

GOOD NEWS CLUB AGENDA

The First Century Church #4 – “Saul Meets Jesus” Acts 7:58-60; Acts 8:3-4; Acts 9:1-22

WEEK OF:

MAIN TRUTH: The Holy Spirit will help you change your attitudes and actions.

TO DO AS THE CHILDREN ARRIVE:

1. Greet the children; make them feel welcome.
2. Take attendance.
3. Listen to previous week’s memory verse.
4. Have children put money in missions bank.
5. Have children put candy corn in their team’s container according to the number of points earned.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITY:

1. OLDER CHILD: “Computer Virus!”
2. YOUNGER CHILD: “Will You Obey God’s Word?”

SONG: (2 minutes)

PRAYER: (4 minutes)

1. Prayer song: _____
2. Review the **WHEN WE PRAY IN CLUB** and **PATTERN FOR PRAYER** Charts. Explain the **Two Kinds of Prayer**. (See attached visual.)
3. Let the children mention two things they want to thank God for (“Thank You Prayers”) and two things they want to ask God for (“Please Prayers”).
4. Lead the children in “Thank You Prayers” and “Please Prayers.”

MEMORY VERSE: (7 minutes)

2 Corinthians 5:17 – ***“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”***

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize. See “**Involvement Helps for Younger Children**” for helps in teaching the verse to the younger children.)

“**Crazy Stand-Ups**” – After you have read this verse from the Bible, explained what it means, and repeated it at least two times, you may begin this drill. Have different groups stand up to repeat the verse: those wearing blue, those who have a brother or a sister, those who like ice cream, those who brushed their teeth, etc. Try to choose a category that applies to as many children as possible.

HYMN FOR THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH: (2 minutes)

BIBLE LESSON: (20 minutes)

THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #4 – “Saul Meets Jesus”

(See “**Involvement Helps for Younger Children**” for ways to involve the children in the Bible lesson.)

COUNSEL TIME:

(If you have a helper, hostess, or Teacher Junior Grade, let them do the review time while you counsel those who responded to the invitation. Otherwise, at the end of club, be sure to remind them to stay for a few minutes so you can counsel them.)

TAKE TIME TO REVIEW/QUIET TIME NOTEBOOK: (1 minute)

From the returned TTtR/Q.T.N.s, mention one or two of the children's responses to the Main Truth challenge. Hand out Take Time to Review/Quiet Time Notebook, The First Century Church #4. Ask the children to complete the booklet before the next club. Remind them that they need to show you their TTtR/Q.T. Notebook next week.

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS: (5 minutes)

Teach information for Week #4.

MISSIONARY TIME: (13 minutes)

1. Sing "God's Way" while a child comes to look in the "Go and Tell" Box.
2. Share information for the "Go and Tell" Box – Week #3 and pray. (See attached page.)
3. Show goal chart and mention the amount given so far.
4. Missions song: _____
5. Story: *No Darkness At All*. Teach the part of the story for Week #5.

REVIEW ACTIVITY: (6 minutes)

Use the activity below or the Bible Learning Game from "**Involvement Helps for Younger Children.**"

"If You Know the Answer, Do This." – Explain that if a child knows the answer he should follow the given command. For example: clap your hands. Read a question and choose a child who is clapping (*or whichever option you choose*) to answer the question. Other options are: rub your tummy, close one eye, put your hands on your head, stand up straight, wear a smiley face, count from 1 to 5, scratch your head, laugh a little, wave both hands. - **Ralph Bechtel**.

