

TEACHER RESOURCE

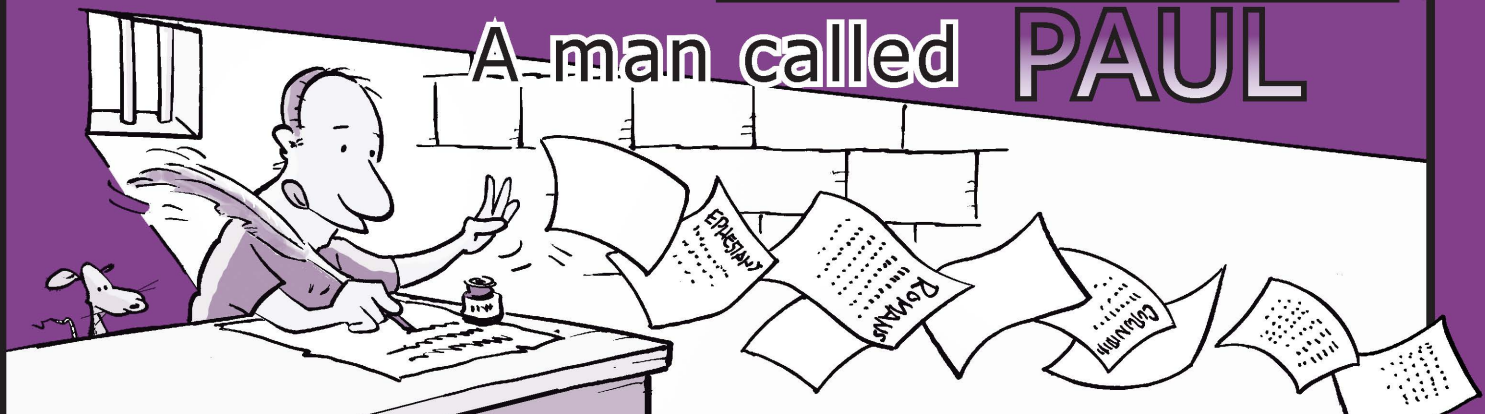
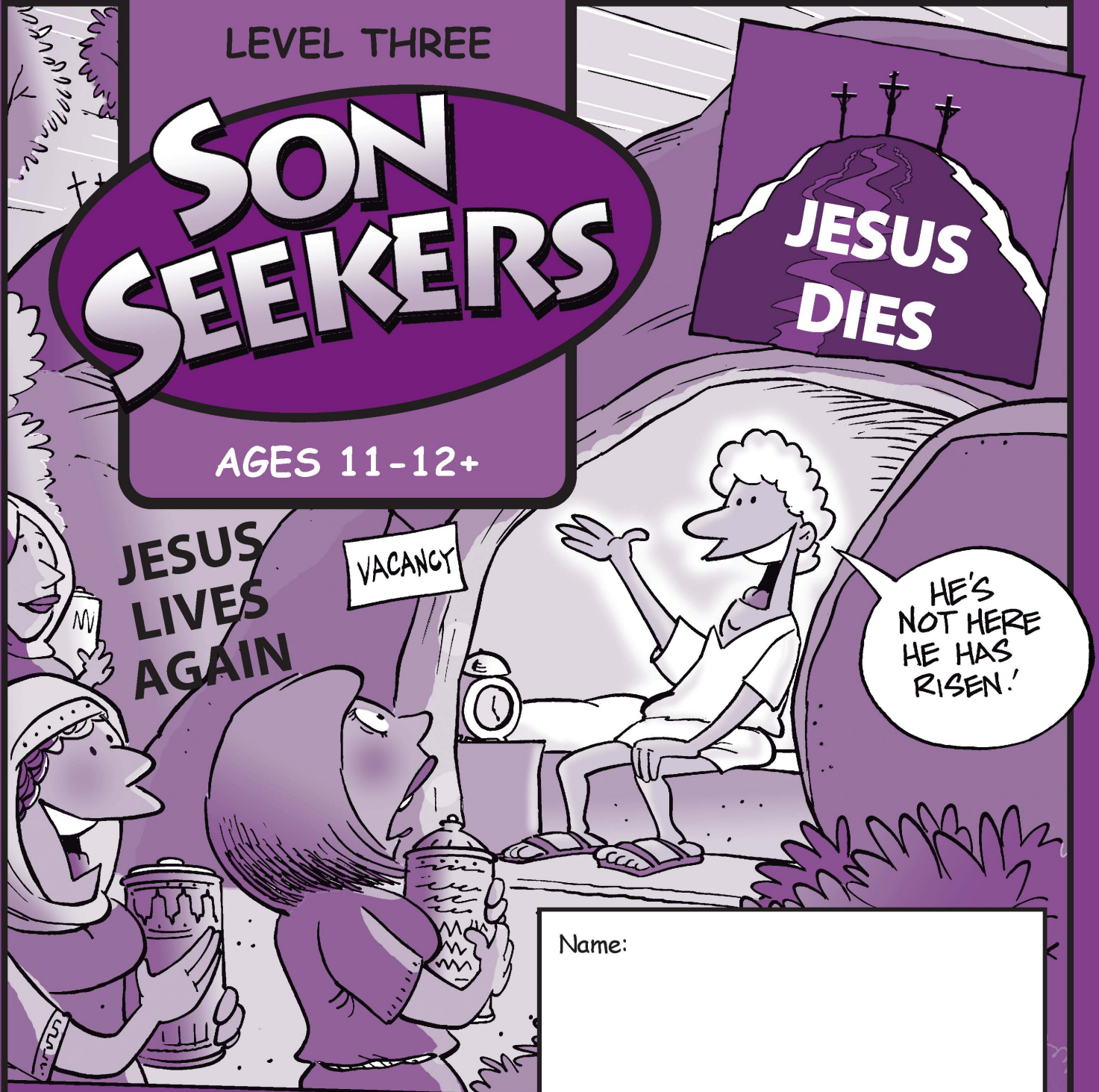
UNIT 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey

LEVEL THREE

SON SEEKERS

AGES 11-12+



Teacher Resource

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Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

The Sonseekers Team

A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

Timeline

	<i>Creation</i>
4000BC	<i>Adam and Eve</i>
	<i>The Fall</i>
2500BC	<i>Noah</i>
	<i>The Flood</i>
	<i>Tower of Babel</i>
2000BC	<i>Abraham</i>
1900BC	<i>Isaac</i>
1800BC	<i>Esau and Jacob</i>
1750BC	<i>Joseph</i>
1360BC	<i>Moses</i>
1280BC	<i>Exodus from Egypt</i>
	<i>and Journeys</i>
	<i>Joshua</i>
1240BC	<i>Entry into and</i>
	<i>Conquest of Land</i>
1220BC	<i>Judges</i>
1100BC	<i>Gideon</i>
1070BC	<i>Samson</i>
1063BC	<i>Samuel</i>
1020BC	<i>Saul as King</i>
980BC	<i>David as King</i>
940BC	<i>Solomon as King</i>
900BC	<i>Kingdom Divided</i>
839BC	<i>Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel</i>
	<i>Jehoshaphat</i>
814BC	<i>Elisha's Ministry</i>
749BC	<i>Jonah</i>
662BC	<i>Hezekiah; Isaiah</i>
576BC	<i>Josiah</i>
540BC	<i>Daniel taken to Babylon</i>
527BC	<i>Exile into Babylon</i>
457BC	<i>Restoration from Babylon</i>
4BC	<i>Birth of Jesus</i>
26AD	<i>Baptism of Jesus</i>
	<i>Call of Disciples</i>
28AD	<i>Feeding of 5000</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
29AD	<i>Miracles; Transfiguration</i>
30AD	<i>Raising of Lazarus</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
	<i>Jesus' Crucifixion and</i>
	<i>Resurrection</i>
	<i>Day of Pentecost</i>
	<i>Peter's Ministry</i>
33AD	<i>Conversion of Paul</i>
45AD	<i>Paul's Missionary Journeys</i>
60AD	<i>Paul as Prisoner to Rome</i>

What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to Year 6 age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	5 - 6	Prep, Year 1
Level Two	7 - 10	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
Level Three	11 - 12+	Year 5, Year 6

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities.

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

What's in my Sonseekers

Level Three Teacher Resource?

Each Level Three Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- the key thought or focus for the lesson;
- a suggested way to introduce the lesson;
- a summary of the relevant bible story;
- a memory verse for the lesson, together with a suggested way of teaching that verse;
- an activity which can be used in the lesson;
- a number of extra ideas involving fun, practical activities.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in this Teacher Resource book.

.../cont'd

... teacher's guide ...

How do I best use my Teacher Resource?

The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

Prior to the lesson

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
 - that you know how to do it yourself;
 - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
 - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

During the lesson

- ◆ Review the memory verse from the previous lesson with the children. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.

Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-44;
Matthew 21:1-17;
Mark 11:1-11;
John 12:12-19

Storyline

As Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, He sent two of His disciples to fetch a colt so that He might enter the city. In doing this, Jesus was fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9, "Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey". As He neared Jerusalem, His disciples rejoiced and praised God because they saw their King approaching. The Pharisees became indignant at this, but could do nothing to stop the declaration of the coming King. Jesus wept over Jerusalem knowing this could have been their day of salvation, but rather that this would be the storing up of the wrath for the judgement that was to come upon them.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss various aspects of the story -

- Why were the disciples and people rejoicing?
- Why did Jesus weep?
- How is Jesus King in our lives?
- What does this mean for us?

Do we really believe "who Jesus is" and honour Him as our King?

Theme One

"Behold your King is coming"

The disciples, recognising the kingship of Jesus by the mighty works He had done, rejoiced and praised God. The Pharisees, however, not recognising Jesus as more than a teacher, were angry and wanted Jesus to restrain the people from praising Him. Jesus replied that if the people did not praise Him, the stones would cry out.

Key Thought

Mighty works are wrought by a mighty God. He is to be praised.

Aim

To encourage the children not to take lightly the mighty works they see or hear of God doing, but rather to recognise God as their King and respond by praising Him.

Memory Verse

"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." (John 12:15).

Theme Two

"Honouring Jesus our King"

True worth and honour should be given to those who rightly deserve it. The children in Jerusalem were excited at the coming of Jesus because they knew He was the King. They expressed this by singing "Hosanna". We, too, can give worth and honour to Jesus.

Key Thought

By accepting Jesus as King, we must also give Him honour and sing of His worth-ship (worship).

Aim

For the children to know Him as King and to learn to glorify Him by our lives.

Memory Verse

"And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords." (Revelation 19:16).

Activity A - Science Experiment

Aim

- This experiment is to highlight how we can be blinded by the way we think or look at things.

Materials

- Scissors.
- Strong cardboard tubes from Gladwrap or Alfoil.
- Rubber bands.
- 2 or 3 different colours of cellophane.
- Sheets of white paper.
- Felt pens to match the cellophane.

