

1

Waiting For the Holy Spirit

Acts 1

Memory verse: “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 2: 8

(When Jesus was on the earth, he taught his apostle many things. He said that the “Kingdom of the Lord” was at hand and that He would build His church. He told His apostles to go preach the gospel to the whole world. And, He told them that He would send the Holy Spirit to help them remember what He had said and to help them know what to preach.)

So when they (the apostles) had come together, they asked Him, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and His brothers.

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he (Judas) was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and

falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

“For it is written in the Book of Psalms, ““May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and ‘Let another take his office.’”(His position as apostle.) Psalm 109: 8

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two You have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Lessons to Learn: The apostles waited for the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem. The Scriptures told that someone would take Judas’ place. To become an apostle, a man would have to have been with Jesus and the apostles from the time of Jesus’ baptism. God was the one who really chose the new apostle, Matthias.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The apostles would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them.
- _____ 2. No one saw Jesus go up into heaven.
- _____ 3. When the apostles spoke, all the people heard.
- _____ 4. Barsabbas was chosen to be the twelfth apostle.
- _____ 5. The new apostle was supposed to be a witness to Jesus’ resurrection.

Short Answer:

6. Who was going to help the apostles after Jesus went to heaven?

7. What would the Holy Spirit do for the apostles?

8. Jesus said to the apostles, "You will be My witnesses in

_____ and in all _____
and _____, and to the end of the earth."

9. How will Jesus return on the Judgment Day?

10. Where did the apostles wait for the Holy Spirit?

11. Who was chosen to take Judas' place and be a twelfth apostle?

Remember this:

12. Why was Judas not an apostle any more?

13. In what book of the Bible was there prophecy about Judas?

14. What did the apostles do before choosing a new apostle?

continued

15. Fill in the blanks with the requirements for the new apostle.

“So one of the men who have accompanied us during _____ the time that the _____ went in and out among us, beginning from the _____ of _____ until the day when he was _____ from us.”

16. Circle Jerusalem.

Color the area of Judaea blue.

Color the area of Samaria green.



2

The Church Begins

Acts 2

Memory verse: “Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.” Acts 2:38

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they (the apostles) were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling (living) in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered (confused), because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia (fri-j'ē-a) and Pamphylia (PAM fil ea), Egypt and the parts of Libya (LIH-bee-uh) belonging to Cyrene (sai-REE-neh), and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes (Gentiles who converted to the Jewish religion), Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day (9 a.m.). But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

“And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams... And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested (proved to be the Son of God) to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised Him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it. For David says concerning him...

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.
You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.

Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch (father) David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day... ; he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend (go up) into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies Your footstool.””

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself.” And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Lessons to Learn: “Began to speak in other tongues” means that the apostles were able to speak in other languages beside the normal language they spoke.

The prophet Joel had prophesied about this time – the beginning of the church.

David prophesied about Jesus and His resurrection.
The Holy Spirit helped the apostles teach many people so that every person could hear about Jesus in their own language.
The people were told to repent and be baptized. This is the same thing we must do to become Christians today.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The Holy Spirit came to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.
- _____ 2. Peter was the only preacher on the day of Pentecost.
- _____ 3. Some people thought the apostles were drunk when they heard them speaking in several languages.
- _____ 4. Both David and Joel were quoted by Peter.
- _____ 5. Peter accused the people listening to him of crucifying Jesus.
- _____ 6. The people listening to Peter had no way of knowing that Jesus was the Christ before they had Him crucified.

Short Answer:

- 7. What sound and sight showed that the Holy Spirit had come on the apostles?

- 8. Why were the many people confused when they came together?

- 9. What is the word for Gentiles who converted to the Jewish religion?

- 10. The prophet Joel said, “_____ who calls upon the _____ of the _____ shall be saved.” Acts 2: 21

11. Peter said that Jesus was “delivered up according to the _____
_____ and _____ of God.”

12. How did Peter say that God proved that Jesus is the Son of God? _____

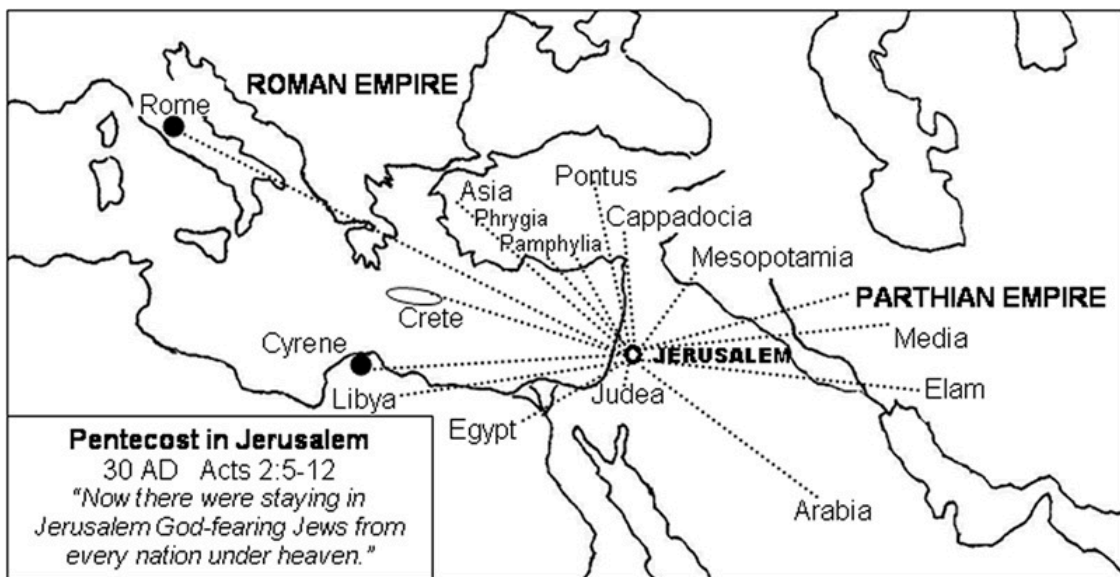
Remember this:

13. What did Peter tell the people to do to receive the forgiveness of sins?

14. Peter said that God made Jesus whom they crucified “both _____
and _____” Acts 2: 36

15. Who can receive the promise of forgiveness of sins through Christ?

16. Study the map that shows the many places that the people in the
multitude came from. We will discuss why this is important.



3

Christians Worship Together

Acts 2: 41-47; Acts 20: 7-11; Eph. 5:19; I Cor. 16: 1-2

Memory verse: “On the first day of the week, Paul preached to them.” Acts 20:7

(On the day of Pentecost, Peter and the other apostles preached about Jesus, the Son of God, about 3,000 people were baptized, and God’s church began. The next verses of Acts 2 tell what the Christians did after that.)

“And they devoted themselves to (or concentrated on) the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread (Lord’s Supper) and the prayers. And awe (reverence/respect with fear or wonder) came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions (things they owned) and belongings and distributing the proceeds (money) to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

(The Christians continued doing what the apostles taught them. They listened to God’s word, they sang, they prayed, they took the Lord’s Supper, and they gave what they had to help each other.

The Christians were glad to be together every day. They needed to learn from the apostles because the Bible was not written yet. They had to learn what God wanted them to do. Today we still hear God’s word preached so that we can learn from it. Even children learn in church, so that is why you need to listen and not play in church.

The Christians also prayed just like we do today. What do you think they prayed for? The Bible tells us that we must pray according to what is God’s will. We can pray for other people to be saved, we should thank God for everything He has given us, we can ask for things which we need, we can ask for forgiveness when we sin. We should pray for rulers to do God’s will. God hears the prayers of His people.

Christians sang together. The Bible tells us to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. That means songs that are to God and about God and

Bible things. We sing and do not play an instrument because God asked us only to sing.

The first Christians sold what they owned to give to other Christians who needed things. They also gave money to the treasury of the church to have money when it was needed to preach the gospel, pay for the preacher, pay for a place to worship, pay for help for poor Christians, and to pay for things which help Christians do their work of teaching.

Christians are supposed to give to the church cheerfully. We decide what to give ahead of time, and we remember all the blessings that God has given to us.

Christians also remember Jesus and how He came, died for our sins, and rose again when they eat the Lord's Supper. Do you remember that Jesus ate the same meal with His apostles? He said that when Christians eat the unleavened bread, they are to remember His body, which was broken for our sins. When Christians drink the fruit of the vine, they remember the blood He shed for them.)

Lessons to Learn: God asks us to be cheerful givers.

We sing to praise God and teach people.

Every Sunday we remember Jesus dying for our sins and rising again.

We listen to God's word and pray to God in worship, too.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The apostles were the only men doing signs and wonders in the church at this time.
- _____ 2. Christians worshipped together on Sundays and Wednesdays only.
- _____ 3. God added saved people to the church.
- _____ 4. It is O.K. to have instruments play music while we sing in church.
- _____ 5. Jesus ate the first Lord's Supper with His apostles.

Short Answer:

6. What four things were the Christians devoted to? _____

7. What does “awe” mean? _____

8. What did Christians do to help needy Christians? _____

9. Why was it so important for Christians to meet together every day? _____

10. What kind of givers are Christians supposed to be? _____

11. What do Christians remember when they eat the Lord’s Supper? _____

Remember this:

12. There are five acts of worship or things we do to worship God together when the church meets. Circle the ones that children can do, too.

Hear God’s word preached

Sing

Pray

Take the Lord’s Supper

Give to the treasury so God’s work can be done

13. Who eats the Lord’s Supper?

Everyone

All Adults

Christians

14. What kinds of songs does God want Christians to sing in church?

continued

15. Fill in the blanks from Acts 2: 46. “They received their food with _____ and _____ hearts, praising _____ and having _____ with all the people.”

16. Circle the things we should be doing in the church building.

Reading or listening to God’s word

Playing around

Singing silly songs

Giving money to God on Sunday

Praying

Eating the Lord’s Supper

Eating meals

Singing praise to God



4

Christians Share with Each Other

Acts 4: 32-37; I Cor. 16:1-2; II Cor. 8-9

Memory verse: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly..., for God loves a cheerful giver.”
II Cor. 9: 7

(There were many new Christians who were poor and didn't have food and other things they needed to live. They were people who had traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover: and when they became Christians, they stayed in Jerusalem, away from their homes and jobs. When the church began, the Christians helped each other by sharing the things they owned.)

Acts 4 says, “Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus (sī-prəs), sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.”

(Later as Christ's church grew, Christians started churches in new towns. The Christians still shared with the poor Christians who needed help. Christians gave money to their local church treasury each Sunday, so that the church could use the money for preaching to sinners, teaching the Christians, and giving to the poor Christians in their church or in other places.

When a famine happened in Jerusalem, Christians in Macedonia (ma-sə- ' dō-nē-ə,) begged Paul to let them help the Christians in Jerusalem. They thought it was a privilege to help, and they gave so much that it wasn't just what they had extra—it was more than people thought they could have given. The apostle Paul said they “gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.” Paul and some other Christians would take money collected for the poor Christians and deliver it to the church where the needy Christians lived.

Every Sunday we keep giving money to God so that His church can do its work. God wants us to give cheerfully-happily-because He has given us everything we own. When there is a Christian who needs help to live, the church can help them.

But God expects us to help each other, too. Christians still help each other by sharing. Even children can help by sharing clothes that they don't need any more or by sharing food with others. Can you think of other ways you can share?)

Lessons to Learn: We should be willing to share with other Christians when they need help. Even children can share. We should give money to the local church on Sunday so that the church can do its work. God wants us to give cheerfully.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Christians sold what they had and shared the money (by giving it to the apostles) so that no Christian was needy.
- _____ 2. The apostles were the ones who took the money and gave it to Christians who had needs.
- _____ 3. Paul had to tell the Christians in Macedonia to help the Christians in Jerusalem when there was a famine in Jerusalem.
- _____ 4. The church gave money to any person who was needy.
- _____ 5. A Levite named Joseph was also called Barnabas.

Short Answer:

6. Why had some of the people who became Christians come to Jerusalem in the first place?

7. Why did those people stay in Jerusalem?

8. How did the Christians who had things share them with the Christians who were in need?

9. What does Barnabas mean? _____

10. List the three things for which money given to the church (or God) can be used.

Remember this:

11. Who can be helped with God's money from the church?

Everyone Christians who need help

12. What can we learn about giving to help needy Christians from the Christians in Macedonia? Fill in the blanks.

They thought it was a _____ to help.

They didn't give just what they had _____. They gave even beyond their_____.

13. What kind of attitude are Christians to have when they give?

14. Read II Corinthians 8: 5. Paul said that the Christians of Macedonia gave themselves first to

5

Peter and John Heal a Lame Man

Acts 3

Memory Verse: “The faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. Acts 3: 16

Now Peter and John were going up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. (About 3:00 in the afternoon) And a man lame (unable to walk) from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the Temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms (gifts or offerings) of those entering the Temple.

Seeing Peter and John about to go into the Temple, he asked to receive alms. And Peter directed his gaze at him (looked at him), as did John, and said, “Look at us.” And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the Temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God, and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety (holiness) we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the

presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago.

Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to Him in whatever He tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' God, having raised up His servant, sent Him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness."

Lessons to Learn: Peter knew it was better to heal the lame man and teach him about Jesus than to give him money. The Holy Spirit helped Peter do the miracle to show people that God was with Peter and John. The lame man rejoiced and praised God when he was healed. God healed the lame man immediately.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The lame man sat at the Beautiful Gate to ask people for money.
- _____ 2. As Peter raised the lame man up, his feet and ankles slowly got stronger so that he could walk.
- _____ 3. Peter said that they had healed the lame man by their own holiness.
- _____ 4. Peter said that the people to whom he spoke had killed Jesus.
- _____ 5. God had foretold what would happen to Jesus the Christ.

Short Answer:

- 6. Where were Peter and John going to pray? _____
- 7. Why was the lame man there? _____
- 8. What did Peter and John have to give to the lame man? _____

9. What did the lame man do when his feet were healed?

10. When the people saw the man who had been lame, how did they feel?

Remember this:

11. Peter said God is “**The God of _____, the God of _____, and the God of _____, the God of our _____...**” Acts 3: 13

12. Fill in the blanks from what Peter said to the people. Acts 3: 14-15

“But you denied the _____ and _____

One, and asked for a _____ to be granted to you, and

you killed the _____ of life, whom God raised from the dead.” Acts 3: 14-15

13. Peter said that the people had killed Jesus in ignorance, but should they have known about Jesus and what would happen? How?

14. Why did Peter say that God sent Jesus to the Jews first?

6

Peter and John Arrested

Acts 4

Memory verse: “There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4: 12

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the Temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them (Peter and John) in the midst, they asked, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived (realized) that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred (discussed) with one another, saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”

So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right

in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God (they prayed)... “And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to Your servants to continue to speak Your word with all boldness (without fear), while You stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.” And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Lessons to Learn: The religious rulers were angry with the apostles for teaching about Jesus, but many people believed and obeyed the gospel.

Some of these rulers (priests, elders, and Sadducees) had crucified Jesus.

The rulers could not deny the miracle that Peter and John had done.

The apostles did not stop preaching, and they prayed to God to help them be brave to continue preaching.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Now the number of male Christians was about 5,000.
- _____ 2. Everyone who heard the word of God (gospel) believed.
- _____ 3. Peter told the rulers that the lame man had been healed in the name of Jesus the Christ.
- _____ 4. The rulers would not admit that a miracle had happened.
- _____ 5. Even though they were threatened not to preach in Jesus’ name, Peter, John, and the other Christians continued to preach.

Short Answer:

6. What were Peter and John preaching (proclaiming) that annoyed the religious rulers?

7. When the rulers, elders, scribes, and the high priest's family gathered together, what did they ask Peter and John?

8. Peter answered, "Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of

Israel that by the name of _____ of

_____, whom you _____, whom

_____ raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well." Acts 4: 10

9. Why were the rulers astonished when Peter and John spoke boldly?

10. What did the rulers decide to do with Peter and John?

11. Why did the rulers not punish Peter and John?

Remember this:

12. How many ways are there to be saved? _____

13. Peter called Jesus a _____ rejected by the rulers or

builders, and said that now Jesus is the _____.

14. Read Ephesians 2: 19-20 and fill in the blanks. Christians are
“Members of the _____ of God, built on the
_____ of the _____ and
_____, Christ Jesus Himself being the
_____.”

15. What did the Christians do when Peter and John told them about how they had been threatened?

16. What happened after they prayed?



7

Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 4: 34-37; 5: 1- 11

Memory verse: “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?” Acts 5: 9

(Do you remember how Christians helped needy Christians?) Acts 4 says, “There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.”

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds (money) and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? (Wasn't it up to you to decide what to do with your money?) Why is it that you have contrived (arranged) this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.”

When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter said to her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much.”

And she said, “Yes, for so much.”

But Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.” Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.

Lessons to Learn: Christians were free to give whatever amount they wanted to give to the needy Christians.

Ananias and Sapphira lied to the apostles and to God. (Holy Spirit)
The deaths of Ananias and Sapphira caused Christians and other people to fear (respect and reverence) God.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Sapphira knew that Ananias kept back some of the money for himself.
- _____ 2. Satan forced Ananias to lie about the money he gave to the apostles.
- _____ 3. Peter said that Ananias had to give all the money to the needy Christians.
- _____ 4. Both Ananias and Sapphira lied, and both of them were punished by death.
- _____ 5. Evil had to be punished so that people understood the importance of obeying God.

