

## Parent/child activities:

Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in your children's lives.

**Observation Questions: What happened?** Have kids refer to Acts 12:24 –13:33 in their Bibles.

**According to Acts 13:2, who set Barnabas and Paul apart for God's service?** (The Holy Spirit.)

**In Acts 13:4, who sent Paul and Barnabas to the island of Cyprus?** (The Holy Spirit.)

**Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?** Read Acts 13:9-12.

**How do you think Paul knew Elymas was from the devil?** (Acts 13:9. Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit.)

**How did the governor respond when he saw how Paul recognized this man as a false prophet and caused him to become blind?** (Acts 13:12. He believed and the Lord's teachings amazed him.)

**In Acts 13:13-31, Paul shares the Good News. What is this Good News as summarized in Acts 13:32-33?** ("...What God promised our ancestors has happened. God has fulfilled the promise for us, their descendants, by bringing Jesus back to life...")

**Application Questions: What does this mean to me?**

**Who will call you apart for God's service?** (The Holy Spirit.) How do you think you will know it is him?

**The key verse from 1 Peter 4:10 says, "Each of you as a good manager must use the gift God has given you to serve others." What are some gifts the Holy Spirit has given you to use to serve God and others?** (If kids have a hard time thinking of their gifts, ask them what they are good at and how they can do that for God. If they still struggle, tell them what you see in them or ask them to think of things others compliment them in.)

**Let's talk about all the things God has done for us.** (God gave us all things, but, especially, God gave us his Son Jesus. Because Jesus gave his life for us, we can live forever with God. This is the best gift of all and what we want to give away to others.)

## Application Activity: Travel bag

Supplies needed: a suitcase picture for each child and markers

Pass out the suitcase picture and markers. Have them fold the picture in half so the suitcase is on the outside. Say: **This suitcase will symbolize the journey for which God has called you and set you apart. He does not leave you empty handed, though. He equips you with the tools needed to serve him, just like he did for Paul and Barnabas.**

**We discussed some of the unique gifts God has given you. Draw a picture on one half of the inside of this card that reminds you of the gift that God has given you.**

While the kids draw, further discuss:

**What are some of the ways we can talk about what God has done for us? What are some of the ways we can show others God's love?** (Talk to others, be friends, be helpful to our families, pray for others.)

Have kids then write some words or draw some pictures on the other half of the inside showing ways they would like to share with others what God has done for them.

**Even though this is a simple paper suitcase, it is a wonderful way to remember that \*God set you apart to do something special for him. You may not be a missionary going to the other side of the world, but you certainly are going to be able to share his love with people around you this week.**

**Closing Prayer:** Thank God for the Good News of Jesus. Thank God that he has set each of us apart and equipped us for his service. Pray that all would listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and be obedient to his calling. Ask kids to pray for the special needs of people they know.