Steps

- Cut the tubes into 6 cm lengths (one per child).
- Cut the cellophane into 8 cm squares (one per child).
- Give each child a tube, square of cellophane, felt pen to match, rubber band and white paper.
- Place the cellophane over one end of the tube and secure it with the rubber band.
- Each child writes their memory verse on their white paper, then looks at it through the tube. Discuss what happens. Look at it through a different coloured tube. Discuss.

Group Discussion

- There were those who recognized Jesus as the Son of God and those who didn't. Sometimes we can't see what is there. Some people don't recognize who Jesus is – their observations are 'coloured', just as seeing the verse through cellophane causes us to not see what is really there. We need to have clear spiritual eyes that can see what God is showing us and not be coloured by our own ideas.

Activity B - Newspaper Story

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- 2 pieces of dowel per child about 23 cm in length (optional).
- Glue or stapler (optional).

Steps

- The children should complete the newspaper article by filling in the blank spaces.
- Where a Bible reference is given, the children should write in the Scripture verse indicated. All references are from Luke 19:28-44.
- If desired, the sheet could be made into a scroll.
- Glue or staple and thread the dowel through.
- It can then be rolled up to look like a scroll.



Palm Sunday

Activity B – Newspaper Story

THE JERUSALEM TIMES

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2 DENARII

Jesus is coming!!!

Rejoicing in the streets.

It is reported that Jesus Christ has entered the city of Observers claim that Jesus sent two of His to collect a

..... on which no one ever sat. He reportedly said (v30)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

As Jesus rode along the road, many spread their own before Him. Wild scenes of celebration broke

out with many of Jesus' disciples openly rejoicing and praising God. One observer who was interviewed claimed they used the words (v38)

.....
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.....
.....

Jesus weeps.

Some who were present in the crowd apparently told Jesus to rebuke His disciples. He reportedly replied (v40), "I tell you that if these should keep silent the would immediately

cry out." Many of those interviewed claimed Jesus when He saw the city of His statements focused on the destruction of the city. (vs 43-44) He said, "For the days will come upon you when your will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another."

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The last supper and Gethsemane

Matthew 26:1-56;
Mark 14:1-52;
Luke 22:1-62;
John 13:1-2,18-30;
18:1-27

Storyline

Jesus knew that during the Passover He would be crucified. The chief priests, scribes and elders met with Caiaphas, the high priest, plotting to kill Him. At this time Judas Iscariot accepted 30 pieces of silver to betray Jesus. Jesus celebrated the Passover Feast with His disciples knowing full well that Judas planned to betray Him. At the Feast He instituted the Lord's Supper and also predicted Peter's denial. Jesus took some of the disciples with Him to Gethsemane and asked them to wait while He prayed. He prayed that, if it were possible, the cup would pass from Him, but made it clear that He wanted God's will to be done. He was very disappointed that the disciples fell asleep instead of praying. Judas betrayed Jesus to the soldiers who came to Gethsemane and He was taken before the Sanhedrin.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Go through the events of these days preceding the crucifixion and tell the story so that the children have a good idea of sequence of events and of the deeper meanings of each happening.

Theme One

"Communion - The last supper"

When Jesus knew that the time was nearing for Him to die, He had a special meal with His disciples and introduced the communion to them. He wants us to share this communion meal with Him regularly.

Key Thought

Jesus gave Himself for us – we celebrate this at communion.

Aim

To help the children understand that when we celebrate communion we rejoice because Jesus gave Himself for us.

Memory Verse

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Theme Two

"Jesus was obedient"

Jesus' life was an example for all of us. Jesus always did the Father's will; He only did and said what the Father told Him to do and say. Do we live doing the will of God or are we often self-centred, trying to go our own way?

Key Thought

All through His ministry Jesus knew that He was going to be crucified by those He had come to save. Not once did He seek His own safety and happiness but lived doing the will of the Father who sent Him.

Aim

For the children to realise that a true Christian delights to do the Father's will.

Memory Verse

"He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked." (1 John 2:6).

Activity A - Coded Message

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- Starting at the letter 'J' the children write every second letter onto the spaces below to find out the message. They have to go around the circle twice.

Answer

- JESUS TOOK BREAD AND SAID, "TAKE, EAT; THIS IS MY BODY."

Find the message written around the circle by writing every second letter as you go in a clockwise direction. You will need to go twice around the circle. Print the message on the lines given below.



Activity B - Scripture Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children look up the verses in Matthew 26 and write out what Jesus said in each situation.

By reading Matthew 26, see what Jesus had to say in these situations.

The woman anointing Jesus.



Matthew 26:12
 "For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial."

The Last Supper.



Matthew 26:21
 "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me."

Jesus finds the disciples sleeping.

Matthew 26:40

"What, could you not watch with Me one hour?"



Jesus talking to Peter.



Matthew 26:34
 "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

The last supper and Gethsemane

Activity A – Coded Message

Find the message written around the circle by writing every second letter as you go in a clockwise direction. You will need to go twice around the circle. Print the message on the lines given below.



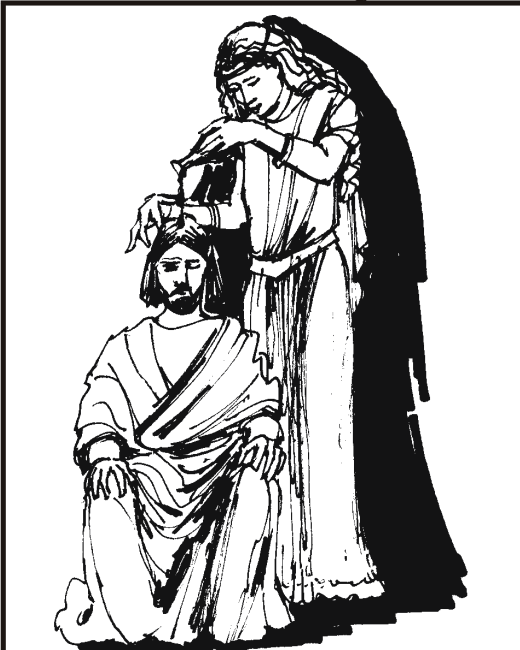
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The last supper and Gethsemane

Activity B – Scripture Search

By reading Matthew 26, see what Jesus had to say in these situations.

The woman anointing Jesus.



Matthew 26:12

The Last Supper.



Matthew 26:21

Jesus finds the disciples sleeping.

Matthew 26:40



Jesus talking to Peter.



Matthew 26:34

The crucifixion

Matthew 26:57 –

27:66;

Mark 15;

Luke 22:63 – 23:56;

John 18:19 – 19:42

Storyline

After His arrest Jesus was taken to the Sanhedrin where He was accused of blaspheming because He said that He was the Son of God. At this same time, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, as Jesus had warned him. Next day Jesus was taken to Pilate, who marvelled at Him, and could find no fault with Him. He offered to release a prisoner as was the custom, but the people chose Barabbas and shouted for Jesus to be crucified. Jesus was scourged and given to the soldiers. They clothed Him in purple and gave Him a crown of thorns. After mocking Him they led Him to be crucified between two robbers. Just before He died He cried out to God and the veil of the temple was torn in two. Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for permission to take Jesus' body to his tomb. Jesus' mother and friends stood by watching sadly.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1. Discuss Jesus' death on the cross for us. How are we to live, knowing that Jesus died for us?

Theme 2. Discuss Jesus' reactions and words to those around Him during this time. Comment on His love, patience, forbearance and His forgiveness of those who wronged Him.

Theme One

“Jesus died for us”

Everybody is born sinful. Our sin separates us from God and affects our lives. God sent Jesus to die so that our sins can be forgiven and taken away from us.

Key Thought

Jesus took the punishment for sin. He was punished instead of us.

Aim

For the children to know Jesus forgives our sins, if we put our trust in Him.

Memory Verse

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8).

Theme Two

“God gives us strength to obey”

Jesus did not try to justify or save Himself. His greatest witness was that He suffered in silence, did not become angry with pain and unjust accusations, and most importantly He cried out for God to forgive those who crucified Him.

Key Thought

Such was Jesus' submission to His Father's will that He accepted all that was done to Him without defending Himself.

Aim

For the children to realise that obeying the will of God is not easy, but can be done in His strength.

Memory Verse

“The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.” (Psalm 29:11).

Activity A - Name the Speaker

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Bibles.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children look up the Scriptures to find out who said it.



1. "My kingdom is not of this world." John 18:36	<u>Jesus</u>
2. "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him." Matt 27:19	<u>Pilate's wife</u>
3. "Friend, why have you come?" Matt 26:50	<u>Jesus</u>
4. "I do not know the Man." Matt 26:72	<u>Peter</u>
5. "What is truth?" John 18:38	<u>Pilate</u>
6. "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." Matt 27:4	<u>Judas</u>
7. "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." Matt 26:75	<u>Jesus</u>
8. "Do You answer nothing? What is it that these men testify against You?" Matt 26:62	<u>High Priest</u>
9. "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" John 19:15	<u>Jews</u>
10. "Truly this was the Son of God!" Matt 27:54	<u>Centurion/guard</u>
11. "I thirst!" John 19:28	<u>Jesus</u>
12. "Mary!" John 20:16	<u>Jesus</u>
13. "We have seen the Lord." John 20:25	<u>Mary</u>
14. "But go and tell His disciples - and Peter - that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." Mark 16:7	<u>Angel</u>

Activity B - Who Am I

Materials

- Pens/pencils/paper/Bibles.
- Prizes (if desired).

Steps

- Read out the "Who am I" statements below one at a time, asking the children to call out the answer when they think they know who the person is.
- If a child guesses on the first clue, they get 5 points; on the second clue, 3 points; and on the third clue, 1 point.
- Then have each of the children make up a "Who am I?" question using any Bible character (they may need their Bibles for this).
- In turn they present their question to the class. If their question is guessed on the first clue, the child who guesses gets 5 points and the child who made up the questions gets 1 point; on the second clue they both get 3 points; on the third clue, the child who guesses gets 1 point and the child who made up the questions gets 5 points. If no-one guesses after three clues the child must keep adding clues until someone does guess. Give the child another 2 points for each extra clue, and the child who guesses can still receive 1 point.
- Add up the children's points and see who is the winner.

"Who Am I?" statements

- * My appearance was like lightning.
- * My clothes were white as snow.
- * I rolled the stone away from the entrance to Jesus' tomb and sat on it.

Answer: the Angel

- * I am a rich man from Arimathea.
- * I am a follower of Jesus.
- * Jesus was placed in the unused cave, which was to be my tomb.

Answer: Joseph of Arimathea

- * We followed Jesus from Galilee to care for His needs.
- * From a distance, we watched Jesus die.
- * Early on Easter morning, we brought spices to Jesus' tomb to preserve His body.

Answer: The two Marys

- * It was my job to watch Jesus die.
- * I felt the earthquake, saw rocks split, and saw dead people come alive when Jesus died.
- * I said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Answer: Roman soldier or centurion.