Short Answer:

6. Fill in the blanks.

“There was not a _____ person among them, for as many as were owners of _____ or _____ sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the _____ feet, and it was distributed to each as any _____
_____ . Acts 4: 34-35

7. Who decided on the deed of lying to the apostles and God?

8. Who had the right to decide how much to give to the needy Christians?

9. What was the punishment for lying? _____

10. Which two groups of people were filled with great fear because of what happened to Ananias and Sapphira?

Remember this:

11. Has lying ever been right? _____

12. Some people say that it is wrong to be rich, but Abraham was very rich and so were Job and Solomon. God often blessed His people with riches, but expects the rich to use what they have wisely. In this lesson we learn that when we are able, we should

13. Needy people do not have what they need to live. Which of these things are necessary for a person to live?

Food

TV

Clothes

Shelter (home of some kind)

Lots of toys

14. Read I John 3: 17-18 and fill in the blanks.

“But if anyone has the world’s _____ and sees his brother in _____, yet closes his _____ against him, how does _____ abide in him? Little children, let us not _____ with _____ or with tongue, but in _____ and truth....”

15. Remember that love means that you must DO something, not just say that you love someone.

8

The Apostles Are Arrested

Acts 5: 17-42

Memory verse: “But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.” Acts 5: 29

But the High Priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. (They were jealous because of the miracles that the apostles were doing and because the people thought highly of the apostles.) But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, “Go and stand in the Temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.” And when they heard this, they entered the Temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the High Priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the Council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, “We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside.”

Now when the captain of the Temple and the Chief Priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, “Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the Temple and teaching the people.” Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the Council. And the High Priest questioned them, saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's (Jesus') blood upon us.”

But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree. God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men...keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Lessons to Learn: The religious rulers were jealous that the people thought highly of the apostles because of the miracles the apostles did. The captain with the officers did not bring the apostles to the council by force because they were afraid of being stoned by the people. The apostles said that the rulers killed Jesus. That made the rulers so angry that they wanted to kill the apostles. We must obey God rather than men.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The High Priest and Sadducees put the apostles in prison.
- _____ 2. The captain with the officers captured the apostles and forced them to go to the Council.
- _____ 3. Peter said that the rulers had killed Jesus by hanging Him on a tree.
- _____ 4. Gamaliel said that the rulers should leave the apostles alone or they might be opposing God.
- _____ 5. If this plan or this undertaking is of man, it would fail; but if it is of God, the rulers would not be able to overthrow them.

Short Answer:

- 6. Why were the religious rulers jealous of the apostles? _____

7. Who released the apostles from prison?

8. What were the apostles supposed to do when they got out of prison?

9. Why didn't the officers force the apostles to come to the Council?

10. Fill in the blanks. After the rulers killed Jesus, "God exalted Him at His _____ hand as _____ and _____, to give _____ to Israel and _____ of sins." Acts 5: 31

Remember this:

11. According to the apostles, to whom has God given the Holy Spirit?

12. If God has a plan, can any people keep His plan from working? Why?

13. The Council beat the apostles and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus. How did the apostles feel when they left the Council?

14. Read Matthew 5: 11-12 and fill in the blanks. Jesus said,

"_____ are you when others revile you and _____ you and utter(say) all kinds of _____ against you falsely on _____ account. _____ and be glad, for your _____ is great in _____, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

9

Stephen is Killed (Part 1) The Sermon of Jewish History

Acts 6 - 7: 16

Memory verse: “All who sat in the Council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.” Acts 6: 15

(The apostles chose “seven men of good repute (reputation), full of the Spirit and of wisdom,” to take care of needy widows. Stephen was one of these men. This lesson is a summary of the first part of Stephen’s sermon to the Council.)

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen and others, rose up and disputed (argued) with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

Then they secretly instigated (encouraged) men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the (Sanhedrin) Council, and they set up false witnesses (liars) who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” And gazing at him, all who sat in the Council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

And the high priest said, “Are these things so?”

And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me....” Stephen began preaching. He reminded the Jews about God telling Abraham to move to Canaan. “Go out from your land and from your kindred (family) and go into the land that I will show you.” (Abraham didn’t know where God would take him.) God “promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him, though he had no child.” And God told how “his offspring (children) would live in a land belonging to others, who would enslave them for four hundred years.” (Egypt) Stephen reminded them that “Abraham became the father of Isaac..., and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs (fathers of the twelve tribes).

Then Joseph's brothers, sold him into Egypt because they were jealous of him; but "God was with him and rescued him out of all his afflictions (troubles) and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt and over all his household.

Now there came a famine throughout all Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction, and our fathers could find no food. But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers on their first visit. And on the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh. And Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his father and all his kindred, seventy-five persons in all. And Jacob went down into Egypt, and he died, he and our fathers, and they were carried back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had bought for a sum of silver ..." (Jacob and his sons were buried in the land of Canaan.)

Lessons to Learn: Some men argued with Stephen, but couldn't stand up against Stephen's wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. False witnesses said that Stephen spoke words against the holy place and the law.

This part of Stephen's sermon talks about the time of God calling Abraham to the time of Jacob's death in Egypt.

The Sanhedrin was a council or court of Jewish men that dealt with religious matters.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Stephen spoke blasphemous words against Moses and God.
- _____ 2. Abraham knew the land where God wanted him to go.
- _____ 3. "Patriarchs" in this sermon means "fathers" of the twelve tribes.
- _____ 4. Joseph's brothers were doing evil when they sold him into Egypt, but God made that turn out for good.
- _____ 5. Joseph was jealous of his brothers.

Short Answer:

6. What kind of men did the apostles chose to do the work with the needy widows?

Men of good _____, full of the _____
and of _____

7. Stephen doing was doing great _____ and

_____ among the people.

8. Stephen was speaking with W _____ and the

S _____ .

9. Some men were encouraged to say that Stephen spoke against “this _____ (the Temple) and the _____.”

10. The false witnesses also said, “We have heard him say that this

_____ of _____ will destroy this place

and will change the customs that _____ delivered

to us.” Acts 6: 14

11. What did Stephen’s face look like to the men of the Council? _____

Remember this:

12. Did the Jews know all this history about which Stephen preached?

continued

13. Use the words below to answer the questions. (some may be used more than once)

Pharaoh	Jacob	Egypt	Abraham
Isaac	famine	Canaan	Shechem
Joseph	Sanhedrin	patriarchs	

- a. A Jewish court _____
- b. Man called by God to move to Canaan _____
- c. A time when food is hard to find _____
- d. Abraham's son and Jacob's father _____
- e. Land where Israel was enslaved for four hundred years _____
- f. Where Abraham bought a tomb (burial place) _____
- g. Boy sold into slavery in Egypt _____
- h. Man who had twelve sons _____
- i. The land promised to Abraham _____
- j. King of Egypt _____
- k. God was with him and he became a ruler in Egypt _____
- l. The twelve sons of Jacob _____

10

Stephen is Killed (Part 2)

Acts 7: 17-60, 8:1

Memory verse: “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” Acts 7: 56

After that a Pharaoh who did not know Joseph forced the Jews to kill their babies. “At this time Moses was born; and he was beautiful in God's sight. And he was brought up for three months in his father's house, ... Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son. And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.

“When he was forty years old, ...” Moses killed an Egyptian man who was mistreating a Jew, so he had to run away to the land of Midian.

“Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.” God had heard the cries of His people and wanted Moses to deliver them. He told Moses, “And now come, I will send you to Egypt.”

Stephen reminded them of how God and Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. God helped Moses do signs and wonders and lead the people in the wilderness for forty years. Moses said, “God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers.”(Jesus)

God helped Joshua drive the nations out of Canaan. King David “found favor in the sight of God and asked to find a dwelling place for... God... But it was Solomon who built a house for Him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands...” because God is the one who created everything.

Then Stephen said the Jews always resisted the Holy Spirit. They persecuted the prophets, and they had killed prophets that foretold the coming of the “Righteous One (Jesus), whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

Now when they heard these things, they were enraged (very angry); and they ground their teeth at him. But he (Stephen), full of the Holy Spirit, gazed (looked) into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.

And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. (died) Saul approved of his execution.(putting Stephen to death)

Lessons to Learn: This part of Stephen's sermon talks about the time of Moses' birth to the time of Solomon.

Stephen accused the Jews of murdering Jesus.

The Council was VERY angry and stoned Stephen to death.

This is the first time that we read about Saul who will become the apostle Paul.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Moses was instructed (taught) in all the wisdom of the Egyptians.
- _____ 2. King David built the Temple as a dwelling place for God.
- _____ 3. God was with Moses because He helped Moses do signs and wonders. (miracles)
- _____ 4. The Jews had received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.
- _____ 5. Stephen asked God to punish the evil Jews who stoned him.

Short Answer:

6. Why did Moses not live with his parents after he was three months old?

7. Where did an angel appear to Moses?

8. For how long did Moses lead the Israelites in the wilderness?

9. Who would be the prophet like Moses who God would rise up?

10. Which two kings did Stephen talk about? _____
Which one of them built the Temple?

11. What two things had the Israelites done to the prophets? _____

Remember this:

12. Who was the Righteous One whose coming the prophets had foretold?

13. Stephen accused these Jewish rulers of the Council with
_____ and _____ Jesus.

14. Fill in the blanks that tell what Stephen saw before he was stoned.

“Behold, I see the _____ opened, and the _____
of _____ standing at the right hand of _____.”

15. Stephen had a forgiving spirit. Does that mean that the rulers would be forgiven of Christ’s murder or Stephen’s murder without repenting? Think about what everyone must do to be forgiven.

16. This is the first time that we hear about the man named Saul. Who will he become? Be ready to discuss anything you remember about him.



11

Philip Preaches About Christ

Acts 8: 2-24

Memory verse: “Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.” Acts 8: 4

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. Devout (religious/ God-fearing) men buried Stephen and made great lamentation (crying, mourning) over him. But Saul was ravaging (causing much damage to) the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed (could not move) or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the power of God that is called Great.” And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for He had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity (sin).”

And Simon answered, “Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.”

Lessons to Learn: The persecution caused Christians to scatter throughout Judea and Samaria, but it worked out for good because they went around preaching the word of God.

Simon practiced magic and amazed the people.

When Simon saw the miracles, he was amazed because he knew they were real power, not magic tricks.

Simon wanted the power to lay hands on other people so much that he offered money to get it. (He may have wanted the power just to impress people again.)

True or False:

- _____ 1. The apostles stayed in Jerusalem during the persecution.
- _____ 2. Persecution worked out for good for the spread of the church.
- _____ 3. Philip was ravaging (causing much damage to) the church.
- _____ 4. Simon had the power of God and the people were amazed.
- _____ 5. Peter and John were sent to lay hands on Christians so they would receive the Holy Spirit.

Short Answer:

- 6. Who buried Stephen after he was stoned? _____
-

7. Who was entering house after house and dragging off Christian men and women and putting them in prison?

8. Philip preached the word of God in _____ and
also healed _____,
and _____.

9. Simon did magic and said that he was _____.

10. What did the people say about Simon? _____

11. Which apostles were sent to pray and lay hands on the Christians?

12. What two things did Peter say when Simon offered money to get the power to lay hands on people so they could receive the Holy Spirit?

(1) “You thought you could obtain the gift of _____ with
_____!”

(2) You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your _____
is not right before _____.

Remember this:

13. Fill in the blanks.

The Christians had been baptized in the name of the _____
_____. but they had not received the H _____
S _____ until Peter and John came.

14. “But when they _____ Philip as he preached
_____ about the _____ of
God and the name of _____, they
were _____, both men and women.
Acts 8: 12

15. To make himself right again Simon (who was a Christian) had to
_____ and _____.

16. Who was a terrible enemy of God and the church at this time?

17. Match the Bible word with its meaning.

Iniquity

religious/ God-fearing

Ravaging

crying, mourning

Devout

sin

Lamentation

causing much damage to



12

Philip Teaches an Ethiopian Man

Acts 8:26-40

Memory Verse: “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” Acts 8: 36

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace (Can DAY ce), queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”

So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”

And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.”

And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

Lessons to Learn: The Holy Spirit sent Phillip to teach a man who wanted to learn about God.

Phillip taught about Jesus and when he saw water, the Eunuch knew he needed to be baptized.

The Ethiopian man was happy when he obeyed God, was baptized, and became a Christian.

Baptism means immersion in water. It is like a burial in water and then rising up – like Jesus' burial and resurrection.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Philip decided to go the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.
- _____ 2. The eunuch was a court official of Candace (Can DAY ce), queen of the Ethiopians.
- _____ 3. The eunuch knew whom Isaiah was talking about.
- _____ 4. Philip preached the good news about Jesus, and the eunuch knew he needed to be baptized.
- _____ 5. Both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water.

Short Answer:

6. Who told Philip to go to the road from Jerusalem to Gaza? _____

7. Why had the eunuch gone to Jerusalem? _____

8. What prophet's writing was the eunuch reading? _____

9. Who told Philip to go to the chariot? _____

10. Fill in the blanks to tell what Philip taught the eunuch.

“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this

_____ he told him the _____

about _____.” Acts 8: 35

11. How did the eunuch feel after he was baptized? _____

Remember this:

12. Who was responsible for making sure that the eunuch had the help he needed to understand the Scriptures and obey God? (Think about who sent Philip.)

13. To what animals did Isaiah compare Jesus? _____

14. How can we tell that Philip did not just sprinkle or pour water on the eunuch?

15. Find Jerusalem and Gaza on the map and draw a line from one to the other. Use blue to trace the Jordan River. Be ready to discuss any other places on the map that you remember from other Bible lessons.



continued

16. What did the eunuch confess that he believed about Jesus?

17. The eunuch came all the way from Ethiopia to Jerusalem to worship. That is over 1,500 miles (in a chariot). Circle the lessons we can learn from this fact.

The eunuch was a genuine believer in God.

A person doesn't have to go to worship if it is too far or too hard to go.

The eunuch knew about the Scriptures (Old Testament) even though he lived far away from Judea.

The eunuch thought worship of God was very important.

The eunuch could spread the gospel to other people in Ethiopia.



13

Jesus Talks to Saul and Saul is Baptized

Act 9: 1-20; 22:16

Memory Verse: “Why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins.” Acts 22: 16

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the High Priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues (places of worship) at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way (Christians), men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

And he said, “Who are you, Lord?”

And He said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.”

And he said, “Here I am, Lord.”

And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”

But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the Chief Priests to bind all who call on your name.”

But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name.” So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his

eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.

(Acts 22 adds Paul's words) And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me, and standing by me said to me, "Brother Saul, receive your sight." And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. And he said, "The God of our fathers appointed you to know His will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from His mouth; for you will be a witness for Him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name."

Lessons to Learn: Saul was doing the wrong thing by hurting Christians. Jesus appeared to Saul so he could be an apostle like the 12 apostles who saw Jesus.

When Ananias told Saul what God wanted him to do, he did it right away. Saul changed and did right things—he repented.

Before they were called Christians, people baptized into Christ were called the Way. (Perhaps because Jesus said He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.)

True or False:

- _____ 1. Saul was still persecuting Christians.
- _____ 2. Saul and all the men with Him heard and saw Jesus.
- _____ 3. Saul waited in Damascus, praying, and not eating or drinking.
- _____ 4. Ananias was happy to obey God and go to Saul without any doubts.
- _____ 5. God had chosen Saul to be a preacher to the Gentiles.

Short Answer:

6. Why did Saul ask for letters from the High Priest? _____

7. On his way to Damascus, a light from heaven shined down on Paul and a voice asked

8. Who was speaking to Paul from heaven? _____

9. What did the voice tell Saul to do? _____

10. What was wrong with Saul when he rose up to go after seeing the light?

11. Who did God tell to go to Saul? _____ And

why did he not want to go at first? _____

Remember this:

12. Now did Saul know that Jesus had resurrected and was in heaven? _____

13. What was Saul doing and not doing while he was waiting three days?

14. Fill in the blanks to complete what the Lord said about Saul.

“Go, for he is a _____ of Mine

to carry My name before the _____ and _____ and

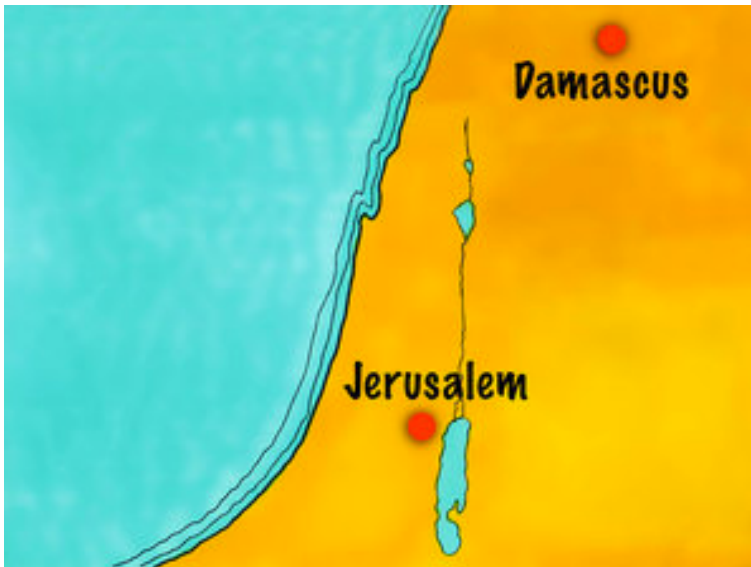
the children of _____ . For I will show him how much he must

_____ for the sake of My name.” Acts 9:15

15. What did Ananias tell Saul to do? “Rise and be _____
and wash away your _____, calling on His _____.”

16. What does baptism wash away? _____

17. Be ready to discuss parables that told how we should feel when someone who is lost turns back to God.



14

Saul Preaches and Escapes in a Basket

Acts 9: 19-27

Memory Verse: “But Saul increased ...in strength, and confounded (ashamed, disgraced) the Jews ...by proving that Jesus was the Christ. Acts 9:22

For some days he (Saul) was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc (destruction, damage) in Jerusalem of those who called upon this Name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the Chief Priests?” But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded (ashamed, disgraced) the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

When many days had passed, the Jews plotted (secretly made plans) to kill him, but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. And he spoke and disputed (argued, debated) against the Hellenists. (Greek speaking Jews) But they were seeking to kill him. And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea (seh-s-uh-REE-uh) and sent him off to Tarsus.