Review questions for THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #4:

1. **What was Saul doing to the believers in Jesus in Jerusalem?** (Persecuting them – putting them in chains, throwing them in prison)
2. **Saul was a Pharisee and tried hard to keep all the rules and laws of Scripture. Why couldn't Saul really do that?** (He was a sinner. Only Jesus is perfect.)
3. **When the persecution got bad in Jerusalem, what did many of the believers do?** (They left Jerusalem and went to other cities)
4. **Why did Saul decide to go to Damascus?** (To arrest the believers there)
5. **What did Saul see as he was on the road to Damascus?** (A dazzling light)
6. **Who spoke to Saul on the road to Damascus?** (Jesus)
7. **When Saul got up off the ground, what problem did he have?** (He was blind)
8. **What did Saul do for three days after he arrived in Damascus?** (Didn't eat or drink, prayed and waited for God to show him what to do)
9. **What did God tell Ananias to do?** (Go to see Saul)
10. **Why was Ananias afraid at first to go to Saul?** (He had heard about the terrible things Saul had done to believers)
11. **Why were people amazed when they heard Saul preaching about Jesus?** (He was changed. He used to be the one who persecuted believers.)
12. **If you know Jesus as your Saviour, how do your attitude and actions help to show that?** (You are changed. You have a new nature that wants to please God. The things you do and the way you do them will be different.)

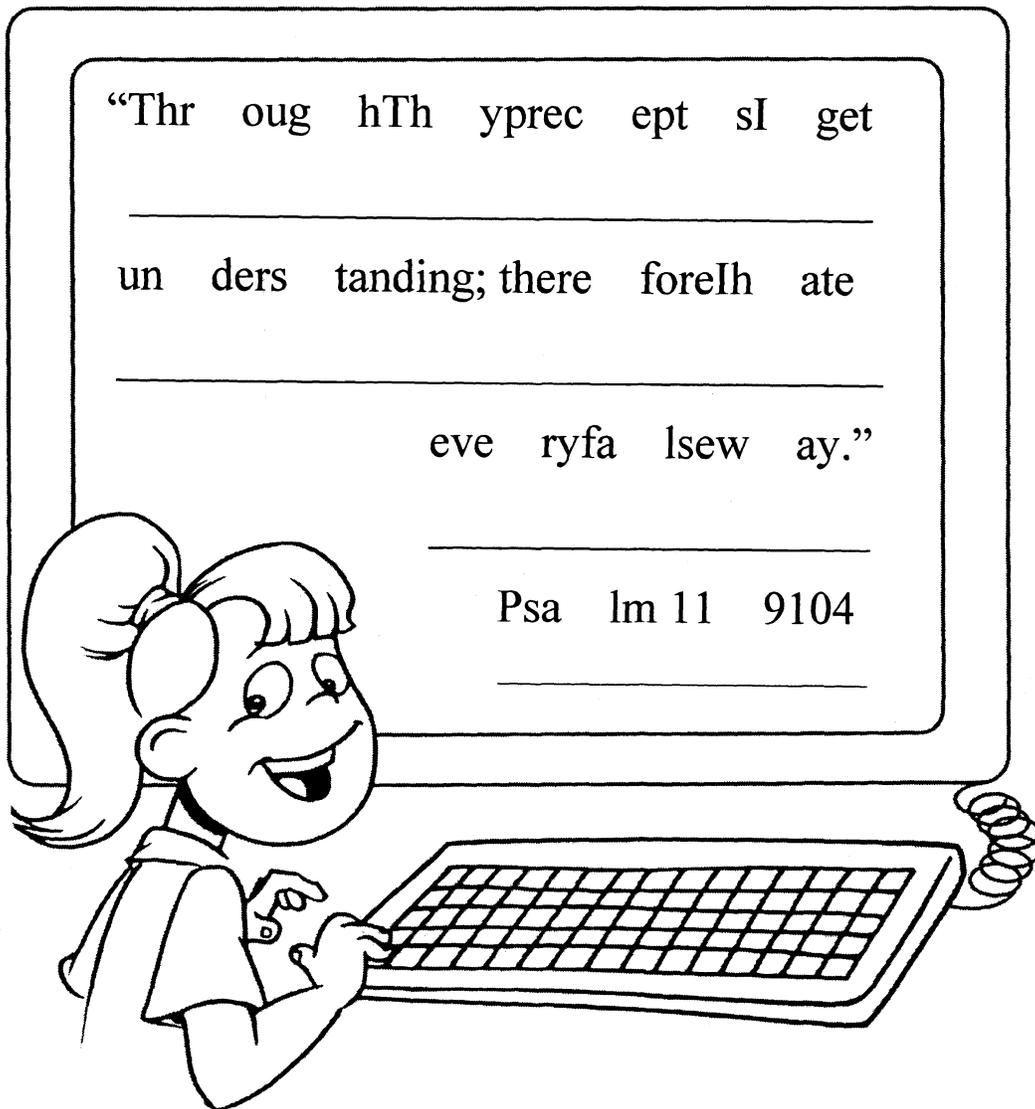
*COUNSEL TIME: (*Only if you did not counsel with the children earlier.)

