

New Friends—Additional Learn By Doing Activities

All three sections in the lesson include a suggested *Learn By Doing* activity. However, you may want to substitute one or more of the activities below to capture the specific interests and needs of your children.

Select activities based on the ages of your children, their learning style preferences, and their developmental needs.

Coloring Page

Provide copies of the reproducible Bible story picture for this lesson for children to color. (Available at DiscipleLand.com/BTCS)

Welcome Necklaces

(for older preschoolers)

Supplies: yarn, tape, O-shaped cereal, elbow macaroni

Allow older children to use cereal and macaroni to create necklaces. Put tape around the ends of the yarn to make it easier for the children to put the cereal and macaroni on the yarn. Let each child make two necklaces—one for them to keep and one to give to a new friend. Remind them that they could use these necklaces to welcome a new friend to their class.

As an alternative for younger preschoolers, purchase inexpensive leis from a party store. Have them put the necklaces on each other, welcoming them.

Stone Wall Mural

Supplies: large sheet of butcher paper, masking tape, brown and tan construction paper, glue sticks

Before class, tape the butcher paper onto a wall. Cut the construction paper into stone shapes, approximately 2" x 4". If your children cannot write their names, write each child's name on a stone, so that each child will have a stone with his or her name. Have them find a friend and use glue sticks to put their friend's stone on the mural, and have the friend put up his or her stone. Have them try to put the stones on in a wall pattern. Add several stones to the top of the wall that say "New Friends." Remind them how important it is to welcome new children to their class. Remind the children about how Saul's friends helped him over the wall of the city.

In a Basket

(for younger preschoolers)

Supplies: several laundry baskets

Allow your younger children to get into the laundry baskets, and as you push them slowly around the room, remind them that Saul rode in a basket to get out of the city. Encourage them to take turns sharing their basket as a way to be nice to new friends.

Hello! Hola! Bonjour!

Supplies: music player, recorded greetings in several languages, or a student or adult who can teach greetings in a different language

Remind children that not everyone speaks the same language. Explain to them that one way to make people who speak other languages feel welcome would be to learn how to say hello in their language. Teach the children or have a helper teach the children how to say "hello" or "welcome" in another language.