So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

Lessons to Learn: When Saul knew what was right about Jesus, he started preaching it right away.

The Jews became angry when Saul changed and became a Christian.

Barnabas helped Saul by telling the Christians in Jerusalem that they did not have to be afraid of Him any more.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Saul immediately began preaching the Jesus was the Son of God.
- _____ 2. No one was worried about the trouble that Saul had been giving the church before.
- _____ 3. Saul could prove that Jesus was the Christ (who had been prophesied).
- _____ 4. Saul was stuck in the city of Damascus because his enemies were watching the gates.
- _____ 5. When Saul came to Jerusalem, the Christians were afraid of him.

Short Answer:

6. What did the people say when they heard Saul preaching? _____

7. What made the Jews ashamed when Saul preached? _____

8. How did Saul escape from Damascus? _____

9. Why were the Christians in Jerusalem afraid of Saul joining them? _____

10. Who told the Christians in Jerusalem about what had happened to change Saul? _____

11. Why did Saul have to leave Jerusalem and be sent to Tarsus? _____

continued

Remember this:

12. Saul was with B _____ and the _____
in Damascus

13. What did the Jews in Damascus plot to do to Saul?

14. Why were the Jews so angry with Saul?

15. What was happening with the church at this time?



15

Peter Heals Aeneas and Brings Tabitha (Dorcas) Back to Life

Acts 9: 32-43

Memory verse: “Then calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa.” Acts 9:41-42

Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda (Lid a). There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden (sick in bed) for eight years, who was paralyzed (not able to move). And Peter said to him, “Aeneas (ay-nay'-uhs), Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated (into Greek), means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity (helping those in need). In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging (begging) him, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows (women whose husbands had died) stood beside him weeping and showing tunics (sleeveless clothing) and other garments (clothing) that Dorcas made while she was with them.

But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then calling the saints (Christians) and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner. (a person who changes animal skins into leather)

Lessons to Learn: The Christians were very sad when another Christian died.

Tabitha (Dorcas) had done good things-one of those good things was making clothes for many people.

God helped Peter raise Tabitha to show that God was with Peter, and many people believed in God when they heard of these miracles.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Peter was able to do miracles all by himself.
- _____ 2. Healing Aeneas caused people to turn to God.
- _____ 3. Christians in Joppa knew that they could ask Peter to help them when Tabitha died.
- _____ 4. Widows showed Peter the food and gifts Tabitha had made.
- _____ 5. “Saints” means the same thing as “Christians.”

Short Answer:

6. What was wrong with Aeneas? _____

7. What happened in Lydda and Sharon after Aeneas was healed? _____

8. Tabitha/Dorcas was described as full of _____

and _____

9. What did the widows show Peter (that Dorcas had made) _____

10. What did Peter do before raising Tabitha/Dorcas from the dead? _____

Remember this:

11. How quickly were Aeneas and Dorcas healed? _____

12. Who did Peter say healed Aeneas? _____

13. Could Peter have faked healing a paralyzed man or a dead woman?

14. What was the result of these miracles on many people who saw Aeneas and Dorcas?

15. Dorcas was known for the good works that she did. Dorcas had shown her love for other people by the clothing she had made. What did the disciples in Joppa do that showed their love for Dorcas? There are three things mentioned in the lesson.

They sent men to ask (beg) _____ to come.

They were _____ because Dorcas was dead.

They showed the _____ Dorcas had made.



16

Peter Called to Preach to Cornelius

Acts 10:1-22

Memory verse: “The Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down...for I have sent them.”

Acts 10: 19-20

At Caesarea (sehs-uh-REE-uh) there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion (Commander of 100 soldiers) of what was known as the Italian Cohort, a devout (God-fearing) man who feared God with all his household, gave alms (offerings to needy people) generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. About the ninth hour of the day (about 3 p.m.), he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, “Cornelius.”

And he stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?”

And he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.” When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, and having related everything to them (He told them everything that had happened), he sent them to Joppa.

The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour (about noon) to pray. And he became hungry and wanted something to eat; but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. And there came a voice to him: “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.”

But Peter said, “By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.”

And the voice came to him again a second time, “What God has made clean, do not call common.” This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed (confused) as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house (having asked where Simon's house was), stood at the gate and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there.

And while Peter was pondering (thinking about) the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them.”

And Peter went down to the men and said, “I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?”

And they said, “Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.” So he invited them in to be his guests.

The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. (In the next lesson we will find out what happened when Peter went to Cornelius.)

Lessons to Learn: Peter had to learn that what God had made was not unclean. Under the law of Moses, some things were unclean for the Jews, but now under Christ’s law they were all clean.

Cornelius was a good man, but he was not a Christian.

God heard Cornelius’ prayers because Cornelius wanted to obey God.

God was providing a way for Cornelius and his family to hear the gospel.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Cornelius had a vision of an angel telling him to send for Peter.
- _____ 2. Cornelius sent three servants to get Peter.
- _____ 3. Peter was up on the housetop to get something to eat.
- _____ 4. Peter was thinking that some of the animals in the “great sheet” were still unclean like they were under Moses’ law.
- _____ 5. Peter understood what the vision meant.

Short Answer:

- 6. What three good things did Cornelius do all the time? _____

7. Did Cornelius still need to obey God and become a Christian? _____

8. Who did Cornelius send to Joppa to get Peter? _____

9. What did Peter see in his vision? _____

10. Why did Peter say he would not obey the voice that said, "Kill and eat"?

11. What did the voice answer back to Peter? _____

Remember this:

12. How long did it take the men to get from Caesarea to Joppa? _____

_____ Do you think they hurried?

13. Cornelius was a Gentile, not a Jew. Do you remember how the Jews felt about Gentiles?

14. Read Acts 10:22 and fill in the blanks.

"Cornelius, a centurion, an _____ and _____ man, who is _____ of by the whole _____ nation, was directed by a _____ to send for you to come to his house and to _____ what you have to say." continued

15. Did it take Peter very long to get ready to go to Cornelius?

16. Were things the same under Christ's law as they had been under Moses' law?

17. Who can become a Christian?

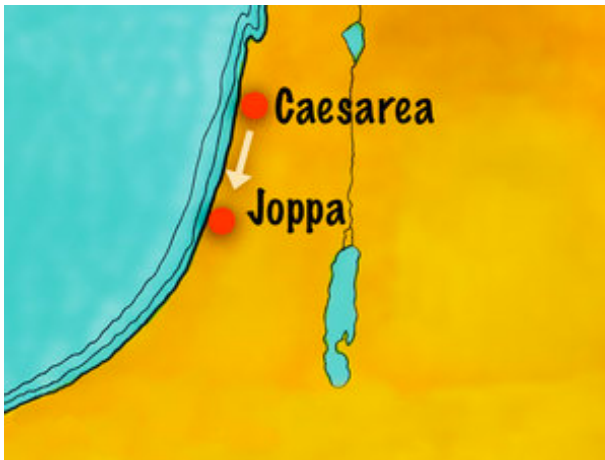
Anyone who believes and obeys

Only Jews

Men

Only Gentiles

Women



17

Peter Preaches to Cornelius

Acts 10:23-11: 18

Memory verse: “He commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.” Acts 10:48

(You will remember that Peter had a vision from God, and then three men came to the house where he was staying to ask him to go to Cornelius.)

The next day he (Peter) rose and went away with them (Cornelius’ servant and the soldier), and six of the brothers (Jewish Christians) from Joppa accompanied him. And on the following day they entered Caesarea. (sehs-uh-REE-uh) Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am a man.” And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation (This was under Moses’ law), but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me.”

And Cornelius said, “Four days ago, about this hour, I was praying in my house at the ninth hour (about 3 p.m.), and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging (staying) in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.’ So I sent for you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality (prejudice or favoritism), but in every nation anyone who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him. As for the word that He sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

And we (the apostles) are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree, but God raised Him on the third day and made Him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that He is the One appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name.”

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised (Jewish Christians) who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles; for they were hearing them speaking in tongues (languages) and extolling (praising) God.

Then Peter declared, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we (apostles) have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

In Acts 11, the Jewish Christians were upset when they heard that Peter had visited the house of a Gentile, but when he told them the whole story, they realized that God had accepted the Gentiles, and they praised God for it.

Lessons to Learn: God wants all people to obey Him.

Peter had to learn that Gentiles could be Christians, too.

Cornelius was a good man, but he was not a Christian until he obeyed and was baptized. He wanted his family and friends to obey God, too.

The Gentiles were baptized with the Holy Spirit just like the apostles were.

This showed everyone that God accepted Gentiles as Christians.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Peter went to Cornelius right away the next day after his vision.
- _____ 2. It was O.K. for Cornelius to fall down and worship Peter.
- _____ 3. Under Moses’ law it was unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation.
- _____ 4. Now Peter understood what God had been telling him in the vision.

_____5. Cornelius and his family had to hear the gospel (God's commands).

Short Answer:

6. Who was with Cornelius to hear what God had commanded Peter to tell them?

7. Read Acts 10: 34-35 and fill in the blanks.

“Truly I understand that _____ shows no _____
(prejudice or favoritism), but in _____ nation _____
who _____ Him and does what is _____ is acceptable
to Him.”

8. Who were witnesses of all that Jesus did from His baptism until his death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven?

9. What did Peter say that the apostles had done with Jesus after He rose from the dead?

10. What happened to Cornelius and the other Gentiles while Peter was still speaking?

11. After the Jewish Christians heard Peter's whole story, what did they do?

Remember this:

12. What did Peter say when Cornelius fell down to worship him? _____

13. Who are we supposed to worship?

continued

14. Read Act 10: 38 and fill in the blanks to tell how Peter described Jesus.

“God anointed _____ of Nazareth with the _____
_____ and with _____. He went about
doing _____ and _____ all who were
_____ by the devil, for _____ was with Him.”

15. The prophets bore witness that everyone who believes in Jesus receives

_____ of _____ through His name.

16. When the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit like the apostles had received the Holy Spirit, did they still have anything they needed to do to be saved? If they did, what was it?



18

The Church in Antioch

Acts 11: 19-30

Memory verse: “In Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.”

Acts 11: 28

Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus (sī-prəs), and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists (Jews who spoke Greek.) also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.

The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted (strongly encouraged) them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose (constantly), for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief (help to those in need) to the brothers living in Judea. And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Lessons to Learn: The persecution of Christians actually helped the gospel because Christians moved over long distances preaching the word. Agabus was able to prophesy about the great famine because the Holy Spirit was with him.

Disciples of God were first called Christians in Antioch.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Christians who were scattered preached the gospel only to Jews.
- _____ 2. Barnabas found problems with the church at Antioch.
- _____ 3. Barnabas was a good man and a Christian.
- _____ 4. Before this time, Christians had been called disciples.
- _____ 5. Christians in Antioch decided to send relief to all the people in Judea.

Short Answer:

6. What did the Christians who were scattered do? Read Acts 8: 4, too.

7. When the church in Jerusalem heard about Christians in Antioch, what did they do?

8. Barnabas exhorted (strongly encouraged) the Christians in Antioch to _____ with steadfast purpose.

9. What does the Bible say about Barnabas? _____

10. Why did Barnabas go to find Saul? _____

Remember this:

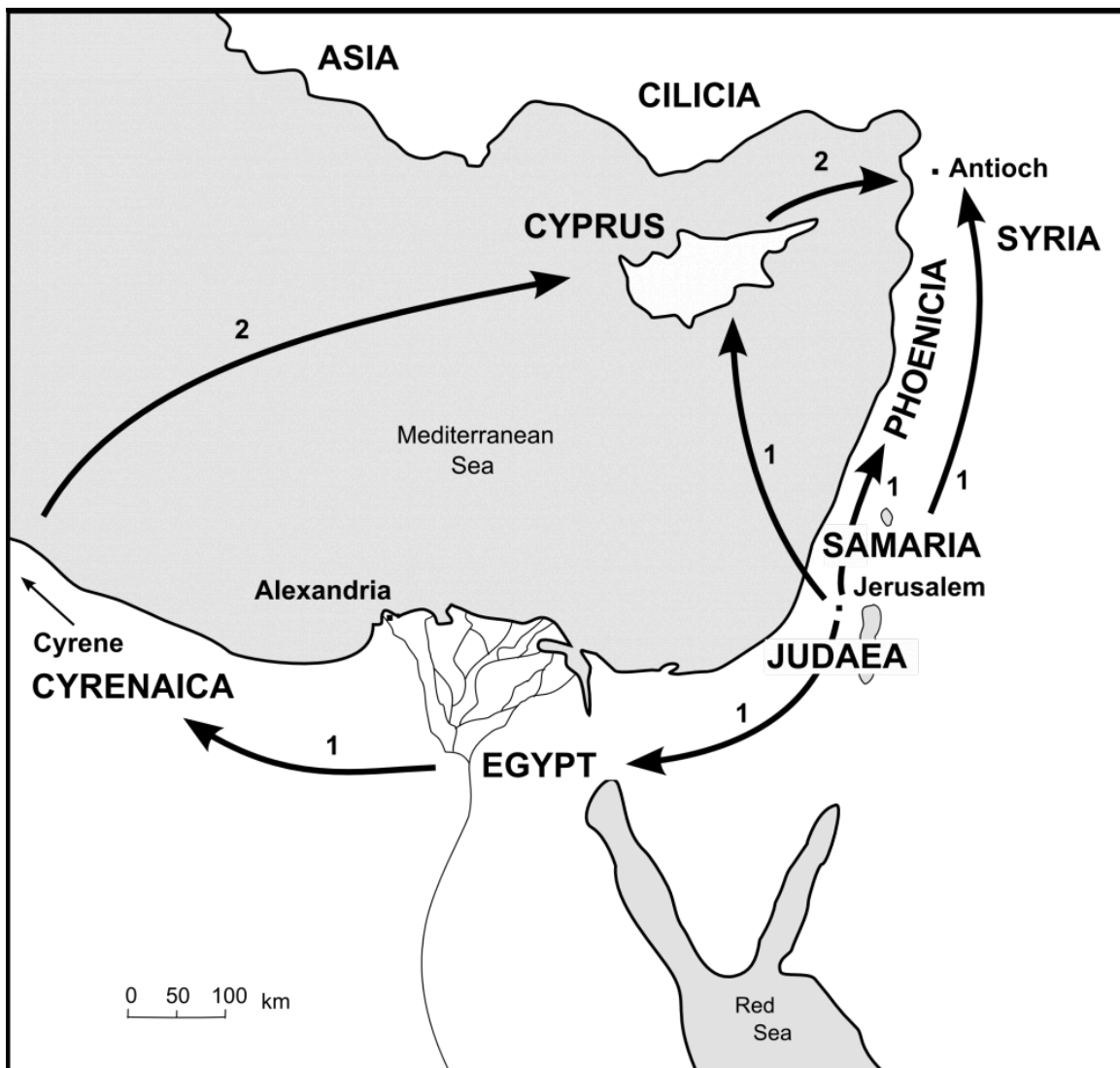
11. What did Agabus prophesy (foretell)? _____

12. To whom did the Christians in Antioch decide to send relief? _____

13. Who took the money to Judea? _____

14. To whom did they give the money? _____

15. All the Christians gave according to _____.
God does not expect us to do what we are unable to do.



19

An Angel Frees Peter from Prison

Acts 12:1-23

Memory verse: “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod.” Acts 12:11

About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread (Passover). And when he had seized him (Peter), he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest (serious, full of emotion) prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries (guards) before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision.

When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, “You are out of your mind.” But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, “It is his angel!” But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how

the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, “Tell these things to James and to the brothers.” Then he departed and went to another place.

Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea (sehs-uh-REE-uh) and spent time there.

Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain (household manager), they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration (formal speech) to them. And the people were shouting, “The voice of a god, and not of a man!” Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

Lessons to Learn: We need to pray for God's people.

God saved Peter. He takes care of His people.

Herod was a very bad man, and when he tried to act like a god, it made God angry.

No man or woman should be worshipped like God.

The Christians continued praying for Peter (begging for God's help for him).

True or False:

- _____ 1. King Herod was an enemy of the church.
- _____ 2. Peter was the first person that Herod wanted to kill.
- _____ 3. Two soldiers were guarding Peter.
- _____ 4. At first, Peter didn't know if what the angel was doing was real; he thought he was seeing a vision.
- _____ 5. Rhoda recognized Peter's voice and let him in right away so the Christians could see him.
- _____ 6. An angel of the Lord struck Herod down, because he did not give God the glory and let the people call him a god.

7. Who had Herod killed before he put Peter in prison? _____

8. What encouraged Herod to imprison Peter and plan to kill him? _____

9. What Jewish feast was going on at this time? _____

10. What three things did the angel tell Peter to do? _____

11. How did Peter get in through the city gates? _____

12. When Rhoda told the Christians that Peter was at the door, what did they say to her? _____

13. What happened to the guards that were supposed to watch Peter? _____

14. Why did the people of Tyre and Sidon want peace with Herod? _____

Remember this:

15. What is the other name of the feast of Unleavened Bread? _____

16. Write down all you remember about when God commanded the Jewish people to keep this feast. _____

17. What were the Christians doing at Mary's house while Peter was in prison?

18. Read Matthew 4: 10 and fill in the blanks.

“You shall worship the _____ your _____,
and Him _____ you shall _____.”



