

Worship Date: March 21, 2010

Worship Theme: Formed in Christ

Scripture Reference: Philippians 3:10

Materials: Brown bag with handles, the letters **f**, **o**, **r**, and **m** cut out of white paper four inches high, cookie cutters of various shapes, a Bible

(Start out by taking the letters out of the bag one at a time and putting them on the floor so children can see them. Make sure they are mixed up so they don't spell the word 'form'.) Can anyone see what word these letters spell? (Let the children move the letters around until they spell "form.") What does "form" mean? It could mean the shape of a thing or person.

(Next take the cookie cutters out.) How are these cookie cutters used? How will the cookies turn out? Will they be the same shape as the cutters?

(Next take the bible out of the bag and share with them the story of Paul's conversion) Paul was a Jew who persecuted the Christians until a miracle happened. While he was traveling, a blinding light struck him and he was blind. He heard Jesus voice telling Paul that he was needed in the work of God. Paul was healed, then became a believer in Jesus. Instead of putting Christians in jail, he said,

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his suffering by becoming like him in his death. (NRSV)

How did Jesus form Paul? (Talk about how he was a changed person after meeting with Jesus.) What makes us know that Paul was changed?

How can Jesus form our lives? How could we be different if we let Jesus form our lives? What should we do to let Jesus form us? (You could make suggestions to the children to help them.)

Let's close with a prayer. God help us let Jesus into our lives and form us into what he wants. Amen.