

Stick Figures



Español 



Simple stick figures are a great way to convey a Bible story to children. There is something unassuming about a simple stick figure. It is not a great work of art. It does not have moving parts nor is it animated. But children love the fact that you, the teacher, have drawn stick figures just for them.

MATERIALS:

- A Bible and chosen Bible story. The example above used the story of [Paul and Barnabas in Lystra \(Acts 13 and 14\)](#).
- Paper (in this case it was a poster board)
- Markers or a pen

PREPARATION:

1. Read over the event in the Bible and outline the story. In the example above, the outline was:
 1. Paul heals the lame man in Lystra
 2. The people of Lystra begin to worship Paul and Barnabas like they were gods
 3. Paul tells them that only God should be worshipped. He is the giver of all gifts. He made everything around them. But the people would not stop worshipping them.
 4. Some angry men from another town came and started saying bad things about Paul and Barnabas. They made the crowd very angry.



5. The crowd became so angry that they threw stones at Paul until he fell down and they said he was dead.
 6. After the crowd left, Paul got up. He and Barnabas left Lystra and continued on to other cities to teach about Jesus.
2. Divide the paper into sections.
 3. Draw the scenes of the story on each of the sections.
 4. Before class begins, cover each of the scenes with paper.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Remove the papers one at a time as you tell the story to the children. By waiting to reveal them one at a time, you will help the children maintain a sense of anticipation.

ADAPTATIONS:

- Draw the pictures as you tell the story. This will require planning ahead and a little practice.
- Ask another person to draw as you tell the story. Teenagers or adults could be the guest artist in your class.
- Older children can read the story from the Bible together with you and outline it. They could then plan out the scenes and draw them themselves.
- Instead of a number of scenes, choose one scene and draw it together as a group.
- Use other mediums besides paper and markers:
 - Paints or chalk pastels
 - Sidewalk chalk on the sidewalk, footpath or concrete
 - Sharpie pens or other products made to write temporarily on glass. The teacher or children can write on a window pane. (You will want to test this first to make sure it cleans up well with window cleaner).
 - For outside- use a stick and draw in the sand.

HELPFUL HINTS:

Here are a few helpful instructional videos:

- Drawing basic faces and emotions
[Video \(almost 6 minutes\) at https://youtu.be/BFoIRV1Eo84](https://youtu.be/BFoIRV1Eo84)
- Adding dynamic actions to stick figures.
[Video \(4 1/2 minutes\) at https://youtu.be/DkM6FgbQIGs](https://youtu.be/DkM6FgbQIGs)

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