20

Barnabas and Saul Begin Their First Preaching Trip

Memory verse: “The hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Acts 13: 11

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch (one of four governors), and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting (going without food), the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus(sī-prəs),. When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos (pā- , fos), they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. He was with the proconsul (a governor of a Roman province), Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.

But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished (amazed) at the teaching of the Lord.

Lessons to Learn: The Holy Spirit chose Barnabas and Saul (Paul) to preach the word of God in many places.

Elymas the magician did not want Sergius Paulus to obey the gospel. Remember that God helped Paul do miracles to show that God was with him and to confirm what Paul taught. (Show that it was the truth.)

True or False:

- _____ 1. One of the prophets and teachers in Antioch was a lifelong friend of Herod.
- _____ 2. The church at Antioch chose Barnabas and Saul to go preach.
- _____ 3. Barnabas and Saul preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews.
- _____ 4. Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit when he told Elymas that he was the son of the devil...
- _____ 5. It was wrong for Paul to call Elymas “son of the devil” and “full of all deceit and villainy” because that wasn’t kind.

Short Answer:

6. Who are the five prophets and teachers mentioned? _____

7. Who chose Barnabas and Saul for the work of preaching? _____

8. Where were Barnabas and Saul preaching the word of God in Salamis? _____

9. Who/what was Bar-Jesus/ Elymas? Be complete in your answer. _____

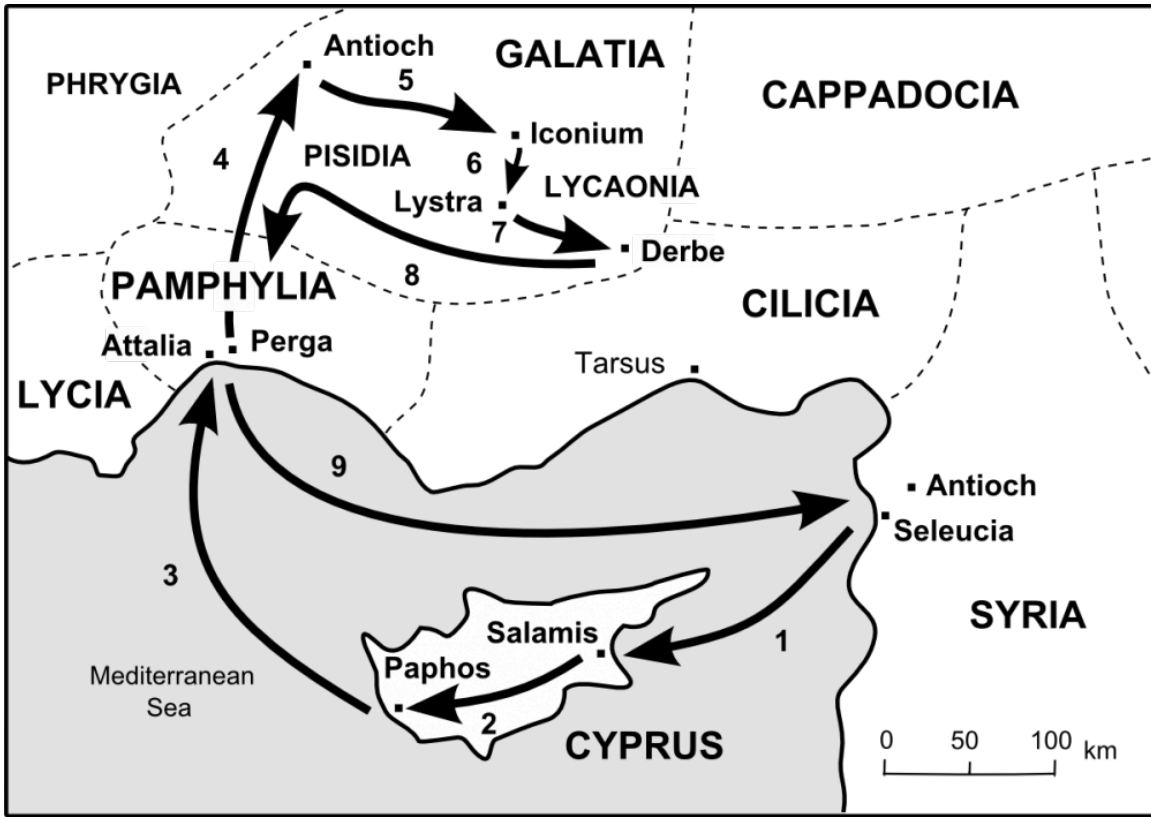
10. “The proconsul believed, when he _____,

for he was _____ at the teaching of the Lord.”
Acts 13: 12

Remember this:

11. By what other name was Saul now known? _____

12. Look over the map and trace the path of Barnabas and Paul's journey. Use a colored pencil, pen, or crayon to color the line showing the part of their travels we learned about today.



13. Can you think of any reasons why Barnabas and Paul would go to the synagogues to preach? If you cannot think of any reasons, ask a parent.

14. According to Paul, God's paths are _____

15. When Paul said to Elymas, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy..." it was the truth about Elymas. Is it O.K. to tell people that they are wrong when they are

wrong? _____ Why? _____

21

Paul's Sermon at Antioch in Pisidia (Part 1)

Acts 13: 13-27

Memory verse: "I have found in David ... a man after My heart, who will do all My will." Acts 13: 22

Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos (pā- , fos) and came to Perga (pər-gə) in Pamphylia (pam- ' fi-lē-ə). And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia (pə- ' si-dē-ə). And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said:

"Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm He led them out of it. And for about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, He gave them their land as an inheritance. All this took about 450 years.

And after that He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. And when He had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom He testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' Of this man's offspring (children) God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as He promised. Before His coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not He. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.'

"Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize Him nor understand the utterances (words) of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning Him. And though they found in Him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have Him executed...

Lessons to Learn: Paul gave a quick summary of Jewish history to remind the Jews of the events that lead up to Christ.

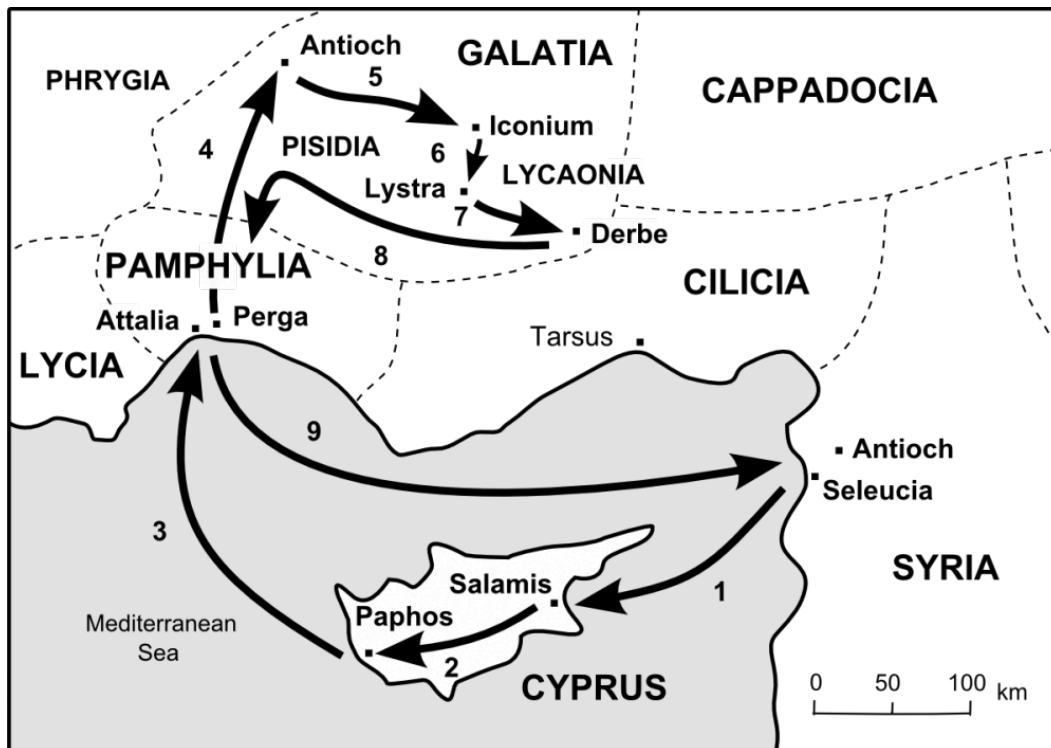
God’s plan to send Jesus at the right time was promised long ahead of time. The Jews fulfilled the prophecies, which they had heard read every Sabbath, when they asked for Jesus to be killed.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul and all of his travelling companions went to Antioch in Pisidia.
- _____ 2. Paul and the men with him went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day when the Jews were worshipping.
- _____ 3. The rulers of the synagogue asked Paul and the other men to speak.
- _____ 4. There were only Jews in the synagogue. (Notice how Paul spoke to the people listening to him.)
- _____ 5. Paul was preaching “the message of this salvation.”

Short Answer:

- 6. Underline the cities mentioned in the lesson.



7. What was read in the synagogue? _____

8. Who asked Paul and the other men to speak? _____

9. God made the Jewish people great during their stay in the land of _____

10. For how many years did God “put up with” the Jews in the wilderness? _____

11. Which land did God give the Israelites as an inheritance? _____

12. Jesus the Savior was the offspring of what great king? _____

Remember this:

13. Even though they read them every Sabbath, the Jews did not _____ Him (Jesus) nor understand the utterances (words) of the _____

14. Paul addressed the people to whom he spoke in these words-
“Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen.” and “Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God...” Which of these meant Jews and which meant Gentiles?

Jews

Gentiles

15. Was Jesus guilty of anything? _____

22

Paul's Sermon at Antioch in Pisidia (Part 2)

Acts 13: 27- 52

Memory verse: “Through this man (Jesus) forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.” Acts 13: 38

And though they found in Him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have Him executed. And when they had carried out all that was written of Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb.

But God raised Him from the dead, and for many days He appeared to those who had come up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now His witnesses (the apostles) to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this He has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you.”

And as for the fact that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption (to rotting in the ground), He has spoken in this way, “I will give You the holy and sure blessings of David.” Therefore He says also in another psalm, “You will not let your Holy One see corruption.”...He whom God raised up did not see corruption. Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by Him, everyone who believes is freed...(from sin)

As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath. And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism (Gentiles) followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling (insulting, abusing) him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you (Jews). Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.” And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to

eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

But the Jews incited (stirred up, encouraged to do evil) the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution (bad treatment, abuse) against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they (Paul and Barnabas) shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium (eye-KOH-nee-uhm). And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Lessons to Learn: Paul reminded the people about prophecies and quoted Scriptures from the Old Testament to show that Jesus was the promised Christ.

Many Jews and Gentiles from the synagogue wanted to hear more about Jesus and the gospel.

The gospel was first preached to the Jews because they had been God's people.

When many Jews refused to hear the gospel, God sent Paul and Barnabas to preach to the Gentiles.

The Jews committed most of the persecution against the Christians at this even though they should have known better because they had God's word.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The people who killed Jesus carried out ALL that had been written about him in the Old Testament.
- _____ 2. King David was the Holy One who did not see corruption after his death.
- _____ 3. Only a few people in Antioch were interested in hearing the word of God on the second Sabbath.
- _____ 4. God sent Paul and Barnabas to the Gentiles because so many of the Jews refused to hear his word.
- _____ 5. The persecution kept the word of God from spreading.

Short Answer:

- 6. Jesus was put to death even though he was not _____.
- 7. The apostles had come from _____ to _____ with Jesus.

8. Who was God speaking about when He said, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you.”? _____

9. Read Acts 13: 38-39 and fill in the blanks with what Paul said about Jesus the Christ.

“Through this man _____ of _____ is proclaimed to you, and by Him _____ who _____ is freed...”

10. Who followed Paul and Barnabas after Paul’s sermon? _____

11. How many people gathered together to hear the word of the Lord on the second Sabbath?

Remember this:

12. When the evil Jews saw the crowds, how did they feel? _____

13. What did the evil Jews do to Paul because they felt that way?

14. What did the unbelieving Jews encourage the leading men and women of the city to do? There are two things.

15. Who did Paul say had judged these unbelieving Jews unworthy of eternal life?

(Remember that God gives us each free will to obey or disobey Him.)

23

Paul at Iconium and Lystra

Acts 14

Memory verse: “You should turn to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.
Acts 14: 15

Now at Iconium (eye-KOH-nee-uhm) they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly (confidently) for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them (Paul and his companions), they learned of it and fled (ran away) to Lystra (LISS-trah) and Derbe (Der'-be), cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, and there they continued to preach the gospel.

Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking.

And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!” Barnabas they called Zeus (Greek “Father of the gods”—false gods), and Paul, Hermes (messenger of the Greek false gods), because he was the chief speaker. And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain (useless) things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations He allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. Yet He did not leave Himself without witness, for He did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying

your hearts with food and gladness.” Even with these words they scarcely (barely) restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium (eye-KOH-nee-uhm), and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe (Der'-be). When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium (eye-KOH-nee-uhm) and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations (troubles, suffering) we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Then they passed through Pisidia (pə- 'si-dē-ə) and came to Pamphylia (PAM fil ea). And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia (ah tal lia), and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. And they remained (a long) time with the disciples.

Lessons to Learn: Paul and his companions left Iconium when their lives were threatened, but they did not stop preaching the gospel.

This time the persecution was from both Jews and Gentiles.

In Lystra the people tried to worship Paul and Barnabas as Greek gods.

Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch in Syria through the same towns they had gone through before.

True or False:

- _____ 1. God gave Paul and his friends miracles to support the gospel they were preaching.
- _____ 2. It took a little while for the crippled man to get up and walk.
- _____ 3. At Lystra the people said that Paul and Barnabas were gods in the form of men.
- _____ 4. Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and caused the people in Lystra to stone Paul.
- _____ 5. Paul and his friends strengthened the Christians and told them how easy it would be to be faithful Christians.

Short Answer:

6. Who poisoned the Gentiles minds against Paul and his companions?

7. Why did Paul and his companions have to leave Iconium?

8. What miracle did Paul do in Lystra? _____

9. How quickly was the man able to do what Paul told him to do?

10. The people in Lystra called Paul _____ and
Barnabas _____ and wanted to offer
_____ to them.

11. Paul said that the people at Lystra should "...turn from these _____
(useless) things to a _____ God, who made the _____
and the _____ and the _____ and all that is in them."

Remember this:

12. What good things had God done for the people at Lystra that showed that He was the living God?

13. The unbelieving Jews were so angry with Paul that they followed him
and stirred up the Jews and Gentiles to _____ him.

14. Paul and his companions encouraged the brethren "to continue in the
_____, and saying that through many _____

(troubles, suffering) we must enter the _____ of _____.”

Acts 14: 22 So, will being a Christian always be easy? _____

15. Paul and his companions appointed _____ in every church.
Notice that every church had them and there were always more than one.



24

Lydia and her Household Become Christians

Acts 16: 1-15

Memory Verse: “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” Acts 16: 15

(In this lesson, don't be too concerned about how to pronounce all the city names. We will talk about them in class. You can try your best and you can ask parents for help.)

Paul came also to Derbe (Der'-be) and to Lystra (LISS-trah). A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra ((LISS-trah) and Iconium (eye-KOH-nee-uhm). Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

And they went through the region of Phrygia (fri-j' ē-a) and Galatia (gə-' lā-sh(ē-ə)), having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia (mish-ee-uh), they attempted to go into Bithynia (bə-' thi-nē-ə), but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas (trō-, as). And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia (ma-sə-' dō-nē-ə,) was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding (figuring) that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. (Since Luke says “we” here, we know that Luke is now traveling with Paul.)

So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace (sam-uh-threys), and the following day to Neapolis (nee-AP-o-lihs), and from there to Philippi (fil-LIH-pai), which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we

supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira (thi-uh-TI-ruh), a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us. (persuaded us to stay)

Lessons to Learn: Paul, Timothy, Luke, and Silas are traveling together on this journey to preach the gospel.

The Holy Spirit led Paul to go to Macedonia.

People with a good heart like Lydia’s will believe and obey God’s word.

Lydia's heart was like the good soil in the parable of the sower. When she heard the word of God, she received it with joy and obeyed the words of the apostle.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Timothy was the son of a Jewish woman and a Greek man.
- _____ 2. Paul and his friends did not want to go to Bithynia.
- _____ 3. Paul had a vision of a man from Macedonia asking for him to come and help.
- _____ 4. Luke joined Paul and his companions to go to Macedonia.
- _____ 5. On Sunday in Philippi, Paul and his companions went to the riverside to meet with Christians there.