The crucifixion

Activity A – Name the Speaker



1. "My kingdom is not of this world." John 18:36 _____
2. "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him." Matt 27:19 _____
3. "Friend, why have you come?" Matt 26:50 _____
4. "I do not know the Man." Matt 26:72 _____
5. "What is truth?" John 18:38 _____
6. "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." Matt 27:4 _____
7. "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." Matt 26:75 _____
8. "Do You answer nothing? What is it that these men testify against You?" Matt 26:62 _____
9. "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" John 19:15 _____
10. "Truly this was the Son of God!" Matt 27:54 _____
11. "I thirst!" John 19:28 _____
12. "Mary!" John 20:16 _____
13. "We have seen the Lord." John 20:25 _____
14. "But go and tell His disciples - and Peter - that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." Mark 16:7 _____

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The resurrection

Storyline

Mary, the mother of James, and Mary Magdalene rose early on the first day of the week to complete the embalming of Jesus' body. They found the stone covering the tomb's entrance rolled away. An angel nearby explained that Jesus had risen. They ran to tell the disciples what had happened and that Jesus commanded them to meet Him in Galilee. Peter and John also checked the empty tomb. Meanwhile, some of the tomb guards went into Jerusalem and told the chief priests all that had happened. The chief priests paid the guards to spread the story that Jesus' disciples had stolen His body during the night.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Go through the "first day of the week" events with the children. Revise the verses where Jesus had previously talked with the disciples and explained that He would rise again. Discuss what it means to believe in God's word, and how we can have relationship with Jesus every day.

Theme One

"Jesus is risen"

Jesus died on the cross and was buried in the tomb, but after three days He rose again. Jesus is alive today and we can know Him too.

Key Thought

Jesus' resurrection was forever. He is alive today for us to know Him.

Aim

To help the children understand that although they cannot see Jesus, He is alive and they can know Him and talk to Him every day.

Memory Verse

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." (John 11:25).

Theme Two

"We can believe God's word"

Jesus' disciples found it hard to believe that Jesus would rise from the dead. God has made many promises in His word. He wants us to believe Him and His word.

Key Thought

God's word is true and we can depend on it.

Aim

To help the children understand that they can believe in God and the things the Bible tells us.

Memory Verse

"He who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life." (John 5:24).

Activity A - Bible Verse Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet (cut out the Scripture strips). You need enough for one per child, but note each Bible verse is divided into three parts and each part will have to be matched up with the other parts of the verse. To get the right configuration for the number of children in your class, you may need to keep some of the parts of the verse together so a particular verse is only divided into two. You probably won't need all the verses unless you have a really large class or would like spares for some to have a second go.
- Balloons (one for each member of your class).
- Bibles.
- Concordances.

Steps

At Home

- Place a Scripture strip from the Activity Sheet in each balloon, blow the balloons up and tie them.

In Class

- Each child takes a balloon and bursts it however they can.
- When they have their piece of paper out of their balloon, they have to find the people with the other parts of their verse.
- When all the children think they are matched up correctly, have them use the concordance to find their verse in the Bible to check that they are correct, and then read it out to the rest of the class. The Scriptures are found in: Matthew 28:5-6; Matthew 28:6-7; Mark 16:1; John 20:6-7; Luke 24:6-7.

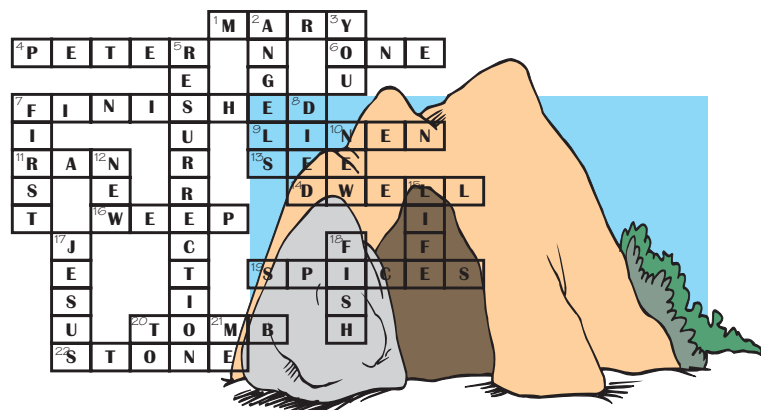
Activity B - Crossword

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children write the missing words in the clues and then complete the crossword.



Fill in the blanks below with the word that best fits the verse, then complete the puzzle.

Across

- _____ went to the tomb. (John 20:1).
- _____ and another disciple started for the tomb. (John 20:3).
- There is _____ Lord. (Ephesians 4:5).
- Just before He died, Jesus said, "It is _____!" (John 19:30).
- Only strips of _____ were in the tomb. (John 20:6).
- The disciples _____ to the tomb. (John 20:4).
- Thomas said he would not believe unless he could _____ the print of the nails in His hands. (John 20:25).
- An old word that means live. "I will _____ in the house of the Lord." (Psalms 23:6).
- Mary stood outside the tomb, _____ ing. (John 20:11).
- Two friends of Jesus wrapped His body with the _____, in strips of linen. (John 19:40).
- Mary went here early on Easter morning. (John 20:1).
- She saw that the _____ had been removed from the entrance. (John 20:1).

Down

- She saw two _____ dressed in white. (John 20:12).
- "These are written that _____ may believe." (John 20:31).
- Jesus said, "I am the _____ and the life." (John 11:25).
- Jesus rose on the _____ day of the week. (John 20:1).
- Jesus _____ for our sins. (1 Corinthians 15:3).
- Jesus was put in a _____ tomb. (John 19:41-42).
- Jesus said, "A _____ commandment I give to you, that you love one another." (John 13:34).
- "Believing you may have _____ in His name." (John 20:31).
- Mary thought _____ was the gardener. (John 20:15-16).
- The risen Jesus cooked a breakfast of _____ for His disciples. (John 21:9).
- While it was still dark, Mary went _____ the tomb. (John 20:1).
- Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of _____." (Luke 22:19).

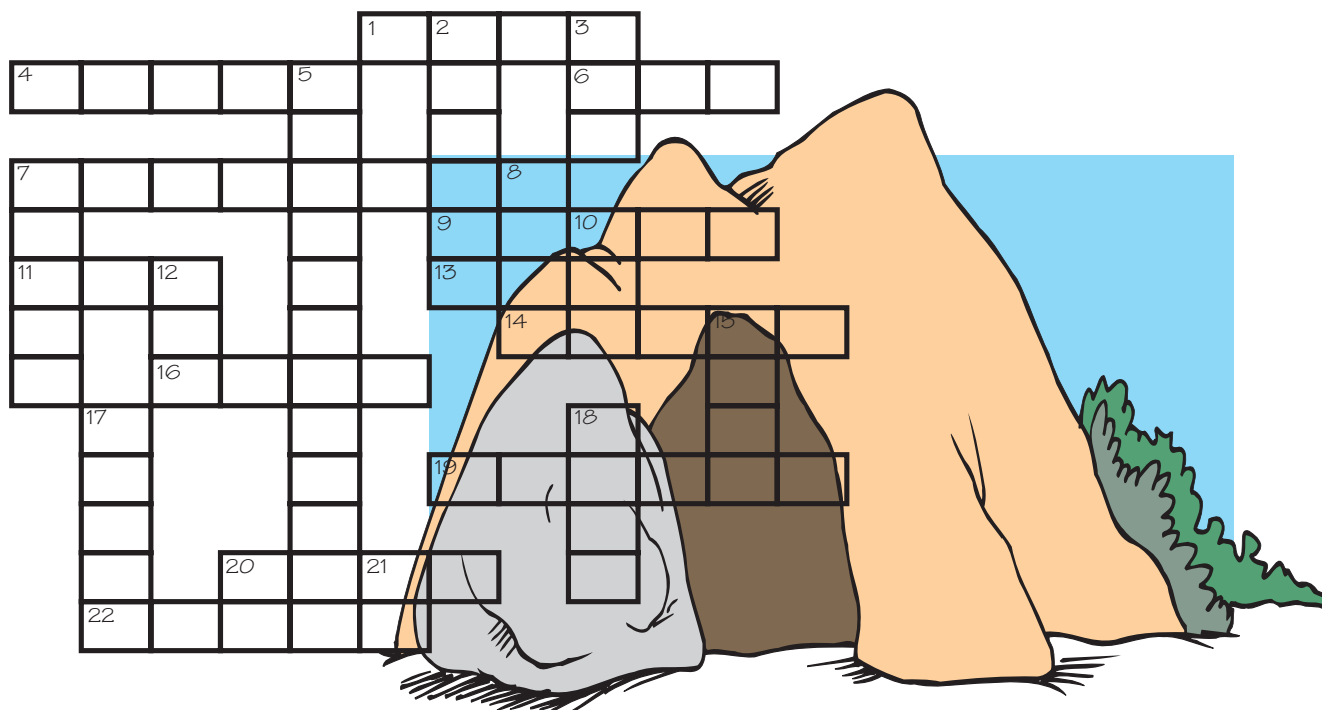
The resurrection

Activity A – Bible Verse Quiz

"The angel answered and said to the women, 'Do not be afraid
for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here;
for He is risen, as He said.'"
"Come, see the place where the Lord lay.
And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead,
and indeed He is going before you into Galilee."
"Now when the Sabbath was past,
Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James,
and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him."
"Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw
the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His
head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself."
"He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was
still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands
of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'"

The resurrection

Activity A – Crossword



Fill in the blanks below with the word that best fits the verse, then complete the puzzle.

Across

1. _____ went to the tomb. (John 20:1).
4. _____ and another disciple started for the tomb. (John 20:3).
6. There is _____ Lord. (Ephesians 4:5).
7. Just before He died, Jesus said, "It is _____!" (John 19:30).
9. Only strips of _____ were in the tomb. (John 20:6).
11. The disciples _____ to the tomb. (John 20:4).
13. Thomas said he would not believe unless he could _____ the print of the nails in His hands. (John 20:25).
14. An old word that means live. "I will _____ in the house of the Lord." (Psalm 23:6).
16. Mary stood outside the tomb, _____ ing. (John 20:11).
19. Two friends of Jesus wrapped His body with the _____, in strips of linen. (John 19:40).
20. Mary went here early on Easter morning. (John 20:1).
22. She saw that the _____ had been removed from the entrance. (John 20:1).

Down

2. She saw two _____ dressed in white. (John 20:12).
3. "These are written that _____ may believe." (John 20:31).
5. Jesus said, "I am the _____ and the life." (John 11:25).
7. Jesus rose on the _____ day of the week. (John 20:1).
8. Jesus _____ for our sins. (1 Corinthians 15:3).
10. Jesus was put in a _____ tomb. (John 19:41-42).
12. Jesus said, "A _____ commandment I give to you, that you love one another." (John 13:34).
15. "Believing you may have _____ in His name." (John 20:31).
17. Mary thought _____ was the gardener. (John 20:15-16).
18. The risen Jesus cooked a breakfast of _____ for His disciples. (John 21:9).
20. While it was still dark, Mary went _____ the tomb. (John 20:1).
21. Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of _____." (Luke 22:19).

