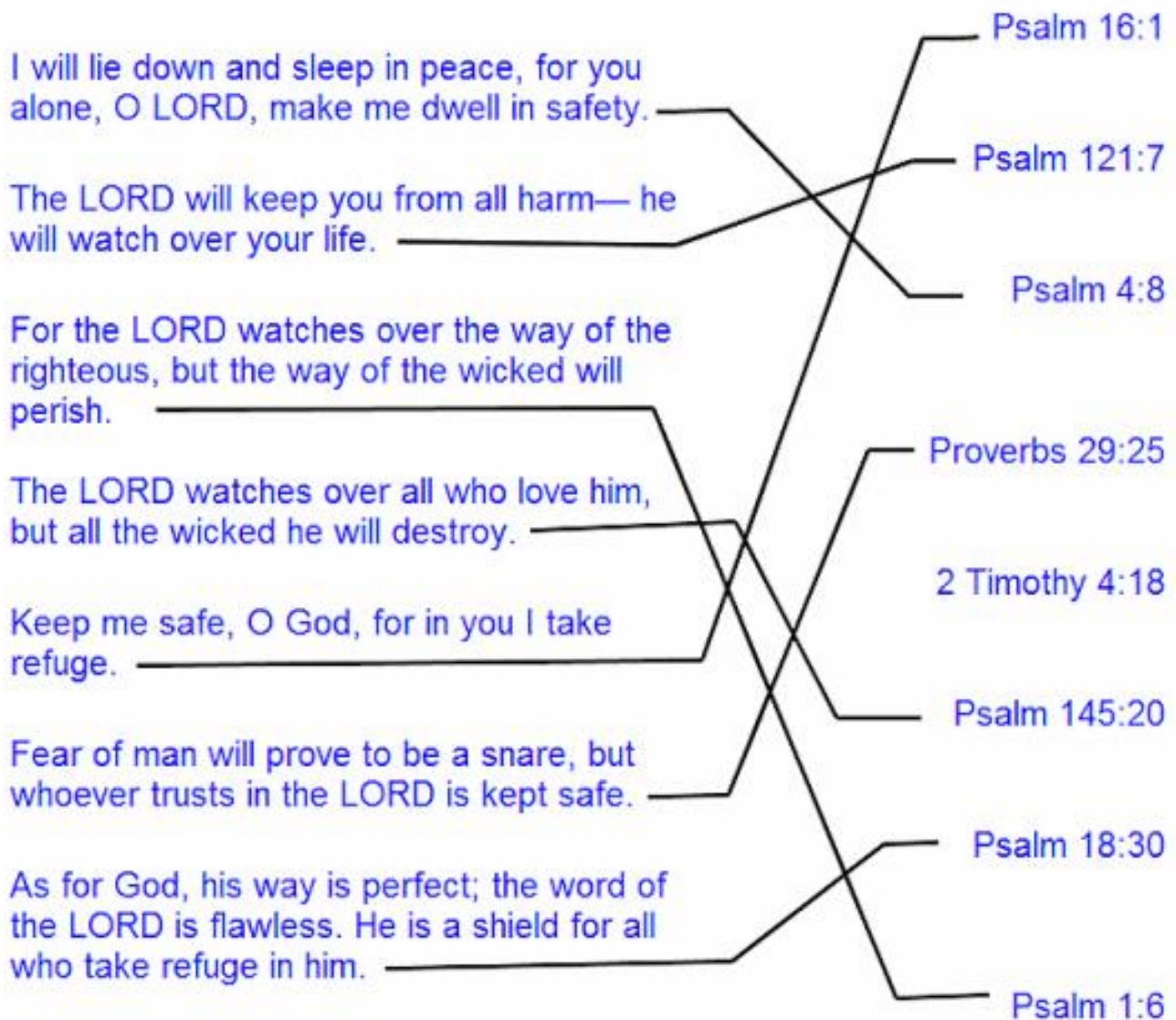
Which Scripture reference does not match a verse? _____

SCRIPTURE MATCH-UP

Instructions: Look up the scripture reference on the right hand side, and decide which verse on the left is a match. Then draw a line from the verse to the correct scripture reference. There is one scripture reference that does not have a matching verse, so you need to read them all.

Verse

Scripture Reference



Which Scripture reference does not match a verse? 2 Timothy 4:18

APPLICATION (4 minutes)

Paul (Saul) was not afraid to share the truth about Jesus to everyone he met. Paul now knew without doubt that Jesus is alive, and He can change our life, just like He did for him. Paul was once going down the wrong path, but along the way he met Jesus, and learned the truth. He felt the need to tell others this amazing story. Do we have the passion and desire to share Jesus with others?

Sometimes this passion got Paul into trouble. Not everyone was ready to hear the truth, especially those who thought he was either lying, or that he betrayed them. Many times these non-believers tried to kill Paul. His life was constantly in danger. But this lesson also teaches us how God is also there to help us escape harm. When our desire is to serve God and share the Good News about Jesus to others, then God helps us know where to go and what to do. Are you living by your own sight, or are you letting God show you the way?

CLOSING PRAYER