Short Answer:

6. Had Paul been to Derbe and to Lystra before? Think about the first journey.

7. Where were the apostles at this time? _____

8. As Paul and his companions traveled around preaching, “the churches were _____ in the _____, and they _____ in numbers _____.”
Acts 16: 5

9. After Paul’s vision, they left immediately for Macedonia because they decided it meant that _____

10. Why did Paul and his companions go to the riverside on the Sabbath?

11. What do we know about Lydia? _____

12. Was Lydia the only person who was baptized? _____

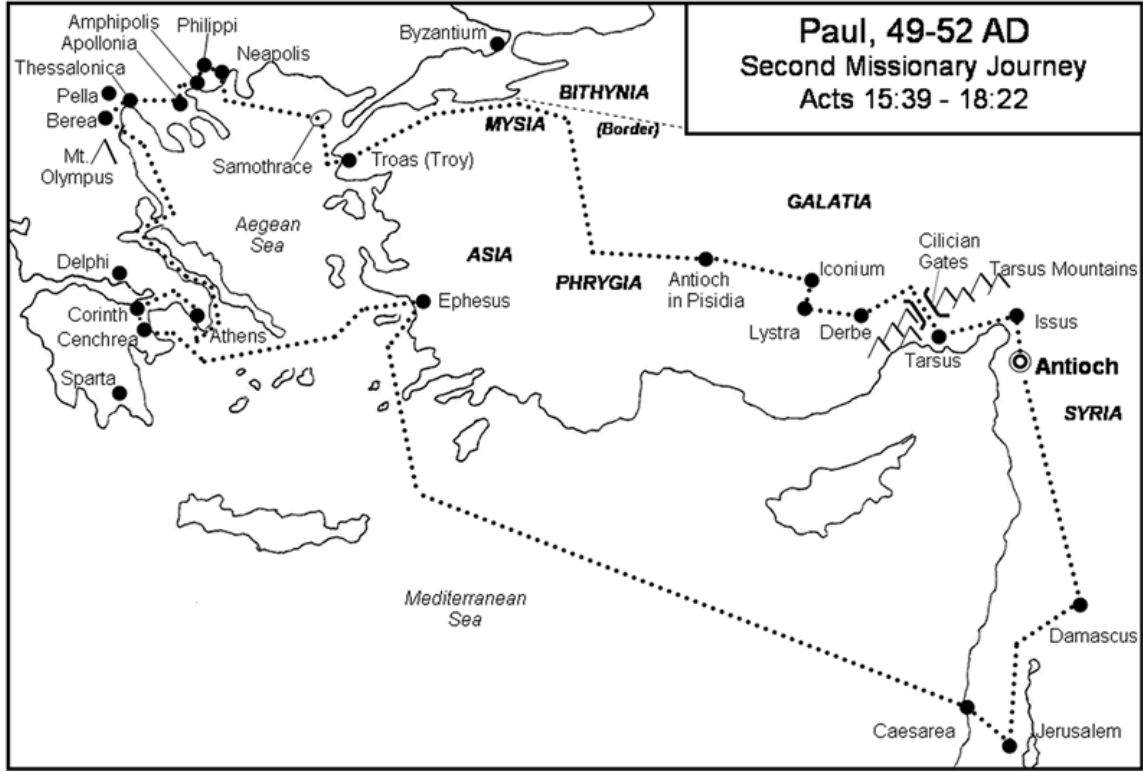
Remember this:

13. Does God send us visions today? _____ How do we know His will today? _____

14. Luke wrote the book of Acts, so when he joined the preaching trip, he started writing “we” and “us” so that we know that he was there with Paul. Does that show us that we have to pay attention to exactly what the Bible says?

15. In what city did Paul end up in our lesson? _____

17. This is Paul's second preaching trip. On the map, underline the names of the cities Paul visited in this lesson and draw over the line connecting them.



25

The Philippian Jailer

Acts 16: 16-40

Memory verse: “They said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’” Acts 16: 31

As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination (telling the future) and brought her owners much gain (money) by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of gain (making money) was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. And when they had brought them to the magistrates (a kind of judge), they said, “These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. They teach customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice.” The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them (beat them many times), they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.”

And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and

to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace."

But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly, without a trial, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out." The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens. So they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. So they went out of the prison and visited Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them and departed.

Lessons to Learn: Even the demons knew that God was with Paul and Silas.

Paul and Silas sang and prayed to God even though they were thrown in jail.

They kept doing what was right no matter what happened to them.

The jailor was sorry for what he had done wrong-He repented.

The jailor was baptized and became a Christian.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The girl with the demon was telling lies about Paul and his friends as she followed them.
- _____ 2. When the girl's owners brought Paul and Silas before the judges, they told them that Paul had destroyed their way of making money.
- _____ 3. Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God in prison, and the prisoners were listening to them.
- _____ 4. The prisoners could have run away after the earthquake.
- _____ 5. All the jailor had to do was believe in Jesus.

Short Answer:

6. Why were the owners of the girl angry? _____

7. The owners of the girl told the judges that Paul and Silas were disturbing the city by teaching _____

8. The judges ordered that Paul and Silas be _____

_____ and then put them in prison with their feet in _____. (a wooden frame with holes in which the feet or feet and hands can be locked)

9. Why was the jailor going to kill himself after the earthquake? _____

10. What did the jailor ask Paul and Silas? _____

11. What was the answer to his question? _____

Remember this:

12. What did the jailor do that showed that he repented? (the same hour of the night)

13. After Paul and Silas spoke the word of God to the jailor and his family,

they were _____ at _____.

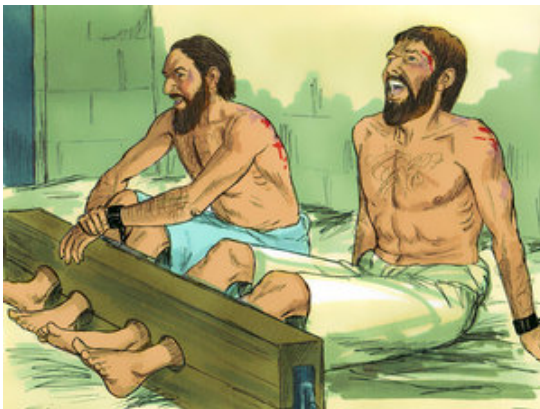
14. Roman citizens were not supposed to be beat, so how did the magistrates (judges) feel when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens?

15. The judges _____ to Paul and Silas for beating them.

16. What did Paul say to cast the demon out of the girl? _____

17. Since Paul was able to cast out the demon, what do we know about him? (Remember what the ability to do miracles showed other people.)

18. Praying and singing helped Paul and Silas while they were in prison. Was it a good example to anyone else? Who?



26

Paul and Silas in Thessalonica

Acts 17: 1-15

Memory verse: “They received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.”

Acts 17: 11

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis (am-FIPP-oh-lis) and Apollonia (ap-puh-LOW-nee-ah), they came to Thessalonica (thes'uh-loh-NI-kah), where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned (discussed logically) with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.”

And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble (mob, disorderly crowd), they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

The brothers (Christians) immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea (beh-REE-ah), and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews were more noble (righteous, virtuous, good, honorable) than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. Those who conducted (guided) Paul brought him as far as Athens; and, after

receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

Lessons to Learn: Paul still went to the synagogues where people were worshipping God to teach them the gospel.

The jealous Jews started an uproar in the city, but they accused Paul and his companions of turning the world upside down.

We should be like the Bereans-- examining the Scriptures daily to see if the things that are preached were so.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul could use the Old Testament Scriptures to prove that Jesus suffered, died, and was the Christ.
- _____ 2. The mob dragged Jason, Paul and Silas out before the city authorities.
- _____ 3. The Jews in Berea searched the Scriptures to see if what Paul and Silas preached was true.
- _____ 4. Paul, Silas and Timothy went to Athens.
- _____ 5. "The brothers" in this chapter are Christians.

Short Answer:

6. Why did some Jews start a mob? _____

7. Who was Jason? _____

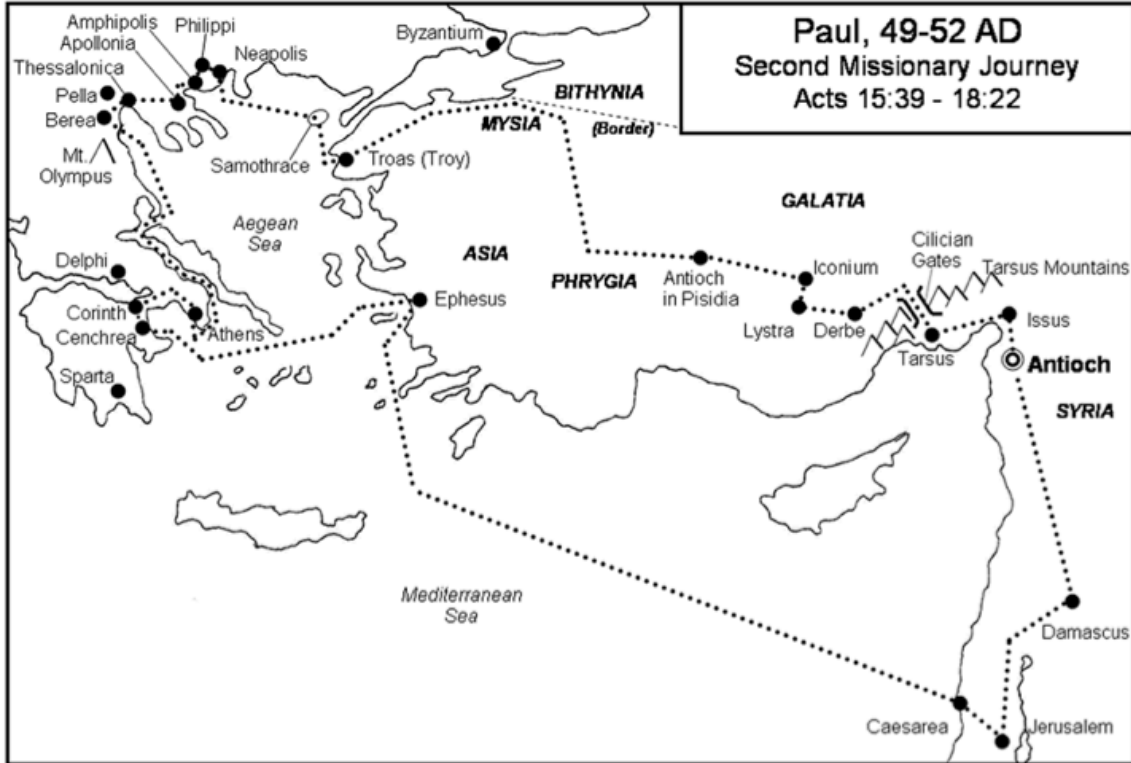
8. The Jews accused Paul and Silas of "acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying _____."

9. How were the Jews in Berea more noble than other Jews? _____

10. Who followed Paul and Silas to Berea? _____

Remember this:

11. Review the map. Underline the cities mentioned in this lesson and connect the lines between them.



12. Athens is in the country of Greece. The gospel was spreading. Remember Christ's words from Acts 1: 8 and fill in the blanks.

**“But you will receive power when the _____
has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in _____
and in all _____ and _____, and to the end
of the _____.”**

13. How should we be like the Bereans? _____

-
14. The Jews said Paul and Silas had turned the world
-

15. The Jews also said that “they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” Was Jesus going to be a king on the earth?

16. Read Revelation 17:14 and fill in the blanks about Jesus Christ and His followers. Be sure to put capital letters in the right places.

“He is _____ of _____ and _____ of _____, and those who are with _____ are the _____ and _____ and _____.”



27

Paul Preaches in Athens

Acts 17: 14-34

Memory Verse: “The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man.” Acts 17: 24

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked (irritated or angered) within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned (discussed logically) in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout (God fearing) persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.

Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities (gods)” —because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus (Ar-e-op'-a guss—Also known as Mars’ Hill), saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription (writing), “To the unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for “In Him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed his offspring (children).” Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think

that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked (made fun of it). But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” So Paul went out from their midst. But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite (a-rē- ' ä-pə- , gīt) and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Lessons to Learn: We must worship God and Him only.

It is wrong to worship idols.

Paul knew that he had to tell the people of Athens about the real God.

God wants everyone to repent and obey Him.

True or False:

- _____ 1. There were some people who feared God in Athens.
- _____ 2. People in Athens didn't like to hear anything new or strange.
- _____ 3. The Areopagus was also known as Mars' Hill.
- _____ 4. We should not think that God is like gold or silver or stone or an image imagined by men.
- _____ 5. Everyone listening to Paul wanted to hear more about the resurrection of the dead.

Short Answer:

6. What bothered (provoked) Paul when he was in Athens? _____

7. What does it mean that Paul “reasoned” with the people in the synagogue?

8. Some people said that Paul “seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities (gods)”—because he was preaching _____ and the _____.”

9. What did the people in Athens like to spend their time doing?

10. When Paul was looking at the idols, he found one which had the words “_____” on it.

11. What does God command all people everywhere to do? _____

Remember this:

12. Paul said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.” Did he mean that they were worshipping correctly? How do you know?

13. Read Matthew 4: 10 and fill in the blanks.

Worship the _____ your _____, and Him _____ shall you serve.

14. There were two types of hearers of Paul’s sermon. Some people who heard about the resurrection of the dead _____ and others said _____.

15. Paul quoted the Greek poets who supported what he was saying about God creating everything and being Lord over everything. One poet said, “In Him we _____ and _____ and have our _____.”

16. God wants everyone to repent because the _____ day is coming when Christ will judge all people.

28

Paul in Corinth

Acts 18 1-17

Memory verse: “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you.” Acts 18: 9 -10

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because (Emperor) Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. (He tried to convince people to obey the gospel.)

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia (ma-sə- ' dō-nē-ə), Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. And when they opposed and reviled (criticized angrily) him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.” And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

But when Gallio was proconsul (a governor of a Roman province) of Achaia (uh-KAY-yuh), the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal (court of justice), saying, “This man is persuading people to worship God contrary to the law.” But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of wrongdoing or vicious crime, O Jews, I would have reason to accept your complaint. But since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves. I refuse to be a judge of these things.” And he drove them from the tribunal. And they all seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of this.

Lessons to Learn: Paul preached, but he also made a living by making tents.

When the Jews would not listen to the gospel, Paul was innocent of any wrong because he had preached the gospel to them.

God gave the Jews the right to choose to obey Him or not obey; but when they did not obey, they were guilty of sin.

God knew that there were people in Corinth who would obey the gospel even before they obeyed.

Gallio knew that Paul was not guilty of any crime.

True or False:

_____ 1. Aquila and his wife Priscilla came from Athens to Corinth.

_____ 2. When the Jews would not listen to Paul and reviled him, he said he was going to preach to the Gentiles.

_____ 3. Only a few people in Corinth obeyed the gospel.

_____ 4. The Corinthians who believed the gospel were baptized.

_____ 5. Paul was persuading people to worship God contrary to the Roman law.

Short Answer:

6. Why had Aquila and Priscilla left Italy? _____

7. When Silas and Timothy arrived, what was Paul spending his time teaching the Jews?

8. Who was Crispus, and what did he do? _____

9. How long did Paul stay in Corinth? _____

10. Why wouldn't Gallio listen to the Jews who were accusing Paul of doing wrong?

11. What did the Jews do to try to get Gallio's attention? _____

Remember this:

12. Is it O.K. for a preacher to have another job to make a living? How do you know?

13. Why did Paul not have to be afraid while preaching in Corinth?

14. (A few, some, many) of the Gentiles in Corinth heard Paul, believed, and were baptized.

15. Review the steps of salvation.

H _____

B _____

R _____

C _____

B _____

And live faithfully

29

Paul Returns to Antioch And Apollos Learns the Truth

Acts 18:18- 28

Memory verse: “They took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.”

After this, Paul stayed many days longer (in Corinth) and then took leave of the brothers and set sail for Syria (SEER-ee-uh), and with him Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae (Seng'-kre-a) he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow (promise). And they came to Ephesus ((e-fə-səs), and he left them there, but he himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. When they asked him to stay for a longer period, he declined (said “no”). But on taking leave of them he said, “I will return to you if God wills,” and he set sail from Ephesus.

When he had landed at Caesarea (sehs-uh-REE-uh), he went up and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch. After spending some time there, he departed and went from one place to the next through the region of Galatia (gə- ' lā-sh(ē-)ə), and Phrygia (fri-j ' ē-a), strengthening all the disciples.

Now a Jew named Apollos (ah-PAWL-lus), a native of Alexandria (in Egypt), came to Ephesus (e-fə-səs). He was an eloquent man (He spoke well), competent in the Scriptures. (He knew the Old Testament Scriptures well.) He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit (with great enthusiasm), he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John.

He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. And when he wished to cross to Achaia (uh-KAY-yuh), the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who through grace had believed, for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public (disproved what they said), showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.

Lessons to Learn: When we make plans, we should always say, “If the Lord wills.” (If it is what God wants)

Apollos only knew the Scriptures and what John had taught, so he needed to be taught more about Jesus, His life and death and resurrection, and the church.

When we meet someone who knows part of the truth, we need to teach them the rest of the truth so they can be right with God.

Apollos had the ability to influence many people for good.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul, Priscilla and Aquila left for Syria.
- _____ 2. When the Jews in Ephesus asked Paul to stay longer, he did stay longer.
- _____ 3. Priscilla and Aquila stayed in Ephesus.
- _____ 4. Apollos knew everything about Jesus.
- _____ 5. It is not right to preach only part of the truth about Jesus and the gospel.

Short Answer:

6. Who stayed in Ephesus? _____

7. How did Paul travel from Corinth and from Ephesus to Caesarea?

8. Who came to Ephesus preaching about Jesus? _____

9. The preacher knew only the _____ of _____.

10. What kind of preacher was Apollos? Use your own words. _____

continued

Remember this:

11. When leaving Ephesus, what did Paul tell the brethren there? _____

12. Read James 4: 15 and fill in the blanks.

“...you ought to say, “If the _____ wills, we will _____
and do _____ or _____.”

13. What was Paul doing as he went from one place to the next in Galatia?

14. Was Apollos speaking the truth about what he knew? _____

Was that good enough? Why? _____

15. How did the disciples (Christians) in Achaia know about Apollos?

16. What did Apollos show or prove by the Scriptures? _____



30

Paul's Third Preaching Journey

Acts 19: 1 -20

Memory verse: “So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.” Acts 19:20

And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John's baptism.” And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues (languages) and prophesying. There were about twelve men in all.

And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning (discussing logically) and persuading them (causing them to believe) about the kingdom of God. But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way (the gospel and Christians) before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. Then some of the itinerant (travelling) Jewish exorcists (men trying to cast out the devil or demons) undertook to invoke (call) the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?” And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled (praised). Also many of those

who were now believers came, confessing and divulging (making known) their practices. And a number of those who had practiced magic arts (sorcery) brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail (triumph, win) mightily.