Peter restored

John 21:1-19

Storyline

After the resurrection, seven of the Lord's disciples decided to go fishing. They caught nothing all night. In the morning Jesus was standing on the shore and asked if they had caught anything, but they did not recognise Him. He told them to cast the net on the right side of the boat. When they did this, they caught a great number of fish. John recognised Jesus and told Peter, who was so excited that he plunged into the sea and went to the shore. The others rowed to the beach, where the Lord had prepared a meal of bread and fish for their breakfast. Jesus asked them to bring some of their fish so Peter dragged the net up the beach. They found they had 153 fish, but their net had not broken at all. Three times Jesus asked Peter "Do you love Me?" At first, Peter didn't understand, but by the third time he knew that to love Jesus meant loving and caring for all God's people.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the Scripture passage.

Discuss the importance of repentance and fellowship in our lives.

Emphasise that as we repent and find fellowship, we are able to be restored to the works of our sonship.

Discuss how this then sets us free to be a blessing to others.

Theme One

"Jesus forgives and restores"

On the night that Jesus was arrested Peter had denied Jesus three times. Despite his best efforts, Peter's flesh had been weak, and in looking to save his life he had denied the Lord. As the two men met on the beach, Jesus readily forgave Peter and restored him to the works of his sonship – loving God and His people.

Key Thought

Jesus forgives us when we make mistakes and then helps us to be restored to the work of our sonship.

Aim

To help the children understand that we find restoration through repentance and fellowship.

Memory Verse

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9).

Theme Two

"Do you love Me?"

Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. He told Peter to show his love by taking care of His people. The Lord does not want us only to be close to Him. He wants us to love others and care for them, being close to our brothers and sisters as we fellowship together.

Key Thought

Jesus wants us to love one another and to draw close to each other.

Aim

For the children to understand that by loving one another, we show Jesus how much we love Him.

Memory Verse

"This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12).

Activity A - Fish and Net Game

Materials

- Open space.

Steps

- Set boundaries in an outside area.
- Pick someone to be 'up' – he/she is the net.
- Have the rest of the children spread out in the defined area – they are the fish.
- The person who is the net, runs around the area and tries to tag the other children.
- Once someone is tagged, they join hands and try to tag the other children. They can only use their spare hands to tag.
- If the children go out of the boundaries they are to join the person/people who are the net.
- The game is finished when all the children are caught.

Activity B - Mosaic Fish

Materials

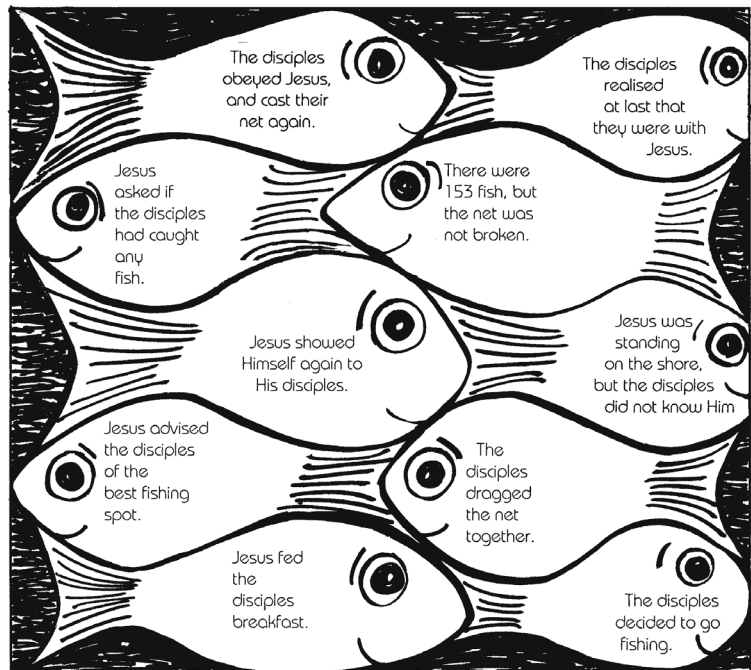
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children look up the Scriptures and write the text from the fish against the correct reference.

Match up the story in the mosaic fish with the Scripture reference. Write the story next to the Scripture.

1. John 21:1 Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples.
2. John 21:3 The disciples decided to go fishing.
3. John 21:4 Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know Him.
4. John 21:5 Jesus asked if the disciples had caught any fish.
5. John 21:6 Jesus advised the disciples of the best fishing spot.
6. John 21:6 The disciples obeyed Jesus and cast their net again.
7. John 21:8 The disciples dragged the net together.
8. John 21:11 There were 153 fish, but the net was not broken.
9. John 21:12 The disciples realised at last that they were with the Lord.
10. John 21:13 Jesus fed the disciples breakfast.

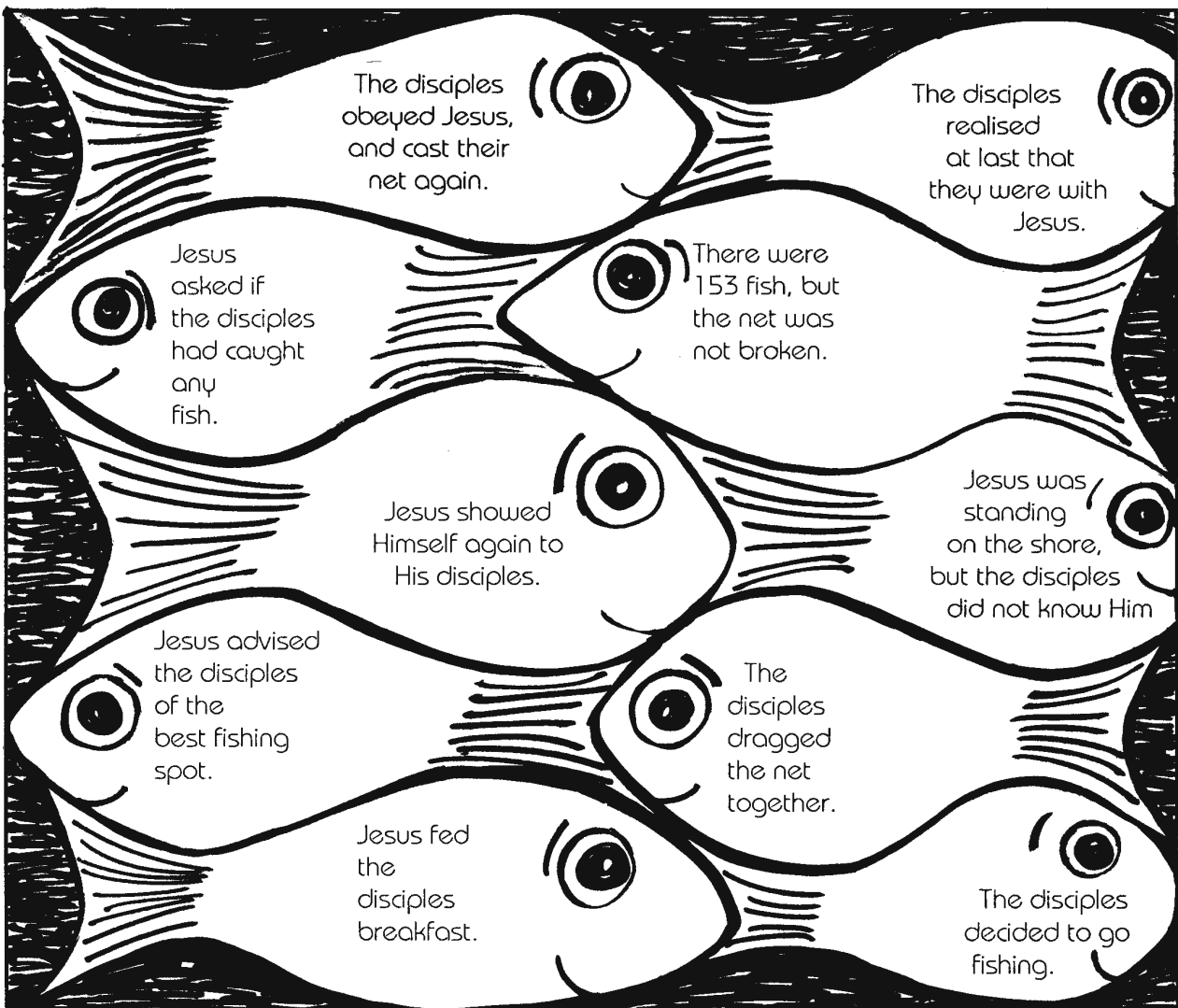


Peter restored

Activity B – Mosaic Fish

Match up the story in the mosaic fish with the Scripture reference. Write the story next to the Scripture.

1. John 21:1 _____
2. John 21:3 _____
3. John 21:4 _____
4. John 21:5 _____
5. John 21:6 _____
6. John 21:6 _____
7. John 21:8 _____
8. John 21:11 _____
9. John 21:12 _____
10. John 21:13 _____



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The risen Christ and His ascension

Matthew 28:9-10,16-20;
Mark 16:9-20;
Luke 24:13-53;
John 20:11-31;
Acts 1:1-11;
I Corinthians 15:4-6

Storyline

After His resurrection, Jesus appeared first to the two Marys in the garden and later walked and talked with two disciples travelling to Emmaus. He came and ate with some of the disciples, but Thomas, who was not present, doubted the report of Jesus' appearances. Ten days later Jesus appeared again to all the disciples in the upper room. At Jesus' command the disciples all returned to Galilee. During the forty days after His resurrection, Jesus spoke with His disciples and was seen by over 500 people. He gave the disciples His great commission to preach the gospel to the whole world. He promised them power from on high to do this. After He blessed them at Bethany He was parted from them and taken up into heaven.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Tell the story.

Theme 1: Have a discussion about trust.

- What is trust?
- Who do we know we can trust?
- Why can we trust God? Have Scriptures ready to share.

Theme 2: Discuss pen-pals. We don't see them, yet can get to know them.

Theme One

"Jesus ascended into heaven"

Jesus told His disciples that He would die, and then rise from the dead in three days and then ascend into heaven to the Father. This is what He did. We can believe that what the Lord says, He will do, even before we see it happen.

Key Thought

We can believe that what Jesus says is the truth. We do not need to doubt.

Aim

To impress on the children that what the Lord says He will do, He will do. We can trust God even before we see Him act.

Memory Verse

"It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God." (Romans 8:34).

Theme Two

"We can know Jesus"

Even though we can't see Jesus in the flesh we can still know Him as He reveals Himself to us in His word and by the Holy Spirit in us.

Key Thought

Although Jesus does not appear to us in His physical body we can still know Him.

Aim

For the children to realise we don't have to see Jesus to know Him.