SEND HOME WITH THE CHILDREN:

1. Pre-session papers for older and younger child
2. Memory verse token
3. Take Time to Review/Quiet Time, The First Century Church #4

Computer Virus!

The computer has some sort of a glitch. When the verse was typed, the words ran together in places and became difficult to read. Can you separate the words and write out the verse correctly?



Will You Obey God's Word?

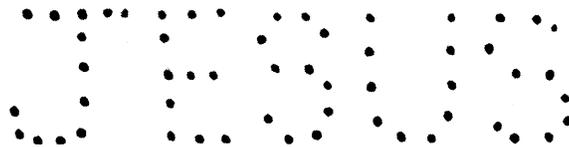
Draw a picture of something you know God wants you to do.



Will you do what God wants you to do? (Circle one.)

YES  NO 

Who will help you to obey what it says in His Word? (Connect the dots.)



“ . . . if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature ”
2 Corinthians 5:17

TWO KINDS OF PRAYERS:

Please Prayers

Thank You Prayers

The First Century Church #4

SAUL MEETS JESUS

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize.)

By Missy Hess



INTRODUCE THE VERSE:

How do leaves change in the fall? They change colors. How does water change when you put it into the freezer? It changes into ice. How does a seed change when it's planted and watered and gets sunlight? It grows and changes into a plant. There are lots of changes that we can see all around us. Our memory verse today talks about a different kind of change that happens when a person comes to know Jesus as their Saviour. Listen to today's verse.

READ THE VERSE:

Read the verse together from the visualized verse. Then read the verse directly from the Bible.

EXPLAIN THE VERSE:

2 Corinthians 5:17

– This is where the verse is found in the Bible. We call it the address or reference. It is found in the book of 2 Corinthians, chapter 5, verse 17.

“...”

– The dots mean there are more words to the verse, but we aren't going to learn them.

“If any man be in Christ,”

– To “be in Christ” means to know Jesus Christ as your Saviour and to be a part of God's family. This verse is talking to any man, woman, boy, or girl who is “in Christ.”

“he is a new creature:”

– You have a new nature and are changed on the inside when you accept Jesus as your Saviour.

“old things are passed away;”

– Because He has changed you inside, you should no longer want to do the old, sinful things you used to do.

“behold, all things are become new.”

– The things you say and do and the way you think will be different when you know Jesus as your Saviour. You should want to do the things that are pleasing to God.

REPEAT THE VERSE:

“Crazy Stand-Ups” – After you have read this verse from the Bible, explained what it means, and repeated it at least two times, you may begin this drill. Have different groups stand up to repeat the verse: those wearing blue, those who have a brother or a sister, those who like ice cream, those who brushed their teeth, etc. Try to choose a category that applies to as many children as possible.

HELPS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

The First Century Church #4

By Missy Hess

Memory Verse

For younger children, teach only the underlined portion of the verse.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – “. . . *If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*”

Bible Lesson Involvement Helps

Flashcard 4-1:

Have children show an angry look on their face.

Flashcard 4:2:

Have children pretend to pack their bag for the trip. Be sure to include the letters from the high priest.

Flashcard 4-3:

Have children pretend to shield their eyes from the bright light.

Have children ask the question, “Who are You?”

Flashcard 4-6:

Have children ask someone sitting next to them, “Isn’t this the same man who was persecuting believers?”

Bible Learning Game

Have children stand and sing with you the words below to the tune of “Old MacDonald Had a Farm” while doing the motions described.