Lessons to Learn: Being baptized in John's baptism was not enough now that Jesus had come and salvation was in His name.

Paul and other disciples of God (Christians) had to move out of the synagogue when some Jews began speaking evil of God's Way.

All Asia heard the word of God.

Some who practiced magic learned the truth and repented of the wrong they had done—even burning their books worth 50,000 pieces of silver.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul met disciples who didn't even know there was a Holy Spirit.
- _____ 2. People who believed in God could now be baptized in either John's baptism or the baptism of Christ.
- _____ 3. Speaking in tongues meant speaking in other languages.
- _____ 4. Paul stayed at least two years in Ephesus.
- _____ 5. The Jewish exorcists had the power of God to cast out demons.

Short Answer:

6. When Paul met some disciples, how had they been baptized? _____

7. John told the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, _____.

8. Name two places that Paul taught the gospel. _____

9. The result of Paul's preaching was that all the people who lived in

_____ heard the gospel, both _____ and

_____.

10. Who were the Jewish exorcists? _____

Remember this:

11. What were seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva saying to

those who had evil spirits in them? _____

12. What did the evil spirits answer the seven sons of Sceva? _____

13. Why could Paul do the miracles that he did? _____

14. God hates Sorcery. Deut. 18: 10 says, "There shall not be found among you... anyone who practices divination (supernatural knowledge) or tells fortunes or interprets omens (signs), or a sorcerer..." What did the people who had practiced magic (sorcery) do to show that they had repented of that sin?

15. Notice that the people who repented didn't let the high cost of the books of sorcery keep them from doing what God wanted them to do. Does God only expect us to do what is right when it is easy?

31

A Riot at Ephesus

Acts 19: 21- 41

Memory verse: “Paul has ... turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods.” Acts 19: 26

Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia (ma-sə- ' dō-nē-ə,) and Achaia (uh-KAY-yuh), and go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.” And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus (ih-ras-tuhs), he himself stayed in Asia for a while.

About that time there arose a great disturbance concerning the Way. For a man named Demetrius (dih-MEE-tree-us), a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis (a Greek goddess), brought no little business to the craftsmen. These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, “Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute (disgrace, bad reputation) but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship.” (He thought that people would stop worshipping the idol Artemis, and they would lose their jobs.)

When they heard this, they were enraged (very angry) and were crying out, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius (Gay us) and Aristarchus (a-rə- ' stār-kəs), Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel. But when Paul wished to go in among the crowd, the disciples would not let him. And even some of the Asiarchs (' āzhē , ärkəs), who were friends of his, sent to him and were urging him not to venture (go) into the theater.

Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. Some of the crowd prompted Alexander, whom the Jews had put forward. And Alexander, motioning with his hand, wanted to make a defense to the crowd. But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours they all cried out with one voice, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, “Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred stone that fell from the sky? Seeing then that these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash (reckless). For you have brought these men here who are neither sacrilegious (not religious) nor blasphemers (disrespectful speakers) of our goddess. If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls (governors). Let them bring charges against one another. But if you seek anything further, it shall be settled in the regular assembly. For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion (confused and noisy disturbance).” And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.

Lessons to Learn: Remember that at this time, the gospel and Christians were called “the Way.”

Artemis was a well-known Greek goddess (idol).

Sometimes when groups of people get angry, they become a mob that has many people who don’t even know why they are there.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Demetrius the silversmith, and the other craftsmen made a lot of money by making items for the idol Artemis.
- _____ 2. Paul taught that idols made with hands were not real gods.
- _____ 3. Paul’s friends thought that he should go teach the assembly that was in the theater.
- _____ 4. Most of the people who were in the theater area didn’t even know why the people had assembled there.
- _____ 5. Alexander told the people that they might be charged with rioting.

Short Answer:

6. Who were Paul’s two helpers in this lesson? _____

7. Demetrius said that Paul had turned people away from worshipping

Artemis by saying that _____

8. How did Demetrius and the other craftsmen make their living? _____

9. Why did the crowd not listen to Alexander? _____

10. What did the crowd yell for two hours? _____

Remember this:

11. The town clerk said that the “city of the Ephesians is _____

_____ of the great _____, and of the

_____ that _____

_____ ...”

12. The town clerk said that if Demetrius and the other craftsmen had a
complaint against anyone, they should _____

13. Was the town clerk right? _____ Should people use the
government to settle problems in the right way? _____

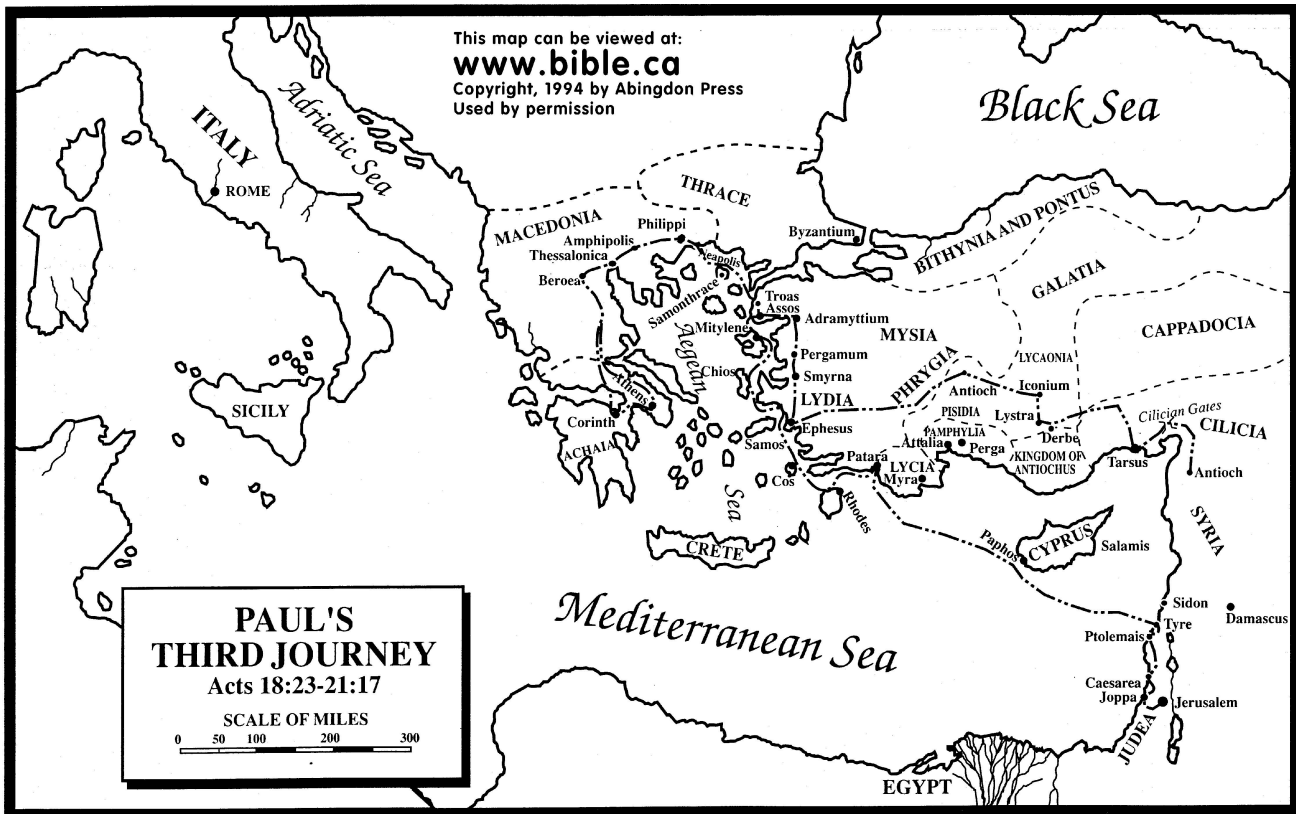
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14. Read Exodus 20: 4-5 and fill in the blanks.

“You shall not make for yourself a _____, _____,

or any likeness of anything that is in _____ above, or that is in the _____ beneath, or that is in the _____ under the earth. You shall not _____ down to them or serve them, for I the _____ your _____ am a jealous _____”

15. Find the cities and areas that Paul travelled through in this lesson. Circle Ephesus and the city that Paul said he must see after Jerusalem.



32

Paul at Troas

Acts 20: 1- 16

Memory Verse: “On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them.” Acts 20: 7

After the uproar ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia (ma-sə- ' dō-nē-ə,). When he had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement, he came to Greece. There he spent three months, and when a plot (secret plan to hurt) was made against him by the Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia. Sopater the Berean, . . . accompanied him; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus (a-rə- ' stār-kəs), and Secundus [suh-kuhn-duh s]; and Gaius (Gay us) of Derbe, and Timothy; and the Asians, Tychicus (tik'-i-kus) and Trophimus (tro'-fē-mos). These went on ahead and were waiting for us at Troas (trō- , as), but we sailed away from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread (Passover), and in five days we came to them at Troas, where we stayed for seven days (Luke is with Paul again.)

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight. There were many lamps in the upper room where we were gathered. And a young man named Eutychus (Eu-ty-kus), sitting at the window, sank into a deep sleep as Paul talked still longer. And being overcome by sleep, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. But Paul went down and bent over him, and taking him in his arms, said, “Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.” And when Paul had gone up and had broken bread and eaten, he conversed (talked) with them a long while, until daybreak, and so departed. And they took the youth away alive, and were greatly comforted.

But going ahead to the ship, we set sail for Assos (As-sos), intending to take Paul aboard there, for so he had arranged, intending himself to go by land. And when he met us at Assos, we took him on board and . . . after that we went to Miletus (mī- ' lē-təs). For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia, for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

Lessons to Learn: Some Jews were still trying to find a way to harm Paul. Paul and the men with him stayed in Troas seven days and worshipped with Christians on the first day of the week.

“Gathered together to break bread” means the Christians met to eat the Lord’s Supper.

Paul wanted to be in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul stayed in Greece for three months.
- _____ 2. Christians were meeting on the second floor of a building.
- _____ 3. Eutychus fell asleep and fell out a window.
- _____ 4. Paul brought Eutychus back to life.
- _____ 5. Paul preached until daybreak.

Short Answer:

6. What country did Paul have to leave because Jews were trying to hurt him?

7. Paul left Philippi after what Jewish feast? _____

8. How long did Paul preach at Troas? _____

9. How did Eutychus die? _____

10. What did Paul and the Christians do after Eutychus was brought back to life?

Remember this:

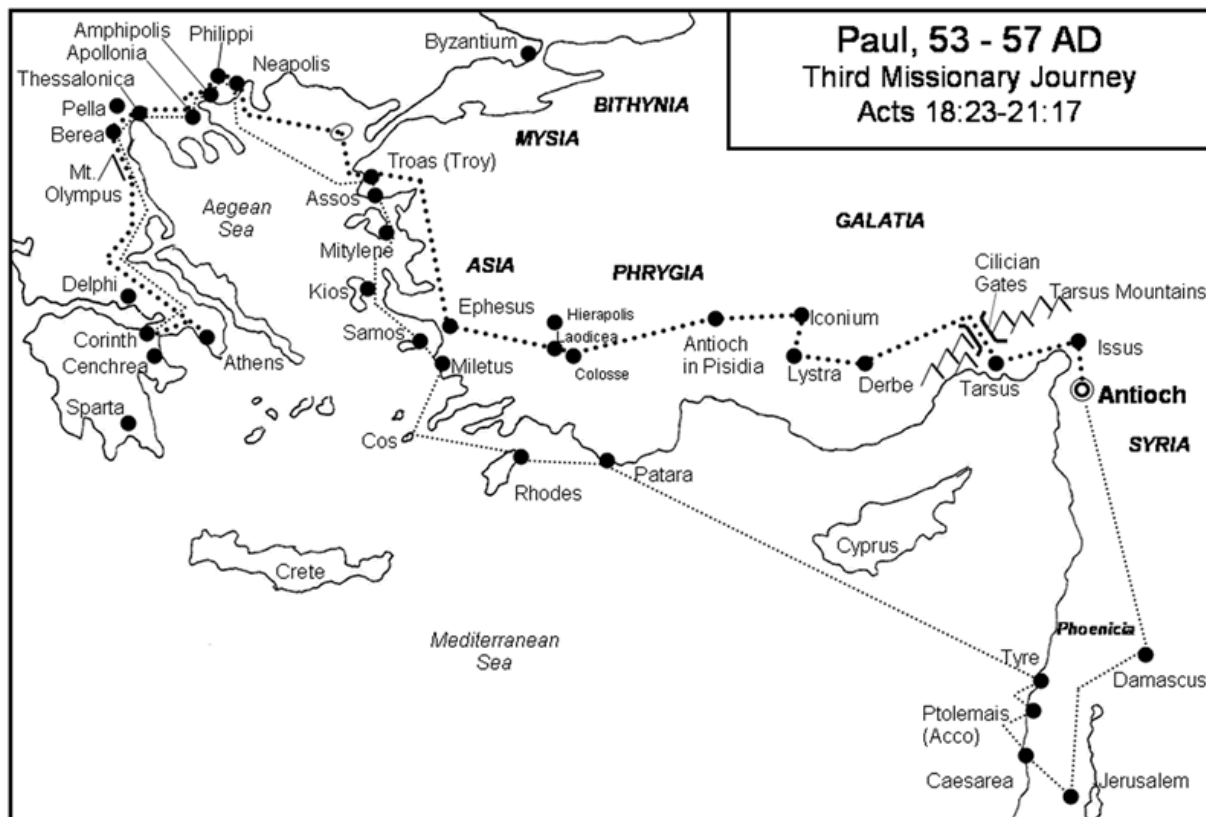
11. How do we know Luke is back with Paul again? _____

12. When the church met to break bread, what does that mean they did?

13. How often do Christians eat the Lord's Supper? _____

14. What do Christians remember when they take the Lord's Supper?

15. Find Troas on the map and circle it. Trace over the line from Philippi to Troas.



33

Paul Speaks to the Ephesian Elders

Acts 20: 17- 38

Memory verse: “I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Acts 20: 27

Now from Miletus he (Paul) sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink (pull back in fear) from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained (forced or driven) by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions (troubles) await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood.

I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.

And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel (clothing). You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in

this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'”

And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

Lessons to Learn: Paul was not afraid to tell people everything that God wanted him to preach.

Paul was going to Jerusalem even though he knew that trouble and prison awaited him there.

Elders are supposed to watch over themselves and the church to be sure they are obeying God.

Paul was warning that some false teachers would rise up among the elders.

True or False:

_____ 1. Paul had had an easy life in Ephesus when he was there before.

_____ 2. Paul only preached to Gentiles.

_____ 3. Paul had decided on his own to go to Jerusalem.

_____ 4. None of these elders would see Paul again.

_____ 5. Paul worked to support himself and others with him. (to supply their necessities)

Short Answer:

6. When he was in Ephesus, Paul was” serving the Lord with all

_____ and with _____ and with _____

that happened to me through the _____ of the Jews.”

7. Why was Paul going to Jerusalem? _____

8. What awaited Paul in Jerusalem? _____

9. The “fierce wolves” were men who would speak “_____ things, to _____ the _____ after them.” Acts 20:30

10. Paul quoted Jesus. What was the quote? _____

Remember this:

11. Why was Paul innocent of the blood of all men? _____

12. What other name does Paul call the elders? The Holy Spirit made them _____ Acts 20:28

13. What shows that God’s church so important? (Hint: How was it bought? Acts 20:28)

14. Part of the reason for working is to help the _____

15. Why was there much crying and sorrow when Paul left? _____

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

34

Paul Goes to Jerusalem

Acts 21: 1-24

Memory Verse: “I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” Acts 21: 13

And when we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course to Cos (kəz), and the next day to Rhodes (roh dz), and from there to Patara (PAT-uh-ruh). And having found a ship crossing to Phoenicia (fi- ' nē-shə), we went aboard and set sail. When we had come in sight of Cyprus (sī-prəs), leaving it on the left we sailed to Syria a (' sir-ē-ə) and landed at Tyre (tīr), for there the ship was to unload its cargo.

And having sought out (looked for) the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. When our days there were ended, we departed and went on our journey, and they all, with wives and children, accompanied us until we were outside the city. And kneeling down on the beach, we prayed and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home.

When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais (Tol-eh-meh'-iss), and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day. On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea (sehs-uh-REE-uh), and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist (preacher), who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied.

While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound (tied up) his own feet and hands and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind (tie up) the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’” When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” And since he would not be persuaded (to change his mind), we ceased and said, “Let the will of the Lord be done.”

After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem. And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mason of Cyprus (sī-prəs), an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.

When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. After greeting them, he related (told) one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed.”

True or False:

- _____ 1. Disciple is another word for Christian.
- _____ 2. We don't know anything else about Philip the evangelist that is not in this chapter.
- _____ 3. Agabus prophesied that he would be tied up in Jerusalem.
- _____ 4. Paul was ready to be put in prison and even to die for Christ.
- _____ 5. Paul had been preaching mostly to the Jews.

Short Answer:

6. What did the Christians in Tyre tell Paul? _____

7. How did Paul and his friends travel most of this journey? _____

8. Who was Philip? What did his daughters do? _____

9. What did Agabus do with Paul's belt? _____

10. What did Agabus prophesy? _____

11. What did Paul tell James and the elders? _____

Remember this:

12. Like Stephen, Philip was one of “seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom,” chosen to take care of needy widows. He was also a preacher. What do you remember about Philip from our earlier lessons?

