

Story Circle On the Road to Damascus

Everyone stands in a circle. Divide the group in half, one half mimes along to the first part of the story while the other half watches, and then they swap over. If your group is small you might just want to allow everyone to mime along to all of the story. Explain that they can do their own actions and also watch and join in with the actions of others.

A leader narrates and leads the children by doing some actions to help give them ideas. Any leaders present should join in enthusiastically to encourage the children to get involved. The words in bold could be accompanied by actions.

Saul was a Jewish religious leader who lived in Jerusalem. But Saul was an **angry** man who **hated** followers of Jesus. He thought they were **wrong!** He thought they should be **punished** for telling people Jesus was God's son. He wanted to see them all locked up and in **prison**, or **dead!** Every day Saul would go from house to house, **knocking** on doors trying to **find** as many Christians as he could. Then he would **throw** them in a **cold**, damp **prison**, and try to have them **executed**.

Now Saul had **heard** that some Christian were **escaping** from Jerusalem to surrounding countries because they were so **terrified** of him. He decided to **journey** to the Syrian city of Damascus to round up some more Christians. Saul and his soldiers **loaded** their horses with food and water and weapons and then **set off** on their journey.

As they neared Damascus, a **dazzlingly, bright light** shone down on Saul who **collapsed** to the ground in **fear**. A voice spoke out, "Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

Saul **covered his eyes** "Who are you Lord?" replied Saul.

'I am Jesus. Now get up and go to the city of Damascus. I will then tell you what you must do."

And so, Saul **stood up**, but he found that he could not see a thing. He was **blind**. One of his soldiers **led him by the hand** to Damascus.

For three days Saul sat in a house in the city of Damascus. People would **offer** Saul food, but he **refused** to eat anything. People would **offer** Saul water, but he **refused** to drink anything. All that Saul did was to **sit and pray**. After three days, Jesus sent a man named Ananias, to go and pay Saul a visit. Ananias was **anxious** because he'd heard a lot of bad things about Saul . Ananias **laid his hands** on Saul and Saul immediately **could see** again.

Saul was then **baptized**, he **ate** some food and had a **drink** and his **strength** came back to him. Saul had completely **transformed**, he was no longer the **angry**, man that he once was. He now **loved** others and wanted to **tell everyone** he met about Jesus.