

Small Group Guide: Middle 4/8 and 4/12

Unit:	Good News Spreads “Chain Breaker”
The Point:	The Point: Jesus Breaks Chains
Memory Verse:	“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” John 8:36
Scripture:	Read The Apostle Paul Left-Right Game and pass the tea light when it says left pass it to the person on the left of you and pass it to the right of you when it says right.
Observation Questions:	See Observation Question Sheet
Application/Activity:	<p>Who does God work through. Ask the students to quickly follow the directions on the paper. Take a poll of which of the people on the sheet they felt God could use.</p> <p>It can be hard to believe that God can work through people who do terrible things, who break commandments and treat others poorly. Let’s take a look at whether there are any examples in the Bible of God using people who behave in such ways for good. Have students look up the following verses: (Pick one)</p> <p>Someone who commits murder: Exodus 2:11-12 In these verses, the young Moses goes out to see the Israelites being used as forced labor. When an Egyptian started beating a Hebrew (Israelite), Moses killed the Egyptian and hid the body in some nearby sand. This set in motion a series of events in which Moses fled, lived in the land of Midian for years, was called by God, and eventually returned to lead the exodus of the Israelites.</p> <p>. People who are not liked by others: Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus was a tax collector who</p>

was despised due to the way he treated others. Yet Jesus stated that he was a great example of repentance and belief.

Someone who lies: Genesis 27:19 Jacob lied to his father, Isaac, about his identity in order to receive the blessing that granted him money and power. He became the father of many nations.

Look at your Activity Sheet again. Is there anyone on there that God cannot work through? [No.] We could look up a lot more verses in the Bible and find many more people with the same kinds of faults we find in all of us: people who lie, who take things that do not belong to them, who are selfish or proud, or who disobey the commandments. We see ways that, in spite of all their sin and brokenness, God can work through them.

Allow students to name any other examples, either from the Bible or from their own experience, of how God works through unexpected people to share God's love and promises with others.

Let's pray: Gracious God, thank you for your everlasting love and goodness. We feel blessed that, even though we are broken and sinful, you love us and use us to share your love with others every day. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Or

Play repentance game.

Repentance is when we recognize that we have sinned and that we need to ask for forgiveness. True repentance sends us moving in a different direction. True repentance change Saul to Paul.

Have the kids line up against a wall or in the hallway. SGG reads a card and the kids have to decide if they are the right road or if they need to be on the road to repentance. If it's a good choice they are on the right road they

	move forward two steps or if it's a bad choice they need to repent and make a u turn and take 2 steps back. See where they end up when the card run out.
Prayer:	Ask for Prayer Requests
Next week:	Paul and Silas in Prison Acts 16:16-34