

**SECTION**  
**4.5**

# Grace to Be Transformed



## Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

### Option 1: Butterfly Transformation

**What You'll Need:** Images of the different stages of butterflies (optional: computer and projector)

**PREP:** Search online for images of the different stages of a butterfly: egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly. Print out or use a computer and projector to show the images in class.

**STEP 1:** Show kids the image of the egg. Ask kids to guess what the egg will turn out to be. Then, display the picture of the caterpillar. See if any of the kids can guess what the caterpillar turns out to be.

Finally, display the last two pictures of the pupa and the butterfly.

**STEP 2:** Ask: Is there any resemblance between the egg and the butterfly?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- The egg looks completely opposite from the butterfly, but it will one day turn into a butterfly through metamorphosis, or transformation.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we change too! Our lives after salvation are completely opposite of what we were like before salvation.
- We sometimes call the difference "transformation." God wants to completely transform us to become more like His Son.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of being transformed by grace.

### Notes:

SECTION  
**4.5**

# Grace to Be Transformed



## Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

### Option 2: Drastic Changes

**What You'll Need:** Baking soda, water, food coloring, bowl, rimmed glasses or plastic containers, white vinegar, empty squirt bottles, tables

**PREP:** Make a ball of dough out of baking soda, water, and food coloring by mixing one cup of baking soda, four teaspoons of water, and one or two drops of food coloring in a bowl. Depending on the size of your class, make several baking soda dough balls. Place each dough ball in a rimmed glass or plastic container. Gather squirt bottles, one bottle for every ball of dough. Pour a half cup of vinegar into each bottle.

**STEP 1:** Put containers of dough around the tables in the classroom, and have kids gather around the tables. Place squirt bottles near each container. Choose several kids to hold the squirt bottles. At your signal, have these kids begin to squirt the dough ball. After a few squirts, encourage other kids to squirt the dough ball.

Ask the following questions:

- What happened when the vinegar in the bottle came into contact with the ball of dough? (The ball fizzed.)
- Why do you think this happened? (Explain to kids that this happened because the vinegar caused a chemical reaction to the baking soda, changing its appearance.)

**STEP 2:** Share these key concepts:

- Just like the dough ball changed, when we trust Jesus as Savior, we change too! Our lives after salvation are completely opposite of what we were like before salvation.
- We sometimes call the difference "transformation." God wants to completely transform us to become more like His Son.

**STEP 3:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of being transformed by grace.

**Notes:**

## SECTION

## 4.5

## Grace to Be Transformed



## Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

## Option 1: Before/After

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, paper, markers, pens or pencils, Before/After handout (Resource Bundle) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

**PREP:** Print copies of the Before/After handout, one per kid.

**STEP 1:** Tell kids that sometimes when a person changes, it's known as "transformation." Explain to kids that God wants us to be transformed.

Share these key concepts:

- We are sinners who deserve the punishment of death and hell because of our sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23a).
- Instead of the punishment we deserve, God sent Jesus Christ, His Son, to take the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:4-5).
- After we trust Jesus as Savior, we are justified. God sees us as righteous, and we are adopted into His family (2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 1:5, 1 John 3:1-2).

**STEP 2:** Distribute a copy of the Before/After handout to each child., along with a pen or pencil. Have kids work in groups of three or four, and assign half of the handout to each group.

Give groups five minutes to read through their verses and record details of Paul's life before or after he trusted Jesus as Savior. Encourage leaders to help groups as needed.

**STEP 3:** After five minutes, have groups that completed the "Before" section of the handout briefly share their findings.

Share these concepts:

- After he met Christ on the road, Paul believed that Jesus was the Savior. Once he could see again, he started to tell people that Jesus was the Son of God, the Savior.

- At first, the followers of Christ did not believe Paul. They were afraid of him because of what he had done to other believers. But as Paul continued to share the truth that Jesus is the Savior, they recognized the changes in his life.

**STEP 4:** Have groups who completed the "After" section of the handout briefly share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul spent the rest of his life telling others that Jesus is the Son of God, the true Savior. He told people who were Jews (like he was) and people who were not Jews the truth about Jesus. He wrote letters to many churches and taught those believers how to live in love and obedience to Jesus. Many of Paul's letters are now books in the Bible!
- Paul suffered many things because he believed Jesus is the Savior. He was persecuted, beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, and put in prison. Eventually, Paul was put to death because of his faith in Jesus (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

**STEP 5:** Tell kids that Paul was the perfect example of a person who was transformed by God's grace. In fact, he wrote our memory verse for the week.