Memory Verse

"Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory." (1 Peter 1:8).

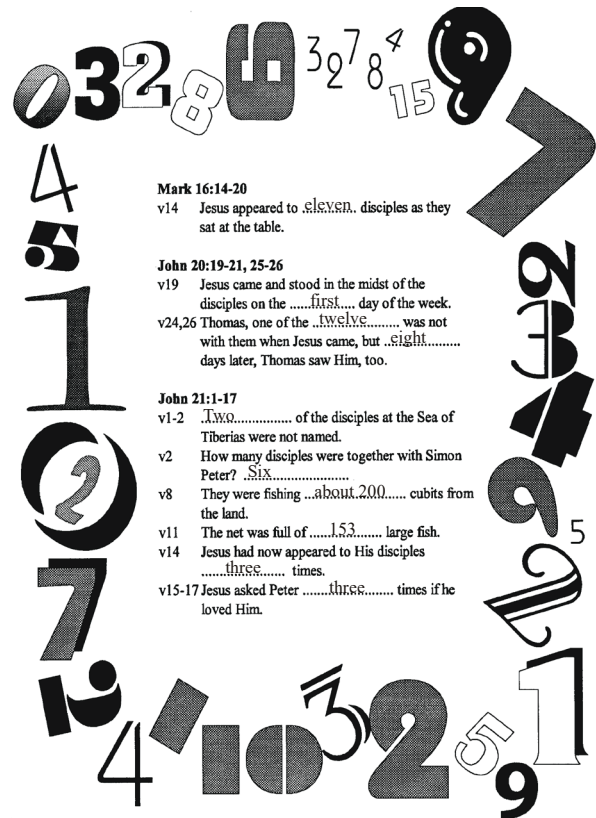
Activity A - How Many Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Bibles.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children fill in the missing numbers.



Activity B - Great Commission Missing vowels

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children fill in the missing vowels to reveal the Scripture.

Jesus gave His disciples a "Great Commission" in Mark 16:15-16. The vowels have been omitted from His words to them. Put in the correct vowels to get the commission.

"G O I N T O A L L T H E W O R L D A N D
P R E A C H T H E G O S P E L T O E V E R Y
C R E A T U R E . H E W H O B E L I E V E S
A N D I S B A P T I S E D W I L L B E S A V E D ;
B U T H E W H O D O E S N O T B E L I E V E
W I L L B E C O N D E M N E D ."



The risen Christ and His ascension

Activity A – How Many Quiz

Mark 16:14-20

v14 Jesus appeared to disciples as they sat at the table.

John 20:19-21, 25-26

v19 Jesus came and stood in the midst of the
disciples on the day of the week.

v24,26 Thomas, one of the was not
with them when Jesus came, but
days later, Thomas saw Him, too.

John 21:1-17

v1-2 of the disciples at the Sea of
Tiberias were not named.

v2 How many disciples were together with Simon Peter?

v8 They were fishing cubits from
the land.

v11 The net was full of large fish.

v14 Jesus had now appeared to His disciples
..... times.

v15-17 Jesus asked Peter times if he loved Him.

The risen Christ and His ascension

Activity B – Great Commission Missing Vowels

Jesus gave His disciples a "Great Commission" in Mark 16:15-16. The vowels have been omitted from His words to them. Put in the correct vowels to get the commission.

"G _ _ NT _ _ LL TH _ W _ RLD _ ND
PR _ _ CH TH _ G _ SP _ L T _ _ V _ RY
CR _ _ T _ R _ . H _ WH _ B _ L _ _ V _ S
_ ND _ S B _ PT _ S _ D W _ LL B _ S _ V _ D;
B _ T H _ WH _ D _ _ S N _ T B _ L _ _ V _
W _ LL B _ C _ ND _ MN _ D."



The day of Pentecost

Acts 2

Storyline

When the Day of Pentecost came, the disciples were together in one place and the Holy Spirit descended upon them like a rushing wind and with tongues of fire, and they spoke with other tongues. Some of the onlookers thought that they were drunk and others marvelled that they heard them speaking in their own language. Peter spoke to the crowd and quoted the prophet Joel and David concerning Jesus who was both Lord and Christ. The crowd responded in repentance and were baptised and from this the early church grew mightily. They had all things in common, they broke bread from house to house and the Lord added to their number daily.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the relevant Scriptures.

Discuss how the coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the early church.

Discuss how the coming of the Holy Spirit can transform us today.

Theme One

“The baptism of the Holy Spirit”

After Jesus was raised to the right hand of God, He gave the Holy Spirit to His Church to help them and to give them power. Similarly Jesus wants each one of us to receive His Holy Spirit so that we may know His power and enabling.

Key Thought

God’s will can only be done by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Aim

To show the children why Jesus wants us to receive the Holy Spirit, and how having Him living within us is the only way we can learn to be like Him.

Memory Verse

“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.” (Acts 1:8).

Theme Two

“Power to live as sons of God”

Only weeks after Peter denied Christ, he then stood and declared Him to be both Lord and Christ! What power the Holy Spirit has to transform a man from one who denies Christ to one who stands and declares who He is! This same power can be seen in our lives if we ask for it.

Key Thought

The Holy Spirit has the power to change our lives, and to enable us to live as children of God.

Aim

For the children to understand that the power of the Spirit can be a reality in their lives.

Memory Verse

“He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.” (Romans 8:11).

Activity A - Discussion and Morning Tea

Materials

- Fruit (some unusual or uncommon fruits if available) and drinks.

Steps

Before Class

- Have some different types of fruit cut up, and place it in a container (or containers), so the children can't see what it is.

In Class

- Have one child close their eyes tightly, and put a piece of fruit in their mouth. See if they can guess what sort of fruit it is. Continue this with as many children as would like to have a go.
- While sharing the fruit for morning tea, discuss the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control). Discuss how we are to 'bear fruit'; how the Lord 'prunes' us; how we are known by the fruit we display in our lives, etc. You could include a sour fruit like a lemon in the taste test also to illustrate how we can display distasteful fruit in our lives at times.

Activity B - Word Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children find the words hidden in the square, then write the shaded letters onto the lines below to spell the sentence.



See how many of the words below you can find. They go in *all* directions.

MEN
SERVANTS
VISIONS
VAPOUR
SAVED
FIRE
PROPHECY
SPIRIT
MOON

BLOOD
SIGNS
DARKNESS
DREAMS
GREAT
SUN
PASS
WONDERS

FLESH
NAME
LORD
CALLS
HEAVEN
SHOW
POUR



The shaded letters will spell out something from today's lesson:

I WILL POUR MY SPIRIT ON ALL FLESH

The day of Pentecost

Activity B – Word Search



See how many of the words below you can find. They go in all directions.

MEN
SERVANTS
VISIONS
VAPOUR
SAVED
FIRE
PROPHECY
SPIRIT
MOON

BLOOD
SIGNS
DARKNESS
DREAMS
GREAT
SUN
PASS
WONDERS

FLESH
NAME
LORD
CALLS
HEAVEN
SHOW
POUR

T	V	L	P	R	O	P	H	E	S	Y	C	I	L
M	A	I	B	W	O	N	D	E	R	S	Y	O	P
Y	P	V	S	F	S	D	C	R	T	O	R	A	M
A	O	S	N	I	H	P	A	T	H	D	S	L	E
S	U	N	A	L	O	F	L	S	E	O	M	S	B
I	R	T	S	U	W	N	L	V	A	G	P	J	L
G	O	E	R	T	D	O	S	A	V	E	D	U	O
N	L	Y	P	S	R	D	F	D	E	I	A	L	O
S	C	R	A	P	S	M	L	M	N	R	R	L	D
Y	D	N	S	I	D	R	E	A	M	S	K	P	I
N	L	E	S	R	F	S	S	I	I	P	N	T	S
M	O	O	N	I	I	A	H	N	A	M	E	L	L
G	R	E	A	T	R	L	W	E	R	A	S	F	T
L	M	E	N	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	S	O	H

The shaded letters will spell out something from today's lesson:

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Peter and John

Storyline

Peter and John preached and performed miracles of healing in Jerusalem where thousands heard the word and believed. The priests and Sadducees arrested them. They forbade them to speak or teach in the name of Jesus but were afraid to punish them because of the people. Later, Peter and John went to the believers in Samaria and prayed and laid hands on them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. On their return to Jerusalem, they preached the gospel in many Samaritan villages. Before His ascension, Jesus had revealed to Peter by what death he would glorify God. Peter then asked what would happen to John. Jesus told him to mind his own business and to follow Him. When John was an old man imprisoned on Patmos, the Lord appeared to him, telling him to write the things that he was shown about God's plans for the future.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Relate the events of the storyline to the class.

Theme 1:

Discuss the ability Peter and John had to pray for people to be healed and to receive the Holy Spirit.

Discuss how God can use the Holy Spirit to work through us to help others.

Theme 2:

Discuss what motivated the Pharisees and Simon the sorcerer, when they attempted to influence the disciples.

Consider the motives (both our own and of others) which could divert us from the Lord's way.

Discuss the effects of receiving meekly the implanted word (salvation; a knowing of what is acceptable; confusion flees; ability to stand firm).

Theme One

"No other name"

Peter and John knew that in themselves they had no way to help the lame man, but they knew Jesus would heal him. Jesus had told the disciples they could ask anything in His name. So they used the name of Jesus to raise the lame man. We, too, can pray for others and see God meet their needs.

Key Thought

We are limited in our power to help others. God's power is greater than ours as we pray for others.

Aim

To teach the children that healing only comes through the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse

"There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

Theme Two

"Faithful disciples of Jesus Christ"

The Pharisees and Simon the Sorcerer, on different occasions, attempted to influence Peter and John, to divert them from the way of the Lord. It is our responsibility to search the Scriptures, and to listen to and receive His word in order to learn what is acceptable to God. If we do this, the Holy Spirit will enable us to stand firm and not be influenced by others who have different standards.

Key Thought

The Lord's blessing is upon the one who is both a hearer and a doer of His word.

Aim

To encourage one another to receive His word, allowing it to change our hearts and behaviour, thus saving our souls.

Memory Verse

"Receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." (James 1:21).

Activity A - 'Complete the Picture' Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Prizes (if desired).

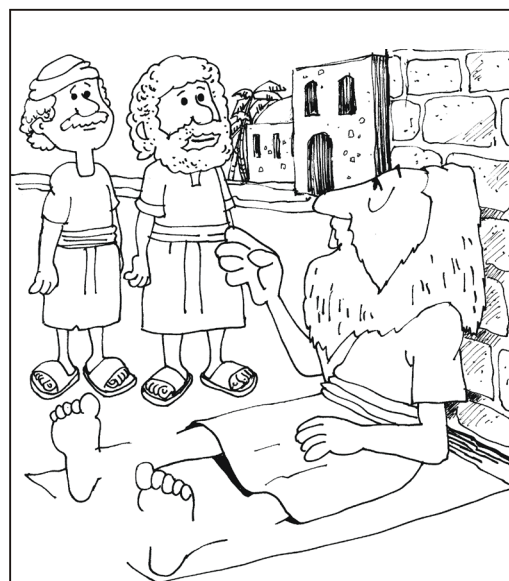
Steps

At Home

- Write out questions from today's story or any stories this term.

