

[HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

Paul As An Eyewitness

MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 12:21 (NIV)

"Don't let evil overcome you.
Overcome evil by doing good."

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week.

PARENT POINT:

Share with your child about a time in your life when something bad turned into something good.



THIS WEEK IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS the children completed a four-week unit on the trials of Jesus and Stephen. In today's lesson the junior soldiers learned about the persecution of the early Christians.

Saul, whom we later come to love and respect as Paul, was present when Stephen was stoned. In fact, he looked on with approval. Saul wasn't only glad about the death of Stephen, he felt it was justified.

The death of Stephen was the trigger for a great persecution of Christians by unbelieving Jews. Saul was a key figure of this persecution. He went from house to house and put men and women who were Christians in prison. Some Christians suffered and died for their faith, but many more scattered from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria. As they went, they preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Though Saul's goal was to destroy Christianity, his actions caused the teaching of Christ to spread throughout the region. God can use even the worst trial or persecution to do something wonderful in the lives of His children. God had a wonderful plan for Saul. Saul was confronted by Jesus, he was converted, changed his name to Paul, and became a witness for Jesus.



INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand the story of Stephen's death through the eyes of Saul before his conversion. They learned how the events of Stephen's death led to the growth of the Church, and to the conversion of Saul (who became Paul).