**STEP 6:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we are changed. God sees us as justified! It's as if we are a new creation.
- We are not the same as we were before salvation.

**SECTION**  
**4.5**

# Grace to Be Transformed



## Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

**STEP 7:** Remind kids that God wants to transform their lives too!

Share these key concepts:

- When we study the Bible, the Holy Spirit will show us how we can be more like Christ.
- The Holy Spirit will help us make right choices that show our love for God, and will help others know Him (Ephesians 2:10).

**STEP 8:** Encourage kids to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit to give them grace to be transformed. After a minute, close in prayer.

**STEP 9:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

**Notes:**



# Before/After

## PAUL: BEFORE

Read the following verses and write characteristics and details of Paul's life before he trusted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

<p><b>Acts 7:55—8:3</b> (Note: Paul used to be called Saul.)</p>	
<p><b>Acts 26:9-11</b></p>	
<p><b>Galatians 1:13-14</b></p>	
<p><b>1 Timothy 1:15</b></p>	

## PAUL: AFTER

Read the following verses and record the characteristics and details of Paul's life after he trusted Christ as his Savior. Note that all these verses were written by Paul, and he is speaking about himself.

<p><b>Romans 1:1</b></p>	
<p><b>Romans 1:16</b></p>	
<p><b>Philippians 3:8-9</b></p>	
<p><b>Philippians 4:11-13</b></p>	

**SECTION**  
**4.5**

# Grace to Be Transformed



## Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

### Option 2: A Changed Life

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, paper, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard and markers

**PREP:** Set up an easel in front of the room. Place the whiteboard on the easel. Number 3 x 5 cards 1 to 7, and write each of the following references in order on the numbered 3 x 5 cards.

1. Acts 7:55-8:3
2. Acts 26:9-11
3. Galatians 1:13-14
4. 1 Timothy 1:15
5. Romans 1:1, 16
6. Philippians 3:8-9
7. Philippians 4:11-13

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

**STEP 1:** Divide kids into two groups. Distribute Bibles, paper, and pens or pencils to each group. Give the first group the four 3 x 5 cards numbered 1-4, and the second group the 3 x 5 cards 5-7.

Give each group five minutes to study their verses and be ready to teach the other group what Paul was like before he was saved and after he was saved. Tell kids they can use the whiteboard or poster board during their "lesson."

**STEP 2:** After five minutes, have the first group teach what Paul was like before he was saved.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul was a "religious" Jew, called a Pharisee. Paul believed in God and knew the Old Testament well. Paul obeyed God's rules in the Old Testament and the other rules Jews made up (Galatians 1:14, Philippians 3:4-6).
- Paul knew the Old Testament promised a Savior; however, Paul did not believe that Jesus

was that person. Paul hated the followers of Jesus who were telling everyone that Jesus was God's Son and the promised Savior. Paul believed his actions were right according to the rules of the Jewish religion.

**STEP 3:** Have the second group teach what Paul was like after he was saved.

Share these key concepts:

- God spoke directly to Paul to get his attention and to show him that Jesus is the Savior who was promised in the Old Testament.
- God used believers to help Paul understand the truth of Scripture.
- God used Paul in a great way to share the gospel with many people.
- Paul even wrote 13 books in the Bible that help us learn more about how we can live by loving and obeying Jesus!

**STEP 4:** Tell kids that Paul was the perfect example of a person who was transformed by God's grace. In fact, he wrote our memory verse for the week.

Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we are changed. God sees us as justified! It's as if we are a new creation.
- We are not the same as we were before salvation.

**STEP 5:** Remind kids that God wants to transform their lives too!

Share these key concepts:

- When we study the Bible, the Holy Spirit will show us how we can be more like Christ.
- The Holy Spirit will help us make right choices that show our love for God, and will help others know Him (Ephesians 2:10).

**SECTION**  
**4.5**

# Grace to Be Transformed



## Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

**STEP 6:** Encourage kids to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit for grace to be transformed. After a minute, close in prayer.

**STEP 7:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

**Notes:**