In Class

- The children each have an Activity Sheet and pen.
- Ask the questions to the class, and whoever raises their hand and then answers correctly gets to complete one of the missing lines on their picture.
- You have a winner when a child has filled in the six missing lines on their picture.



Activity B - Newspaper Report

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- Eraser.
- Bible.
- Spare writing paper.

Steps

- In this activity, the children write a newspaper article about the story. Most children are familiar with the layout of newspaper articles by these grades.
- There are four Scripture references from which the children choose. The children fill in the editing board from the text.
- Next they write a first draft of the article on spare paper.
- Then, they publish the work on the space provided at the bottom of the Activity Sheet, including a headline, picture and title.
- You can show the children the example shown here to help them with the idea.

Create and publish a newspaper article about a part of today's story!

**Choose the story from one of these Scripture references:
Acts 3:1-10; Acts 4:1-10; Acts 4:13-22; Revelation 1:9-20**

Editing Board

Who Annas, the High Priest, rulers, elders and scribes, Peter and John.	What Forbade them to speak in the Name of Jesus.
Where In Jerusalem, outside the council.	When After seeing the miracle of the lame man and hearing Peter and John.
Why The priests were worried that the word may spread.	... and then ... Peter and John ignored the rulers, and kept preaching in the Name of Jesus.

Composing - write a draft on your own paper. Include a headline, picture and title, and your text. Your audience is the Christians in Peter and John's time.

GRACE DAILY

PETER AND JOHN - NO FREE SPEECH

(HEADLINE)

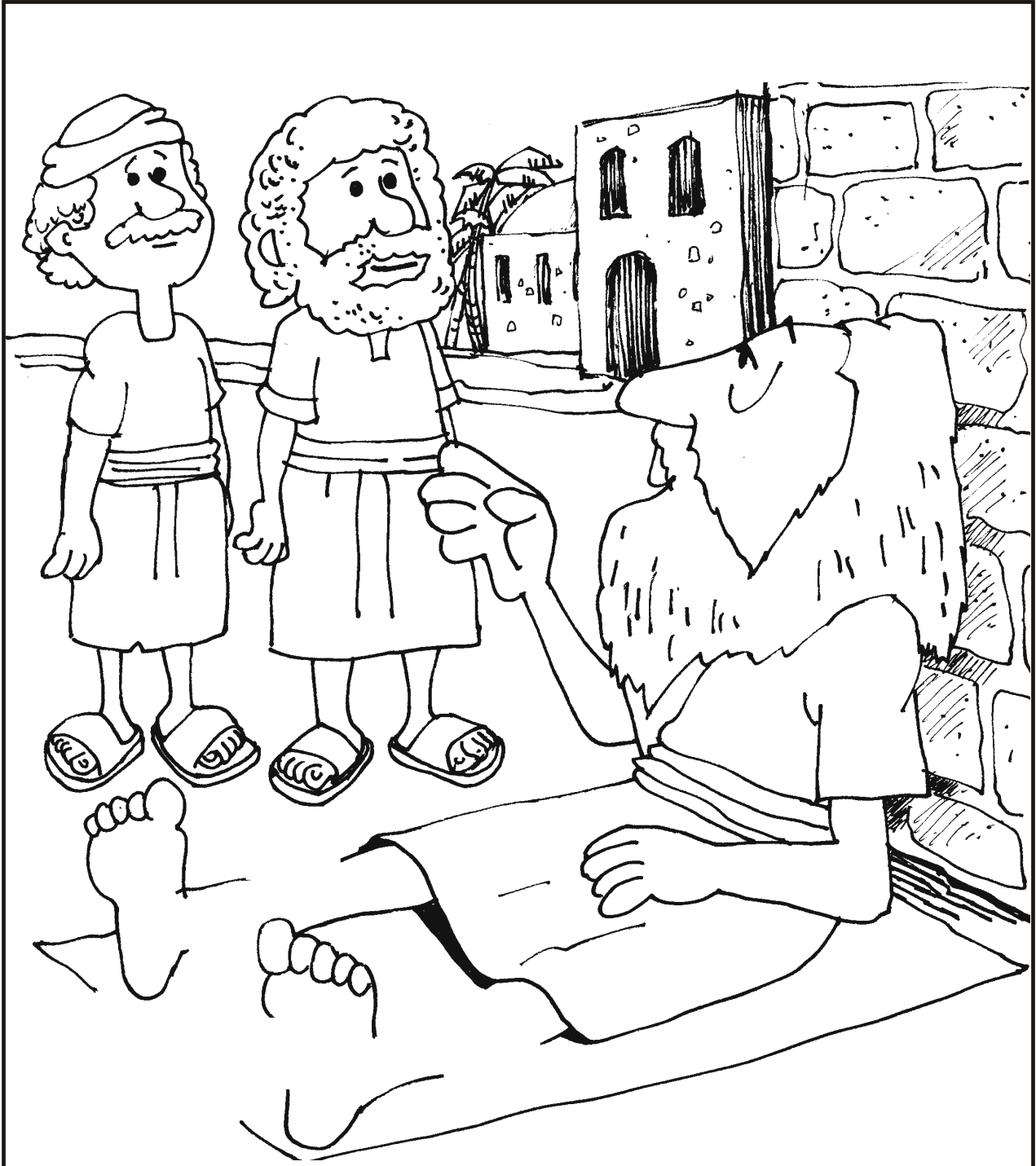
A further update on the situation at Jerusalem.

The High Priest, Annas, along with the rulers, elders and scribes, have conferred and decided to prohibit the spreading of the gospel. John and Peter are going to ignore this advice, and a source has quoted them as saying they will keep preaching all they have seen. The rulers still cannot deny the healing miracle of the 40 year old man.



Peter and John

Activity A – 'Complete the Picture' Quiz



Peter and John

Activity B – Newspaper Report

Create and publish a newspaper article about a part of today's story!

**Choose the story from one of these Scripture references:
Acts 3:1-10; Acts 4:1-10; Acts 4:13-22; Revelation 1:9-20**

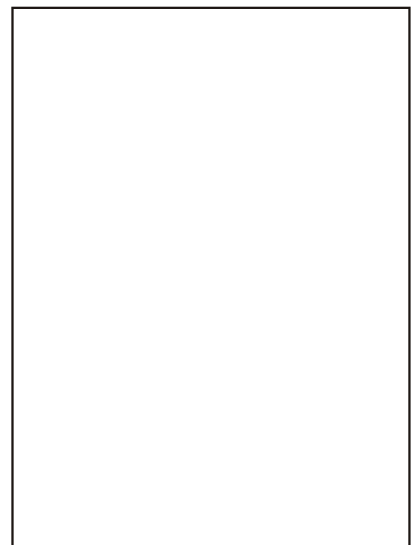
Editing Board

Who	What
Where	When
Why	... and then ...

Composing - write a draft on your own paper. Include a headline, picture and title, and your text. Your audience is the Christians in Peter and John's time.

GRACE DAILY

(HEADLINE)



Peter and the Gentiles

Acts 9:32-43; 10;
11:1-18; 12:1-19

Storyline

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter was able to heal and raise people from the dead in the name of Jesus Christ. He received a vision that came from heaven and declared that whatever God had cleansed, Peter should not call common or unclean. This was in reference to Cornelius and his household who were Gentiles. Until that time, the word of salvation was considered to be only for the Jews. God had now declared otherwise. The Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles and they were baptised. On his return to Jerusalem, Peter was called to give an account of why he had eaten food with the Gentiles. When Peter was imprisoned by Herod, the church prayed fervently for him. An angel appeared to him and he was miraculously released and went to where the people were gathered in prayer.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

1. The teacher could lead a discussion about God creating each one of us and loving us all the same. Explain that Jesus wants to come and live with every person.
2. Recount the story of Peter explaining that, although the Jews were God's people, God was showing Peter that He loved everyone the same.

Theme 2

1. Recount the story, focusing on how God was with Peter all the time.
2. Discuss how Peter would have felt in prison and how we sometimes feel scared, sad and lonely.
3. Explain that we can pray to God and He will be with us and help us through our troubles.

Theme One

"God shows no partiality"

God clearly declared to Peter that He shows no partiality. Salvation is for all people, regardless of race or creed. He charges us not to distinguish between people on this basis but rather all have need of salvation and those that respond are all members of God's family.

Key Thought

God shows no distinction between any man according to his race or belief.

Aim

For the students to understand that all people are in need of salvation no matter where they live or what they believe.

Memory Verse

"In every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (Acts 10:35).

Theme Two

"God knows when we need help"

Life is not always happy and plain sailing. When things happen that make us feel sad or worried, God knows. He will be with us and help us, just like He helped Peter when he was in prison.

Key Thought

We can know that God will always be with us if we love and trust Him. He wants to look after us.

Aim

For the children to know that God cares about every part of our lives and is always watching over us.

Memory Verse

"My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:2).

Activity A - Write a Play

Materials

- Blank paper, pens/pencils/rubbers.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children read Acts 12, then prepare a dramatized version of Peter's imprisonment and subsequent release.

Activity B - Map Peter's Journey

Materials

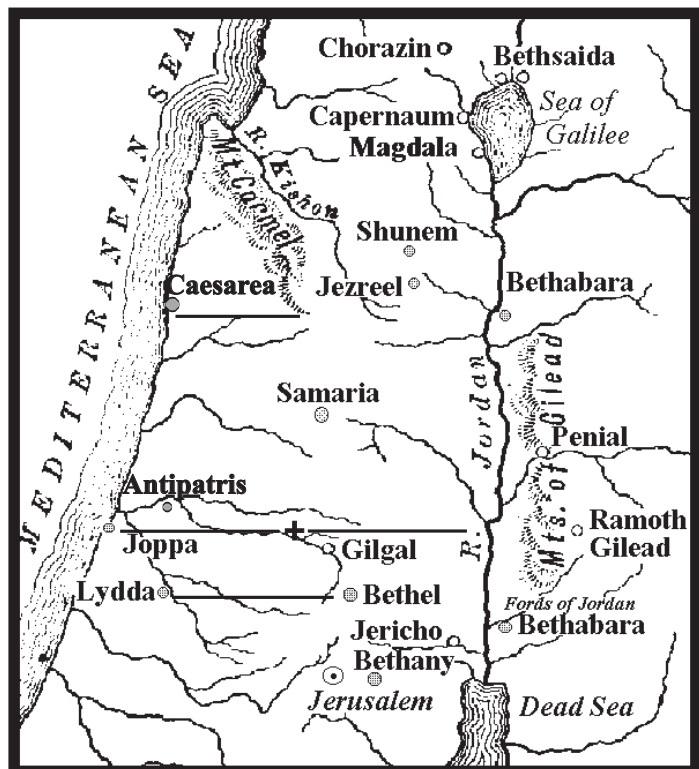
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children mark on the map, Peter's journey as described in Acts 9:32 – 10:48.
- They then insert the names of the people listed beside the towns they were associated with.