13. Paul knew that he would be put in prison in Jerusalem, but he still went. Why?

14. What did the Christians say when they couldn’t talk Paul out of going to Jerusalem?

15. How did the Christians in Jerusalem receive the Christians with Paul?

16. How did the Christians feel about all the Jews and Gentiles (Greeks) who had been saved?

“Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.’” James 4: 15

35

Paul Arrested in the Temple

Acts 21: 27- 40

Memory verse: “Even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed.” I Peter 3:14

When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him (Paul) in the Temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him, crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the Temple and has defiled this holy place.” For they had previously seen Trophimus (tro'-fē-mos) the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the Temple.

Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the Temple, and at once the gates were shut. And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort (Roman military official) that all Jerusalem was in confusion. He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired who he was and what he had done. Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar (loud noise or disturbance), he ordered him to be brought into the barracks (the place where the soldiers lived). And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, “May I say something to you?” And he said, “Do you know Greek? Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?” Paul replied, “I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city (a well-known city). I beg you, permit me to speak to the people.” And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with his hand to the people. And when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew language...

(We will study Paul's speech in the next lesson.)

Lessons to Learn: Jews were still the main people persecuting Paul and other Christians. They should have known better.

The Jews accused Paul of taking a Greek (Gentile) into the Temple, but they did not have any reason to say that. They only supposed that he did. Once again, a mob started by the Jews had the town in confusion, with some people shouting one thing and other people shouting something else.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul spoke against the Law of Moses and the Temple.
- _____ 2. Paul took the Gentiles who were with him into the Temple.
- _____ 3. The tribune couldn't find out what was going on because of the loud noise of the mob.
- _____ 4. The tribune thought that Paul might be an Egyptian who stirred up a revolt.
- _____ 5. Paul used this event to try to talk to the Jews, even though some of them wanted to kill him.

Short Answer:

- 6. Who stirred up the crowd and grabbed Paul? The _____
from _____.
- 7. What three things did they accuse Paul of teaching against? _____

- 8. What did the men say that Paul had done to defile the Temple?

- 9. What were the people doing to Paul when the tribune and soldiers arrived?

- 10. Why did the tribune order that Paul be taken to the barracks?

11. The crowd was so violent that the soldiers _____

Remember this:

12. The Bible says the Jews from Asia had seen Trophimus with Paul and, “they supposed that Paul had brought him into the Temple.” What does that mean? Can someone accuse another person based on what he supposes?

13. Circle all the things that the crowd did wrong when people were stirred up (excited).

Listened to accusations against Paul without proof

Beat Paul

Wanted to kill Paul

Made good decisions

Caused Jerusalem to be in confusion

Listened to the tribune

**Some were shouting one thing,
some another**

Caused a loud noise or disturbance

Were violent

14. Where was Paul from? _____

15. Read Mathew 5: 10 and fill in the blanks.

“ _____ are those who are _____
for _____ sake, for theirs is the
_____ of _____.”

36

Paul Speaks to the Crowd

Acts 21: 40-Acts 22:29

Memory verse: “Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.” Acts 22: 16

And when there was a great hush, he (Paul) addressed them in the Hebrew language saying:

“Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.” And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said, “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers (Moses’ Law), being zealous for God (eagerly devoted to God) as all of you are this day. I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished.

“As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

“And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know His will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from His mouth; for you will be a witness for Him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.’

“When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the Temple, I

fell into a trance and saw him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ him.’ And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’”

Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.” And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging (whipping), to find out why they were shouting against him like this.

But when they had stretched him out for the whips, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, “Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned (without blame)?”

When the centurion heard this, he went to the tribune and said to him, “What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen.”

So the tribune came and said to him, “Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?”

And he said, “Yes.”

The tribune answered, “I bought this citizenship for a large sum.”

Paul said, “But I am a citizen by birth.” So those who were about to examine him withdrew from him immediately, and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him. (put him in chains)

Lessons to Learn: Paul retells part of his life to show that he is a Jew like the Jews in Jerusalem; but Jesus appeared to him, and Paul obeyed the gospel.

When the Jews would not listen to Paul, God sent him to preach to the Gentiles.

It was against the law for a Roman citizen to be whipped or bound.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul was speaking in the language that the Jews (Hebrews) knew.
- _____ 2. Paul said that these Jews were zealous for God.

- _____ 3. Paul had never acted like these Jews from Asia were acting.
- _____ 4. The tribune could whip Paul to find out why the Jews were treating him this way.
- _____ 5. The centurion and the tribune knew it was wrong to whip a Roman citizen.

Short Answer:

6. By whom was Paul educated? _____
7. In what Law had Paul been taught? _____
8. Who could be witnesses to Paul persecuting men and women of the Way?

9. The people in #8 had given Paul letters to do what? _____

10. What happened to Paul on the road to Damascus? _____

11. Who came to tell Paul what he should do and give Paul his sight back?

12. What did Ananias tell Paul to do after he asked Paul, “And now why do you wait?” Write the whole quote. _____

Remember this:

13. Can someone be zealous for God but be wrong? How do you know?

14. What made the Jews stop listening to Paul? _____

15. Can you find two other names for Jesus of Nazareth in this lesson? Paul and Ananias use them. _____

16. What had Paul been doing when Stephen was killed? _____

17. Is it O.K. for a Christian to ask for protection that he should get from the law? How do you know? Think of Paul and the tribune.



37

Paul Before the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem

Acts 22: 30- 23: 1-11

Memory verse: “I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day.” Acts 23: 1

But on the next day, desiring to know the real reason why he (Paul) was being accused by the Jews, he (the tribune) unbound him and commanded the chief priests and all the council (Sanhedrin) to meet, and he brought Paul down and set him before them. And looking intently at the council, Paul said, “Brothers, I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day.” And the High Priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth. Then Paul said to him, “God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! Are you sitting to judge me according to the law, and yet contrary to the law you order me to be struck?”

Those who stood by said, “Would you revile God's High Priest?”

And Paul said, “I did not know, brothers, that he was the High Priest, for it is written, ‘You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.’”

Now when Paul perceived (saw, understood) that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, “Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial.” And when he had said this, a dissension (argument) arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all. Then a great clamor arose, and some of the scribes of the Pharisees' party stood up and contended sharply, “We find nothing wrong in this man. What if a spirit or an angel spoke to him?” And when the dissension became violent, the tribune, afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and take him away from among them by force and bring him into the barracks.

The following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about Me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.”

Lessons to Learn: A person can be doing things with a clear conscience and still be wrong. Paul persecuted Christians thinking that he was doing right---until he learned the gospel.

It is wrong to speak evil of a ruler.

Pharisees and Sadducees were groups of Jews who did not get along with each other because of their different beliefs.

God was taking care of Paul, and the gospel would be spread in Rome.

The Sanhedrin was an assembly of seventy-one chief priests, scribes and elders appointed from every city in the Land of Israel. It was the supreme court or council of Israel.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The tribune wanted to know the real reason that the Jews were accusing Paul.
- _____ 2. When Paul was persecuting Christians, he didn't know that he was doing the wrong thing.
- _____ 3. Paul was right to speak evil of the High Priest.
- _____ 4. The High Priest was right to have someone strike Paul.
- _____ 5. Paul told the Sanhedrin that He was a Pharisee because he saw that some of the men were Pharisees and some were Sadducees.

Short Answer:

6. The tribune was a Roman ruler but he brought Paul to the Jewish _____ to try to find the truth.

7. Paul said, "Brothers, I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day." Did the High Priest believe him? How do you know? _____

8. Paul said he was a Pharisee, and "It is with respect to the _____ and the _____ of the _____ that I am on trial." Acts 23:6

9. In what three things did the Sadducees not believe? _____

10. Why did the tribune take Paul away to the barracks again? _____

Remember this:

11. According to history, the High Priest at this time was a wicked man. What can we learn from Paul? He said, “It is written, ‘You shall not

_____ of a _____ of your people.’” Acts 23:5

12. What had the High Priest done wrong according to Roman law?

13. The Jews wanted to kill Paul, so he said something that caused the

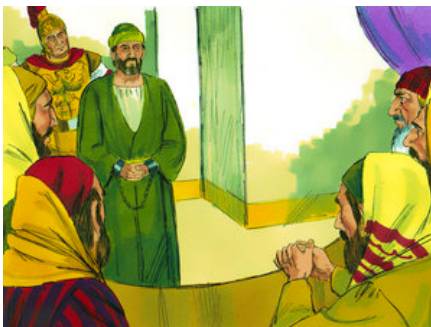
_____ and _____
to argue with each other instead of with him.

14. The Jewish rulers in the Sanhedrin became so violent that the tribune

was afraid that _____

15. What did the Lord tell Paul? _____

Acts 23:11



38

Jews Plan to Kill Paul

Acts 23: 12-35

Memory verse: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5: 10

When it was day, the Jews made a plot and bound themselves by an oath (seriously swore or promised) neither to eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. There were more than forty who made this conspiracy (secret plan to do something wrong). They went to the chief priests and elders and said, “We have strictly bound ourselves by an oath (promise) to taste no food till we have killed Paul. Now therefore you, along with the council, give notice to the tribune to bring him down to you, as though you were going to determine his case more exactly. And we are ready to kill him before he comes near.”

Now the son of Paul's sister heard of their ambush (surprise attack), so he went and entered the barracks and told Paul. Paul called one of the centurions and said, “Take this young man to the tribune, for he has something to tell him.” So he took him and brought him to the tribune and said, “Paul the prisoner called me and asked me to bring this young man to you, as he has something to say to you.”

The tribune took him by the hand, and going aside asked him privately, “What is it that you have to tell me?”

And he said, “The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though they were going to inquire somewhat more closely about him. But do not be persuaded by them, for more than forty of their men are lying in ambush for him, who have bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink till they have killed him. And now they are ready, waiting for your consent.”

So the tribune dismissed the young man, charging him, “Tell no one that you have informed me of these things.”

Then he called two of the centurions and said, “Get ready two hundred soldiers, with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen to go as far as Caesarea (seh-s-uh-REE-uh) at the third hour of the night (about 9 p.m.). Also provide mounts (horses) for Paul to ride and bring him safely to Felix the governor.”

And he wrote a letter to this effect:

“Claudius Lysias, to his Excellency the governor Felix, greetings. This man was seized by the Jews and was about to be killed by them when I came upon them with the soldiers and rescued him, having learned that he was a Roman citizen. And desiring to know the charge for which they were accusing him, I brought him down to their council. I found that he was being accused about questions of their law, but charged with nothing deserving death or imprisonment. And when it was disclosed to me that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, ordering his accusers also to state before you what they have against him.”

So the soldiers, according to their instructions, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipatris (An-tip'-a-triss). And on the next day they returned to the barracks, letting the horsemen go on with him. When they had come to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they presented Paul also before him. On reading the letter, he asked what province he was from. And when he learned that he was from Cilicia, he said, “I will give you a hearing when your accusers arrive.” And he commanded him to be guarded in Herod's praetorium (prē ' tōrēəm).

(The praetorium was the palace or place where the governor lived.)

Lessons to Learn: The Jews were so determined to hurt Paul that they lied and planned to murder Paul.

Claudius Lysias, the tribune knew it was his duty to protect Roman citizens like Paul.

The Jews would have to bring their case before Felix who was the Roman governor.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The Jews promised not to eat or drink until they killed Paul.
- _____ 2. The Jews wanted to determine Paul's case more exactly.
- _____ 3. Paul's sister heard that the Jews planned to ambush Paul.
- _____ 4. The tribune protected Paul from the Jews' plan.
- _____ 5. Paul was guarded in the governor's palace until his accusers could come to Caesarea.

Short Answer:

6. How many men plotted to kill Paul? _____

7. Who heard about the plan to ambush Paul? _____

8. Tell about the number and kind of guards that went with Paul to take him out of Jerusalem. _____

9. To whom did the tribune (Claudius Lysias) write a letter? _____

10. What time of day was it when the soldiers took Paul away? _____

11. What was the pretorium? _____

Remember this:

12. It was the tribune's job to take care of his prisoners and to take care of Roman citizens. Does Claudius Lysias seem to be a good tribune? Why? Give examples to support your answer.

13. When people are emotional/angry and they let their anger grow, it turns into other sinful things. List some of the things that the Jews were guilty of because they were angry with Paul and the gospel.

14. Read James 1: 20 and fill in the blanks.

“The _____ of man does not produce the
_____ of God.”

39

Paul Before Felix

Acts 24: 1- 27

Memory verse: “I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets.” Acts 24: 14

And after five days the High Priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus (ter-tul'-us). They laid before the governor their case against Paul. And when he (Paul) had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: “Since through you (Felix) we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude. But, to detain (delay) you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the Jews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. He even tried to profane the Temple, but we seized him. By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him.” The Jews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so.

And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, and they did not find me disputing (arguing) with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the Temple or in the synagogues or in the city. Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me.

But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect (different religious group), I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. While I was doing this, they found me purified in the Temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, other than this one thing that I

cried out while standing among them: ‘It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.’”

But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.” Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed (scared) and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon (call) you.” At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed (talked) with him. When two years had elapsed (gone by), Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

Lessons to Learn: Felix had done many things for which the Jews were grateful.

All of the Jews present at the hearing were lying about Paul.

Paul defended himself with what could be proved about his actions in Jerusalem and stated that the Jews could not prove what they accused him of doing.

Felix had a good knowledge of the Way (Christianity), but he wanted money from Paul to let him go. (a bribe)

Felix was afraid when he heard the gospel that Paul preached to him.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Felix had caused the Jews to have much peace.
- _____ 2. Paul stirred up riots among the Jews all over the world.
- _____ 3. Twelve days before, Paul had gone to Jerusalem.
- _____ 4. Paul believed everything in the law (of Moses) and the Prophets.
- _____ 5. The Jews from Asia who caused all the problems were not even there to accuse Paul.

Short Answer:

6. Of what three things did Tertullus accuse Paul?

Stirs up _____

Ringleader of _____

He tried to _____

7. Did Paul admit to any of the things the Jews charged him with? _____

8. Could the Jews prove any of the things of which they accused Paul? _____

9. Who did Paul say that he worshipped? _____

10. Paul had a hope that there would be a _____

of the _____ and the _____.

Acts 24:15

Remember this:

11. Paul said he had gone to Jerusalem to bring _____ to my

nation and to present _____. Acts 24:17

12. Although Paul was in custody, what freedoms did he have? _____

13. What three things did Paul preach about to Felix and his wife Drusilla?

_____ Acts 24: 25

14. How did Felix feel after hearing Paul preach? _____

continued

15. Did Felix really have an interest in the gospel? _____ What did he think he could get from Paul? _____



40

Paul Tried Before Festus

Acts 24:27- Acts 25: 22

Memory verse: “Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar have I committed any offense.”
Acts 25:8

(When two years had gone by Porcius Festus became governor in place of Felix.) And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

Now three days after Festus had arrived in the province, he went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea (seh-s-uh-REE-uh). And the Chief Priests and the principal men (most important men) of the Jews laid out their case against Paul, and they urged (encouraged) him, asking as a favor against Paul that he summon him (demand that he come) to Jerusalem—because they were planning an ambush to kill him on the way. Festus replied that Paul was being kept at Caesarea and that he himself intended to go there shortly. “So,” said he, “let the men of authority (men in power) among you go down with me, and if there is anything wrong about the man, let them bring charges against him.”

After he stayed among them not more than eight or ten days, he went down to Caesarea. And the next day he took his seat on the tribunal and ordered Paul to be brought. When he had arrived, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many and serious charges against him that they could not prove. Paul argued in his defense, “Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the Temple, nor against Caesar have I committed any offense.”

But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, said to Paul, “Do you wish to go up to Jerusalem and there be tried on these charges before me?”

But Paul said, “I am standing before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought to be tried. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you yourself know very well. If then I am a wrongdoer and have committed anything for which I deserve to die, I do not seek to escape death. But if there is nothing to their charges against me, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar (the Emperor of Rome).”

Then Festus, when he had conferred (spoke) with his council, answered, “To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go.”

Now when some days had passed, Agrippa the king (Herod Agrippa II) and Bernice arrived at Caesarea and greeted Festus. And as they stayed there many days, Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, "There is a man left prisoner by Felix, and when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews laid out their case against him, asking for a sentence of condemnation (punishment) against him. I answered them that it was not the custom of the Romans to give up anyone before the accused met the accusers face to face and had opportunity to make his defense concerning the charge laid against him. So when they came together here, I made no delay, but on the next day took my seat on the tribunal and ordered the man to be brought. When the accusers stood up, they brought no charge in his case of such evils as I supposed. Rather they had certain points of dispute (argument) with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus, who was dead, but whom Paul asserted (claimed) to be alive. Being at a loss how to investigate these questions, I asked whether he wanted to go to Jerusalem and be tried there regarding them. But when Paul had appealed to be kept in custody for the decision of the emperor, I ordered him to be held until I could send him to Caesar."

Then Agrippa said to Festus, "I would like to hear the man myself."
"Tomorrow," said he, "you will hear him."

Lessons to Learn: Felix left Paul in prison to do the Jews a favor.

The Jews were still trying to find a way to kill Paul.

Paul had not done anything against the law of the Jews, or the Temple,
or against Caesar.

Paul did not want to be given up to the Jews who wanted to kill him, so He
appealed to go to the Emperor Caesar.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The Jews had to go to Caesarea to bring charges against Paul.
- _____ 2. The Jews could prove many serious charges against Paul.
- _____ 3. Festus was trying to help Paul when he asked him if he wanted to go to Jerusalem to be tried.
- _____ 4. Festus said that the Jews didn't bring charge of any evils against Paul.
- _____ 5. Festus said that under Roman law the accused person had the right to meet his accusers and make his defense.

