

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Paul's Letters

from Romans 1:1-17.

Through Paul's letters, people learned about Jesus.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Apostle
- Faith
- Gospel
- Ashamed
- Mutually encouraged

Ancient letters were carved on clay or bronze tablets until the invention of papyrus and parchment. Papyrus was made from the tough fibers of plants. Parchment, or vellum, was made from the skins of mammals. Receiving a letter probably took a long time, since the mail carrier usually travelled by foot!

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 540-541

Spark NRSV Bible page 1244

Family Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to remember that even though you are God, you became human. You understand all of our weaknesses and concerns. Thank you for your compassion. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

1 Do you like to send letters and emails? What kinds of things do you write about?

2 Why do you think Paul wrote so many letters to the early Christians?

3 What were some things that Paul wrote to the church in Rome?

4 As a family, write a letter of encouragement to a fellow Christian who is struggling in some way. Reassure them of your love and, more importantly, of God's boundless love and mercy.



Eye Spark

Each day, count how many envelopes your family receives in the mail. For each envelope you count, say a quick prayer for someone you know.



Ear Spark

Listen for the sounds a baby makes. Anytime you hear a baby cry or laugh or speak gibberish this week, remember that God came to earth in the form of a human baby to fully understand our weaknesses and temptations.

All Kids, Paul's Letters Family Page.

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LIVE IT

For families to do together

Put together a care package for one of your church's missionaries. Be sure to include a letter of gratitude and encouragement for the work they are doing in God's kingdom.

For younger kids

Write a brief, cheerful note to a missionary's child. Remember they are far away from home, just like their parents.

For older kids

Send an email to a missionary's child. Ask if they would like to be "pen pals" or email buddies. Include a photo of yourself with adult permission.