Answer

- | | | |
|--------------------|----|----------|
| • Aeneas | -- | Lydda |
| • Tabitha | -- | Joppa |
| • Simon the Tanner | -- | Joppa |
| • Cornelius | -- | Caesarea |

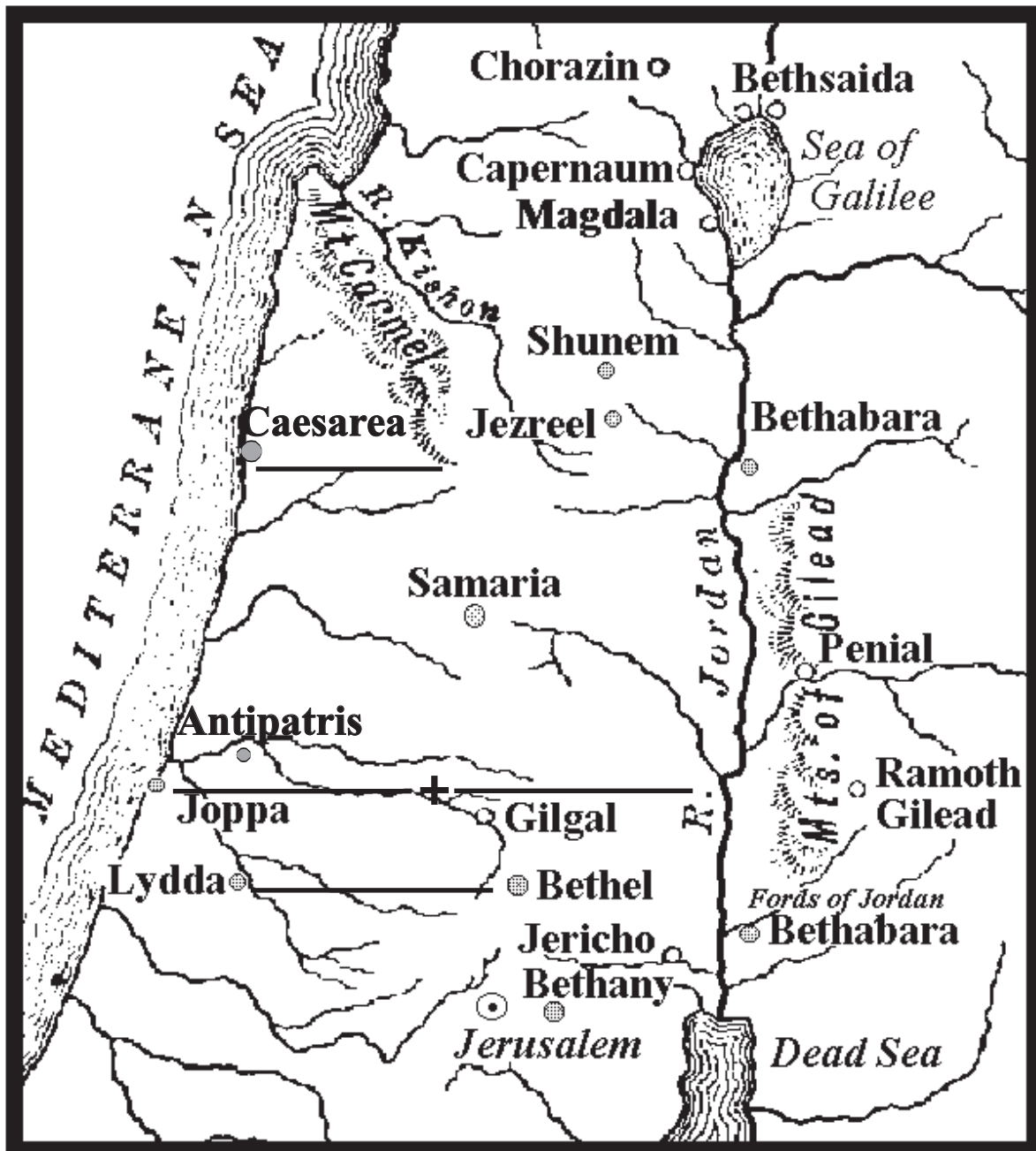


Peter and the Gentiles

Activity B – Map Peter's Journey

1. Mark on the map, Peter's journey as described in Acts 9:32 – 10:48.
2. Insert the names of the following people neatly beside the town with which they are associated.

- Aeneas
- Tabitha
- Simon the Tanner
- Cornelius



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Stephen

Acts 6 & 7

Storyline

Stephen, with six other men, was chosen to serve as a steward in the church. Hands were laid on these men as they were given to the task. Stephen displayed great wisdom and the power of the Spirit. A group of men rose up against him and charged him with blasphemy. In his address to the High Priest and other members of the council, Stephen referred to the history of Israel, the true tabernacle and how Israel as a people had resisted the Holy Spirit. Stephen said that he saw the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. At his words, the whole council of people rose up against him and stoned him. As he was dying, he asked the Lord not to charge them with the sin they committed. He was received into the presence of the Lord.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the relevant Scriptures.

Have each child write on a piece of paper what he/she thought was the most important point in the story. Teacher collects these and reads them to the class.

Discuss how Stephen was able to die in such a manner.

Theme One

“Full of faith and power”

Stephen was chosen to serve as a steward and to minister the word of God but not as an apostle. He did great wonders and signs. God is able to use us as we commit ourselves to whatever task He has called us to, and He will give us the power to do it.

Key Thought

We will be effective in our walk with God’s enabling. What we do in our own strength is of no value to God.

Aim

For the children to understand that it is God who calls us and God who gives us the power to complete the tasks He asks us to do.

Memory Verse

“For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:13).

Theme Two

“Forgiveness”

Stephen knew God was with him. Even though the people were about to kill him, he was still able to truly care about them, asking God to forgive them. We must not hold unforgiveness in our hearts towards anyone.

Key Thought

When someone has done something to hurt us, God wants us to forgive them.

Aim

For the children to realise that the Lord can give us a real love and a truly forgiving heart.

Memory Verse

“If anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.” (Colossians 3:13).

Activity A - Acrostic Poem

Materials

- Bibles
- Pens (coloured felts)

Steps

- Referring to Acts 6 & 7, have the children create and illustrate an Acrostic Poem using STEPHEN as the base word.

eg

Stoned to death but glorified God
Told the council they were stubborn
Encouraged many to believe in God
Prayed for those who stoned him
Heavens opened and Stephen saw Jesus at God's right hand
Even his face shone like an angel
Never stopped believing God was with him

Activity B - True or False

Materials

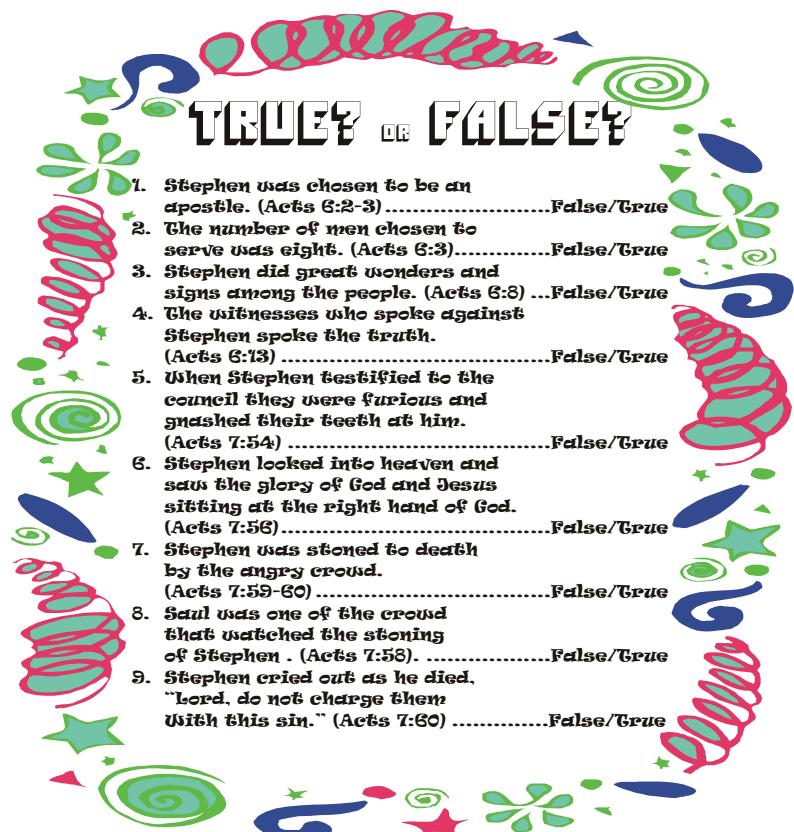
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children work alone or in pairs, to answer the following questions true/false. They should use their Bibles to look up the verse and find the answer.

Answers

False
False
True
False
True
False
True
True
True
True



Stephen

Activity B – True or False

TRUE? OR FALSE?

1. Stephen was chosen to be an apostle. (Acts 6:2-3)False/True
2. The number of men chosen to serve was eight. (Acts 6:3).....False/True
3. Stephen did great wonders and signs among the people. (Acts 6:8) ...False/True
4. The witnesses who spoke against Stephen spoke the truth. (Acts 6:13)False/True
5. When Stephen testified to the council they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. (Acts 7:54)False/True
6. Stephen looked into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus sitting at the right hand of God. (Acts 7:56).....False/True
7. Stephen was stoned to death by the angry crowd. (Acts 7:59-60)False/True
8. Saul was one of the crowd that watched the stoning of Stephen . (Acts 7:58).False/True
9. Stephen cried out as he died, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." (Acts 7:60)False/True

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Philip

Acts 8:4-13,26-40

Storyline

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. There was great joy in the city as unclean spirits came out of many and others were healed. Simon, the sorcerer, also believed, was baptised and continued with Philip for a while. When Simon saw the apostles laying hands on the people to receive the Holy Spirit, he wanted to buy this power. Peter called on him to repent. One day, the angel of the Lord instructed Philip to go to a certain place in the desert. There he found an Ethiopian man who was returning home after worshipping in Jerusalem. He was reading Scripture and the Holy Spirit told Philip to speak to him. Philip asked him if he understood the Scripture he was reading. Philip was then able to preach about Jesus to the Ethiopian who responded in faith and asked to be baptised in some water nearby. Philip baptised him and when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away. The Ethiopian did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the passage of Scripture together.

Discuss together how the children can practically involve themselves in sharing their testimony about Jesus from day to day.

Discuss how the Ethiopian was searching for the truth. The Lord helped him by sending Philip to him and the Ethiopian heard the truth and responded in faith.