“The Holy Spirit will help you change – E-I-E-I-O!

(point up to God)

(shake and wiggle in place)

The Holy Spirit will help you change – E-I-E-I-O!

(point up to God)

(shake and wiggle in place)

The things you do. The things you say. Things you do! Things you say!

(put out left arm)

(put out right arm)

(put out left arm)

(put out right arm)

Everything will change, change!

(clap! clap!)

The Holy Spirit will help you change – E-I-E-I-O!

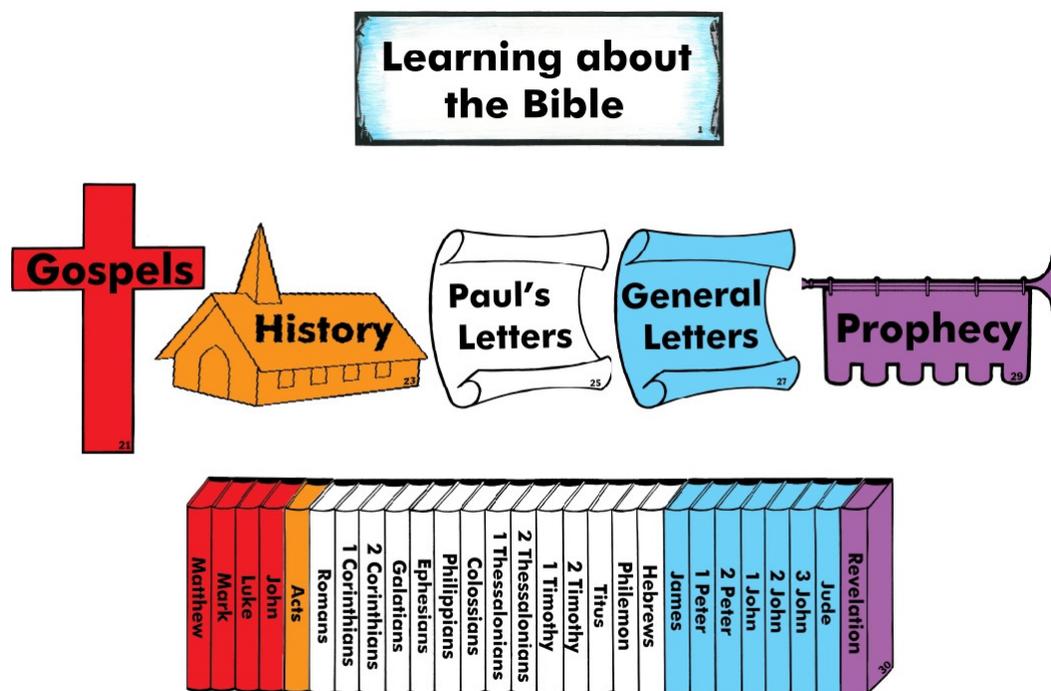
(point up to God)

(shake and wiggle in place)

When you finish singing, say to the children, “The Holy Spirit changed Saul when he believed in Jesus as his Saviour. Perhaps there is a time when you don’t want to listen to mommy or daddy when they tell you to do something. If Jesus is your Saviour, God the Holy Spirit will help you change so that you want to do the right thing.” Repeat as time allows using other examples such as: “Perhaps there is a time when you get mad and want to hit your brother or sister. . . .” or “Perhaps there is a time when you want to call somebody a mean name” or “Perhaps there is a time when you grab a toy away from someone”