Short Answer:

6. Why did Felix leave Paul in prison? _____

7. Why did the Jews ask Festus to bring Paul to Jerusalem? _____

8. Paul said that he had done nothing wrong against the _____,
nor the _____, nor against _____.

9. To whom did Paul appeal? _____

10. What king and his sister came to visit Festus? _____

Remember this:

11. Had Paul done anything wrong to the Jews? _____

12. Paul said, "If then I am a _____ and have committed
anything for which I _____, I
do not seek to escape _____." Acts 25: 11

13. Festus told Agrippa that the Jews had a argument with Paul about

Acts 25:19
14. What did Festus say about Jesus? He was _____, but Paul
claimed _____
Acts 25: 19

41

Paul Speaks to Agrippa (part 1)

Acts 25: 23 - 26: 18

Memory verse: “I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers.” Acts 26: 6

So on the next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp (ceremony), and they entered the audience hall with the military tribunes and the prominent men of the city. Then, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought in. And Festus said, “King Agrippa and all who are present with us, you see this man about whom the whole Jewish people petitioned me, both in Jerusalem and here, shouting that he ought not to live any longer. But I found that he had done nothing deserving death. And as he himself appealed to the emperor, I decided to go ahead and send him....”

So Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.”

Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: “I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am going to make my defense today against all the accusations of the Jews, especially because you are familiar with all the customs and controversies (disagreements) of the Jews. Therefore I beg you to listen to me patiently.

“My manner of life from my youth, spent from the beginning among my own nation and in Jerusalem, is known by all the Jews. They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that according to the strictest party of our religion I have lived as a Pharisee. And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, to which our twelve tribes hope to attain (reach), as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! Why is it thought incredible (impossible to believe) by any of you that God raises the dead?

“I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme (speak against God, disrespect God, curse God), and in raging fury (great anger) against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities.

“In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission (instruction) of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on

the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ (Like an animal might kick against the prod used to drive them in a certain direction.) And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen Me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.’

Lessons to Learn: Herod Agrippa II and his sister Bernice wanted to hear about Paul.

Paul was on trial because of his belief in Christ and the gospel.

Jesus Christ sent Paul to the Gentiles so they could receive forgiveness of sins.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Festus decided to send Paul to the emperor because he deserved to be put to death.
- _____ 2. Agrippa knew about all the customs and disagreements of the Jews.
- _____ 3. The Jews knew about the life Paul had lived as a Pharisee.
- _____ 4. Paul didn’t tell Agrippa about how he had persecuted Christians.
- _____ 5. Jesus appeared to Paul so that Paul could be a witness of the things which he saw in Him.

Short Answer:

6. Festus says that the whole Jewish people shouted that Paul _____

7. Festus said that Paul had done nothing _____

8. Paul punished Christians and tried to make them _____
 which means _____ God.
9. Jesus appeared to Paul to appoint him as a _____
 and _____ to the things he had seen. Acts 25:19
10. Who had given Paul the authority to go to Damascus to persecute
 Christians? _____

Remember this:

11. Paul said, "I stand here on trial because of my _____ in the
 _____ made by _____ to our fathers.
12. Paul thought he was doing the right thing when he persecuted
 Christians, what emotion (feeling) did he feel against them?
- _____

13. Paul's preaching to the Gentiles would do many important things for
 them. Fill in the blanks to complete what Jesus said to Paul.

**"...I am sending you to open their _____, so that they may
 turn from _____ to _____ and from the power
 of _____ to _____, that they may receive
 _____ of _____ and a place among
 those who are sanctified by _____ in Me."**

42

Paul Speaks to Agrippa (part 2)

Acts 26: 19 – 32

Memory verse: “Agrippa said to Paul, ‘In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.’” Acts 26: 28

(Paul continues his story of what happened on the way to Damascus.)

“Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.” But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.”

And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.”

And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am (a Christian) —except for these chains.”

Then the king rose, and the governor and Bernice and those who were sitting with them. And when they had withdrawn, they said to one another, “This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment.”

And Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

Lessons to Learn: When a person repents and turns to God, he must bring forth fruits of repentance. (deeds/actions that show that a person has repented)

The prophets had foretold that Christ would die and bring salvation to Jews and Gentiles.

Festus, Agrippa, and the other people with them knew that Paul hadn't done anything worthy of being put in prison or being put to death.

God had plans for Paul in Rome.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul taught that when a person repents, he must perform or do deeds (works) in keeping with his repentance.
- _____ 2. Paul was saying something different from what the prophets and Moses had said.
- _____ 3. Paul was sure that Agrippa had noticed the things going on with Christ and the church.
- _____ 4. Paul wished that Agrippa and everyone who heard him would become Christians.
- _____ 5. Agrippa said that Festus could set Paul free.

Short Answer:

6. To whom did Paul preach? Fill in the blanks.

“I...declared first to those in _____ then in _____ and throughout all the region of _____, and also to the _____.”
Acts 26:19

7. Paul taught the same things that the _____ and _____ said would come to pass. Acts 26:22

8. What did Festus say had driven Paul out of his mind? _____

9. Fill in the blanks to tell what Paul taught about Christ.

“Christ must _____ and that by being the first
to _____, he would
proclaim _____ both to our _____ and
to the _____.” Acts 26:23

10. Who is the “our people” in the verse above? _____

11. Did King Agrippa believe the prophets? _____

Remember this:

12. What did King Agrippa answer when Paul asked him if he believed the prophets?

13. Paul wished everyone who heard him preach would become like him, a
Christian, but _____

14. What did Festus, Agrippa, and the others say about whether Paul was
guilty? _____

15. Why could Paul not be set free?

16. Paul would have to go to Rome to see Caesar, and God had told Paul that *“as you have testified to the facts about Me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.”* – God was taking care of Paul, so Paul could do His work.

43

Paul Sails for Rome

Acts 27: 1- 26

Memory verse: “An angel of the God to whom I belong...said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar.’” Acts 27: 24

And when it was decided that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion ...named Julius. And embarking in a ship (leaving onboard a ship),... which was about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus (a-rə- ' stār-kəs), a Macedonian from Thessalonica (thes'uh-loh-NI-kah). The next day we put in at Sidon (sī' dun). And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him leave to go to his friends and be cared for.

And putting out to sea from there we sailed under the lee (side sheltered from the wind) of Cyprus (sī-prəs), because the winds were against us. And when we had sailed across the open sea along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia. There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria (Egypt) sailing for Italy and put us on board. We sailed slowly for a number of days...and as the wind did not allow us to go farther, we sailed under the lee of Crete...Coasting along it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens...

Since much time had passed, and the voyage was now dangerous because (of the late time of year), Paul advised them, saying, “Sirs, I perceive (realize) that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.” But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said. And because the harbor was not suitable to spend the winter in, the majority decided to put out to sea from there, on the chance that somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete (kreet), ...and spend the winter there.

Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose (they thought they could make it to the harbor), they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore. But soon a tempestuous (stormy) wind, called the northeaster, struck down from the land. And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along...we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat. After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship (passed ropes under the ship to hold it together). Then, fearing that they

would run aground on the Syrtis (sur-tis), they lowered the gear (anchor), and thus they were driven along.

Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the cargo (throw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship). And on the third day they threw the ship's tackle (ropes, chains, etc. to work the sails) overboard with their own hands. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest (a violent storm) lay on us, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned.

Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred (brought about) this injury and loss. Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, and He said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.' So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told. But we must run aground on some island."

Lessons to Learn: God was still taking care of Paul, and the centurion treated Paul well.

The storm became so bad that the sailors strengthened the ship, dropped the anchor, lightened the load, and threw the ship's ropes overboard.

God told Paul that he and everyone sailing with him would be safe.

Luke uses "we" because he is with Paul on the ship.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul, Luke, and Aristarchus were on the ship to Italy.
- _____ 2. After some time, the voyage was dangerous because it was nearly winter.
- _____ 3. The northeaster was a gentle wind that the sailors thought they could use to get to the harbor.
- _____ 4. During the storm, the men did not eat for several days.
- _____ 5. An angel of God said that nothing would happen to the ship.

Short Answer:

6. What did Julius do that showed how kind he was to Paul? _____

7. The second ship on which Paul sailed was from _____

8. How did the sailors strengthen the ship by undergirding it? _____

9. Why did the sailors throw the cargo and ropes overboard? _____

10. The people on the ship lost hope of being saved after _____

_____ and a

Remember this:

11. To what city in Italy was Paul sailing? _____

12. Why did Paul tell the men to take heart or be encouraged? _____

13. How did Paul know that no one would die? _____

14. What did Paul say would have to happen, even though no one would die? _____

15. Paul encouraged the men by saying, “**So take heart, men, for I have**

_____ **in** _____ **that it will be** _____

as I have been told.” Acts 27:25

44

Paul Is Shipwrecked

Acts 27: 27- 44

Memory verse: “I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.” Acts 27: 25

When the fourteenth night had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing land. So they took a sounding and found twenty fathoms (deep). A little farther on they took a sounding again and found fifteen fathoms. And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern (back) and prayed for day to come.

And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea...Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.” Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it go.

As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, “Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing. Therefore I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish (die) from the head of any of you.” And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat. Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves. (We were in all 276 persons in the ship.) And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.

Now when it was day, they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned, if possible, to run the ship ashore. So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders (that steer the ship). Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made for the beach. But striking a reef, they ran the vessel aground. The bow (front) stuck and remained immovable, and the stern (back) was being broken up by the surf (waves).

The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any should swim away and escape. But the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land, and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.

Lessons to Learn: Paul believed that things would happen just exactly as God had told him.

Fathoms were measurements of how deep the water was.

Everyone had to stay in the ship to be saved.

Paul was a good example to the other people on the ship when he gave thanks for his food where they could all see him.

Once again, Paul was saved because the centurion wanted him to be alive.

True or False:

- _____ 1. When the sailors measured to see how deep the sea was, they were right that they were getting closer to land.
- _____ 2. Some sailors escaped on the ship's boat.
- _____ 3. The people on the ship had gone two weeks without food.
- _____ 4. The sailors let down anchors so they wouldn't run into land.
- _____ 5. The soldiers wanted to kill the prisoners, but the centurion didn't let them.

Short Answer:

6. When the sailors thought they might run into rocks, they _____
_____ and _____

for day to come.

7. What had no one done for fourteen days during the storm? _____

8. What did the sailors plan to do on the beach that they saw? _____

9. How did the ship get torn up? _____

10. Why did the soldiers want to kill the prisoners? _____

Remember this:

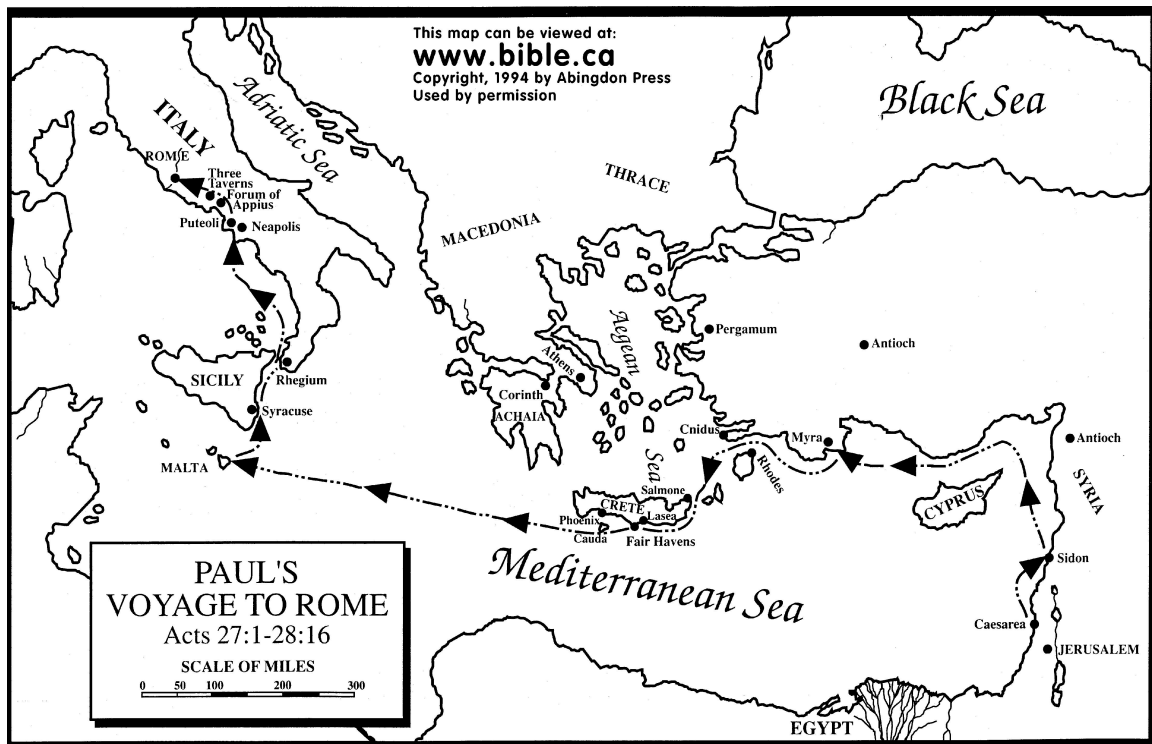
11. Why did the sailors cut the ship's boat loose and let it go in the sea?

12. How was Paul a good example to the other people on the ship?

13. Sometimes God's plans for his people also help people around them.
Why were the prisoners not killed?

14. Can you think of any other times when God took care of someone and it helped many people?

15. Circle Rome on the map. Trace the line from Caesarea to Malta. Color the island of Cyprus blue and the island of Crete green.



45

Paul on Malta

Acts 28:1- 14

Memory verse: “Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the sea.” II Corinthians 11: 25

After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. The native people showed us unusual kindness, for they kindled (started) a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold. When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper (a venomous snake) came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.”

He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune (trouble) come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably (in a friendly and welcoming way) for three days. It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery (diarrhea). And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him healed him. And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of Alexandria (Egypt), with the twin gods (Roman idols –Castor and Pollux) as a figurehead (carved wooden decoration on the front of a ship). Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days. And from there we made a circuit (circle) and arrived at Rhegium (RE g ee um). And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli (pyoo tee' ohlee). There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days.

Lessons to Learn: God was with Paul and saved him from the snake. The people on the island thought Paul must be bad if the snake bit him. They

thought he would die. But, good and bad things happen to both good and bad people.

Paul was able to do miracles because God was with him.

True or False:

- _____ 1. The people who lived on Malta were kind to the people who had been shipwrecked.
- _____ 2. The people of Malta first believed that Paul was a god and then that he must be a murderer.
- _____ 3. Normally, the snakebite would cause someone to swell up or die.
- _____ 4. Paul was able to cure the diseases of the people on the island of Malta.
- _____ 5. Paul and the other people who had been shipwrecked stayed on Malta for three months.

Short Answer:

6. What was Paul doing when the snake bit him? _____

7. Why didn't the snake hurt Paul? _____

8. Who was the chief man of the island? _____

9. What was wrong with the chief man's father? _____

10. What did Paul do before healing the father? _____

11. Who were the "brothers" that Paul and his friends stayed with?

Jews

Family

Christians

Continued

Remember this:

12. The people of Malta were superstitious. They believed some things without any reason or knowledge to support what they believed. What did they say that shows that they are superstitious?

13. What do we know since Paul was able to do miracles and cure diseases? Remember what we learned about miracles in lessons before.

14. Circle Malta and the cities mentioned in this lesson on the map below. Underline the city to which Paul was going to see Ceasar.



46

Paul Preaches in Rome

Acts 28:15-31

Memory verse: “It is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.” Acts 28: 20

And so we came to Rome. And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.

After three days he (Paul) called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, “Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. When they had examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case. But because the Jews objected, I was compelled (forced) to appeal to Caesar—though I had no charge to bring against my nation. For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.”

And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you. But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect (religious group) we know that everywhere it is spoken against.”

When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging (place where he was staying) in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded (explained) to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets. And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved. And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: ‘Go to this people, and say, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive (understand).” For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see

with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’

Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.”

He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness (courage) and without hindrance (without anything stopping him).

Lessons to Learn: Paul was preaching about Jesus in Rome just as God had told him that he would do.

The Jews in Rome wanted to hear more about the gospel and Christians. Some people believed Paul and some did not. God gives people the right to choose whether to obey Him or not.

True or False:

- _____ 1. Paul felt better after seeing the Christians who had come from other cities to meet him.
- _____ 2. Paul was in chains because he had done things against the customs of the Jews.
- _____ 3. No Jews from Judea had sent letters or told the Jews in Rome anything evil about Paul.
- _____ 4. Paul was trying to teach the Jews about Jesus using the Law of Moses and the Prophets.
- _____ 5. Jeremiah the prophet had told about the Jews who would hear and see but not understand God’s word.

Short Answer:

6. How was Paul allowed to live when he got to Rome? _____

7. Paul said he was delivered as a prisoner to the Romans even though he had done nothing _____

8. What did the Romans want to do with Paul because he hadn't done anything worthy of death? _____

9. What did the Jews say they had heard about this sect (religious group) -- Christians?

10. How long did Paul stay there preaching? _____

Remember this:

11. Christians can help each other when a person is sad, persecuted, or troubled. Christians came from as far away as 43 miles to meet Paul when he got to Rome. Why was that travel harder than today's travel?

12. Isaiah said about the Jews, "With their ears they can barely _____, and their eyes they have _____;"

13. Whose fault was it that the Jews could not understand? _____

14. Paul said he was in chains for the hope of Israel. The hope of Israel was the hope of the Messiah coming and the hope of resurrection from the dead. Who was the Messiah and what does "Messiah" mean? _____

15. When Jesus was resurrected it proved that He is the Son of _____

16. Why did some people believe Paul preaching from the Law of Moses and the Prophets, and some did not believe?
