

Focus Points

"Focus Points" are short activities that draw students into the lesson. They take only a few minutes to do. Many can be used as quick-start activities to engage the students and focus their attention at the beginning of class. Others may fit well during the lesson to reinforce a point and drive it home. Still others may serve as good wrap-up activities. "Focus Points" come in many forms. Choose and use them as you see fit.

Focus Point – They Stoned Paul and Left Him for Dead!

Give everyone a piece of paper and a minute or two to complete the last sentence of this story. Then have each student read what they have written.

Complete the story:

"Your best friend is attacked by a street gang and brutally beaten on his head and face. You rush to call an ambulance, and moments later the paramedics are frantically working to get his heart going again. Later that day your best friend ..."

When they have finished reading their endings, tell them that the story actually ends this way:

"Later that day your best friend is fine! He is released from the hospital and you go to Bible class together that night. Your plans have not been affected at all!"

Really? Yes!

This astounding outcome is comparable to what happened to the apostle Paul when he was stoned at Lystra. Read Acts 14:19-22. Paul's miraculous recovery must have been incredibly reassuring to him and all the disciples that the risen Lord Jesus Christ was with them as they waited for the kingdom of God to come.