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

WEEK #4



(Place figure #1.) This week, we will review the 27 books of the New Testament. We will begin with the Gospels. **(Place figure #21.)** Let's say them together: *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John.* **(Place figure #22.)** The Gospels tell us about Jesus' special birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. After the Gospels, we have one book of History. **(Place figure #23.)** What is the name of this book? *Acts.* **(Place figure #24.)** The book of Acts records some of the activities of the disciples and the ministry of God the Holy Spirit. The next section of the New Testament is called Paul's Letters. **(Place figure #25.)** Paul was an apostle and missionary to many places, and God used him to write 14 letters. Let's see if we can remember all of them: *Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians, First and Second Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews.* **(Place figure #26.)** These letters were written to help the believers know how God wanted them to live. After Paul's Letters, we have the General Letters. **(Place figure #27.)** *James, First and Second Peter, First, Second, and Third John, Jude.* **(Place figure #28.)** These letters also tell us how to live for God. The last book in the Bible is called a book of prophecy. **(Place figure #29.)** It is *Revelation.* **(Place figure #30.)** This book tells about things that will take place in the future. I hope you will continue to practice saying the books of the New Testament. Next week, we will start on the books of the Old Testament.



GO AND TELL BOX

WEEK #3 – MESSAGE OF THE PENNY

INFORMATION



(Suggested item to put in the “Go and Tell” Box – a penny.)

What do you think a penny has to do with *going and telling*? *(Let the children share their ideas.)*

How much is a penny worth? (One cent.) The words “one cent” remind me that a missionary is a person who has received Jesus as Saviour and is “s-e-n-t” to tell someone else about Jesus. The words “c-e-n-t” and “s-e-n-t” sound exactly alike, but they have two different meanings. Jesus said (John 20:21), “*As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you.*” Then who is a missionary? One sent by God to tell others of Jesus.

On the front side of the penny, we see the image (likeness, picture) of a very important person. This person is Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. You and I were created by God in His own image. That does not mean we are perfect like God, but it does mean that God made us different from the animals. God gave us a will so we could make choices. Animals do things by instinct, not by choice. We also have a soul (the real you) that will live forever, either with God in Heaven or in the place of punishment when our life on Earth is over. The word “Liberty” is also on each penny. On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation that declared those who had been slaves to be free. Missionaries share with others the good news of the Gospel so that they can be forgiven and set free from the bondage of sin by trusting Jesus to be their Saviour.

What is the shape of a penny? It is round like a circle - just like the shape of the world. Jesus said Christians are to “. . . *go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature . . .*” All of us can be missionaries in our schools, homes, and our neighborhoods; but some missionaries go to faraway places. On each penny are the words “*In God We Trust.*” Missionaries have many needs, and they certainly must trust in God. They need to trust God to supply the money needed to serve Him. Many decisions must be made, so they trust God to show them the right thing to do. Starting next week, we will be learning about some incredibly special people who are missionaries. We will be sending our missionary offering to help them, and we will pray for their specific needs.

PRAYER

THANK God that He made each of us special with a will so we can choose to believe on Jesus as our Saviour from sin.

ASK God to help us give of our money to help the missionaries share the message of God’s love.



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

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**The Holy Spirit will
help you
change your
attitudes and
actions.**



- God had changed Saul; The Holy Spirit was making him more like Jesus

- God was going to use him in a special way!

FLASHCARD 4-5

- After God spoke to Ananias, Ananias obeyed and went to where Saul was staying; When got there, he found Saul praying

- Ananias placed his hands on Saul, "Brother Saul, the Lord who appeared to you on the road to Damascus sent me to you so you can receive your sight."

- Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes; He could see!

FLASHCARD 4-6

- After that, Saul stayed in Damascus for several days; He ate food and got his strength back

- Then he went out and started telling people about Jesus

- Everyone who heard him was amazed and asked, "Isn't this the same man who was persecuting believers?"

- Saul was changed and wanted everyone to believe in Jesus

- Have you believed in Jesus as the Only One who can save you from your sin?

INVITATION

John 1:12 – "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

**S
P, E
L**

BOW HEADS RESPONSE

CHALLENGE

G – Go over MT

MT, PAS – THE HOLY SPIRIT IS CHANGING YOU TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS

R – Review PAS verse

2 Corinthians 5:17 – "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

O – Overview PAS examples

1.

2.

3.

W – Will you do it?

THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #4

Acts 5:12-42

- Bang, bang, bang!

- Someone was pounding on door of a home where believers in Jesus lived!

- Inside someone whispered, "Oh no! It's Saul! Coming to get us!"

- Who was Saul? Why were people afraid of him? Listen and find out.

FLASHCARD 4-1

- Persecution was spreading throughout Jerusalem

- Persecution—treating someone badly for believing in Jesus and telling others about Him

- Saul was persecuting people who believed in Jesus

- Was going from house to house dragging out believers, putting them in chains, and throwing them in prison

- He wanted believers to be destroyed; He wanted to stop them from telling others about Jesus

- He didn't believe that Jesus was God the Son; Definitely didn't believe Jesus was the One God promised to send to save sinners like you and me from our sin

O

- Saul didn't believe this

- Saul was an important religious leader and he thought he could be made right with God by keeping all the religious rules and laws

- But what he didn't understand was no matter how hard he tried, all his hard work would not please God because Saul was a sinner

- He needed Jesus to save him from his sin

- Maybe you try to please God by being good or keeping rules. But if you don't know Jesus as your Saviour from sin, no matter how hard you try, that won't please God either.

- Because you and I are born sinners

S, PAU

Isaiah 64:6 – "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags."

1.

2.

3.

- No matter how many good things you try to do, you can't do anything to help make yourself right with God

- Saul thought he was pleasing God by keeping rules and by punishing believers

- Was actually going against God!

- The persecution got so bad, many believers ran to other cities to hide from Saul

FLASHCARD 4-2

- One day, Saul decided to chase down believers who had gone to city called Damascus

- It would take Saul about 5 days to get there, but he didn't care

- He wanted to go all the way to Damascus to arrest believers and bring them back to Jerusalem to be punished

- Saul got letters from High Priest with permission to go; After received letters, Saul started his journey to Damascus

FLASHCARD 4-3

- As Saul and his men were getting near Damascus, something amazing happened

- There was a blinding light, brighter than the sun; Shown down from Heaven around Saul

- Saul was startled by light and fell to the ground

- Heard a voice speaking to him from Heaven saying, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting Me?"

- Saul, "Who are You?"

- Voice answered, "I am Jesus, the One you are persecuting."

- Jesus was saying that when Saul was persecuting the believers, he was really hurting and persecuting Jesus

- When Saul heard Jesus speak to him, something amazing happened...

- Saul believed Jesus really is God the Son; The Promised Saviour sent to save sinners like you and me from our sin!

P, E

Ephesians 1:22 – "In Whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins...."

- Now Saul believed this; He knew what the believers said was true. Jesus was alive!

- Saul was a believer in Jesus! When believed, God changed him!

- God the Holy Spirit came to live in him and was making him more like Jesus!

MT – THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MAKING YOU MORE LIKE JESUS

- God, the Holy Spirit was changing Saul!

- Before, Saul was persecuting believers; Now Saul was a believer! He too had believed in Jesus as his Saviour from sin

FLASHCARD 4-4

- Then Jesus spoke to Saul again, "Get up, go into the city, and it will be told to you what you are to do."

- Saul slowly got up off ground, but when he looked around, couldn't see; Was blind!

- The men with Saul had to lead him by the hand into Damascus

- After arrived, for 3 days, he didn't eat or drink anything; Just prayed and waited for God to show him what to do next

- Living in Damascus was a believer named Ananias

- God spoke to Ananias in dream, "Go to a street called Straight to home of Judas; Ask to see a man named Saul; He is praying to Me."

- Ananias was afraid, "But Lord, I have heard about things Saul has done to believers..."

- He has come to Damascus to arrest those who believe in You."

- God, "Go, for I have chosen Saul to take My message to Gentiles [people who are not Jews], kings, and people of Israel."

- God's plan was that people from all around the world would hear about Jesus

- Because He loved them and wanted them to be saved from their sin

G

- God loves you and wants you to hear about Jesus too!

- God wanted people from all around the world to hear about Jesus

- Even though Saul did horrible things to believers, God had forgiven him

- Now God, the Holy Spirit was living in him and was making him more like Jesus

MT, PAS – THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MAKING YOU MORE LIKE JESUS

2 Corinthians 5:17 – "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

1.

2.

3.