Emphasise that this illustrates how God blesses those who search for Him and how the response of faith results in life and rejoicing.

Theme One

“Introducing people to Jesus”

Just as the Holy Spirit convicted the heart of the Ethiopian when Philip spoke to him about Jesus, so He is at work today to convict the hearts of people who hear about the Lord. As we pray for our friends, the Holy Spirit will create opportunities for us to share the Lord’s love with them.

Key Thought

We are called to be the light of the world. Let us shine as lights so that others may see.

Aim

To exhort the students to be praying and believing for the enabling of the Holy Spirit in speaking to friends about our Lord Jesus.

Memory Verse

“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.” (Acts 8:35).

Theme Two

“God rewards those who seek Him”

The Ethiopian was genuinely seeking God and God rewarded him with a fuller revelation through Philip. God helps those who genuinely seek Him to find the truth. As we commit our ways to the Lord, He watches over us and guides and blesses our lives. As we seek to know more of Him, He rewards us.

Key Thought

When we seek God with all our hearts, we shall find Him, and He will reward us for it.

Aim

To encourage the children to be diligent in seeking the Lord.

Memory Verse

“He who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6).

Activity A - Cactus Maze

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- Children find the Ethiopian without being hurt by the cactus.



Activity B - Word Quiz – What is Within?

About the Activity

Some focal words have been chosen from the content. Each of them contains a small word. The children sort out which small word belongs within each larger word. The Scripture reference for each word is provided, however, the activity should be fairly easy. The children may only need to refer to a few of the Scriptures. If so, they are all contained within Acts 8:26-40. Extension activity – the children could make up hidden word puzzles for each other from the content.

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- Children solve the puzzle and then make other puzzles.

Answer

- Ethiopia (v27)
- Chariot (v28)
- Spirit (v29)
- Isaiah (v30)
- Guides (v31)
- Lamb (v32)
- Slaughter (v32)
- Silent (v32)
- Justice (v33)
- Prophet (v34)
- Opened (v35)
- Water (v36)
- Baptised (v36)
- Believe (v37)
- God (v37)
- Caught (v39)
- Rejoicing (v39)

What is within?

**Here are some small words and sounds.
They belong inside the words from the story.
See if you can fit them all together.**

When you finish, you could make puzzles for your friends.

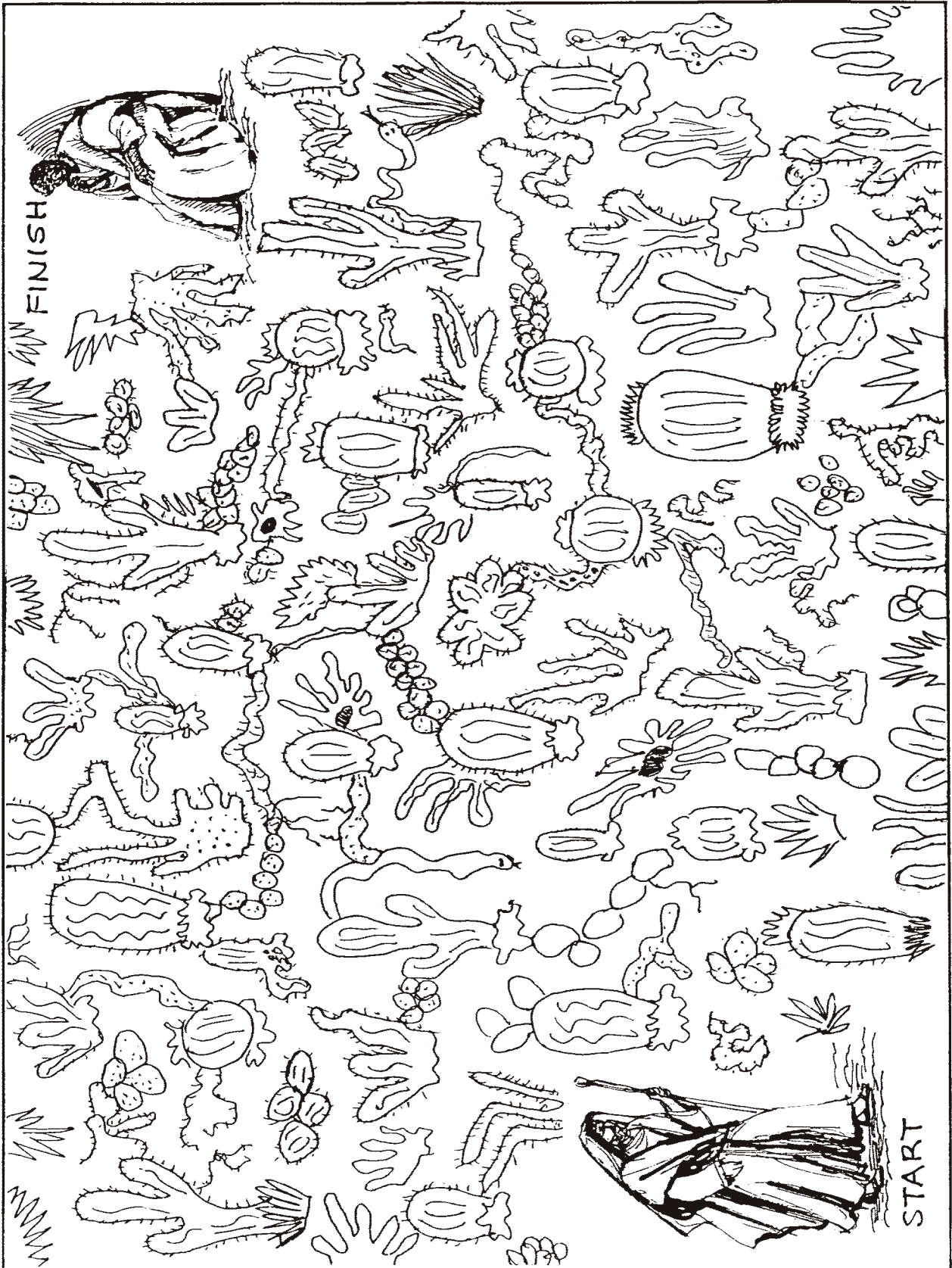
Small word list:

ah
am
hi
pen
icing
id
go
aught
apt
eve
aught
is
lent
char
prop
ate
ice
it

1. Et ____ opia (v27) The treasurer was from here.
2. ____ iot (v28) This is what he travelled in.
3. Spir ____ (v29) Philip listened and was obedient to Him.
4. ____ ai ____ (v30) Philip heard him reading this.
5. Gu ____ es (v31) He won't understand unless Philip ____ him.
6. L ____ b (v32) Isaiah wrote about Jesus, the silent ____.
7. Sl ____ er (v32) Isaiah compared Jesus to a sheep led to the ____.
8. Si ____ (v32) Jesus did not open His mouth. He was ____.
9. Just ____ (v33) Jesus had this taken away.
10. ____ het (v34) The eunuch wanted to know who the ____ was talking about.
11. O ____ ed (v35) Philip did this with his mouth.
12. W ____ r (v36) Philip and the eunuch found some.
13. B ____ ised (v36) The eunuch wanted to be ____.
14. Beli ____ (v37) You may be baptised if you ____ with all your heart.
15. ____ d (v37) The eunuch believed Jesus is the Son of ____.
16. C ____ (v39) The Spirit of the Lord ____ Philip away.
17. Rejo ____ (v39) The eunuch went on his way ____.

Philip

Activity A – Cactus Maze



Philip

Activity B – Word Quiz – What is Within?

What is within?

Here are some small words and sounds.
They belong inside the words from the story.

See if you can fit them all together.

When you finish, you could make puzzles for your friends.

Small
word list:

ah
am
hi
pen
icing
id
go
aught
apt
eve
aught
is
lent
char
prop
ate
ice
it

1. Et ____ opia (v27) The treasurer was from here.
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15. ____ d (v37) The eunuch believed Jesus is the Son of ____.
16. C ____ (v39) The Spirit of the Lord ____ Philip away.
17. Rejo ____ (v39) The eunuch went on his way ____.

Paul's conversion

Acts 7:58; 8:1-3;
9:1-31; 22:1-21;
26:2-20

Storyline

Saul, later known as Paul, was travelling to Damascus to persecute the Christians there. The Lord revealed Himself to Saul who was then unable to see and neither ate nor drank for three days. Ananias, a disciple from Damascus, was instructed by the Lord to restore Saul's sight. Ananias visited Saul who then received his sight and was baptised. Saul preached Christ in the synagogues and before long the Jews plotted to kill him. The disciples helped Saul to escape from Damascus and he returned to Jerusalem where he declared to the apostles all that had taken place. He then spoke boldly in the name of the Lord in Jerusalem. He went to Tarsus after another attempt on his life. This was a time of peace and growth for the churches.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Tell the story emphasising the huge change in Saul's attitude once he had come face to face with the Lord. You could make up two lists of attitudes displayed by Saul: 1. 'before' and 2. 'after' his conversion.

Theme One

"Jesus reveals Himself to us"

Jesus revealed Himself to Saul in order to bring changes to his life. He became a completely new man, willing to lay down his own life in order to do the will of God. The righteousness of God is revealed to us in creation and in the gospel. Jesus is also revealed in His people as they respond in repentance and faith.

Key Thought

Firstly, Jesus reveals Himself to us, and then He is revealed in and through us, His people.

Aim

For the children to understand that God requires a response of faith from our hearts each time He reveals something of Himself to us.

Memory Verse

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." (John 14:23).

Theme Two

"Trust and obey"

Ananias had every reason to fear the meeting with Saul, but because God told him to go, he trusted and obeyed. Sometimes God may ask us to do something that we are afraid to do, like speaking to someone at school who laughs at us because we are Christians. We must learn to trust God and obey Him.

Key Thought

God is trustworthy, even when we are scared.

Aim

For the children to see that even if they feel scared, they can still trust and obey God.

Memory Verse

"You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield." (Psalm 115:11).

Activity A - Outdoors Game – A Blindfold Obstacle Course

About the activity

When God revealed Himself to Saul, He became blind because God is pure light. Being blind is obviously very limiting and it caused Saul to become totally dependent upon those around him. Having the children blindfolded and depending upon those around them should give them an indication of how Saul felt.

Materials

- Blindfolds, eg. scarves/men's handkerchiefs.
- Obstacle course, using furniture in a room, or outdoors around a playground or building.

Steps

- Introduce the activity by explaining the purpose and the route of the obstacle course.
- Divide the children into two groups.
- Instruct one group to blindfold themselves, telling them they have to rely totally on the other group.
- Explain to the second group that they are to lead those who have been blindfolded.
- Bring the groups together and remind them of their roles.
- Start them at the beginning of the course.
- On completion of the course, allow the children to swap roles.

Discussion

- After this have the children suggest how Paul must have felt when God dealt with him in this way.

Activity B - Crossword

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Answers

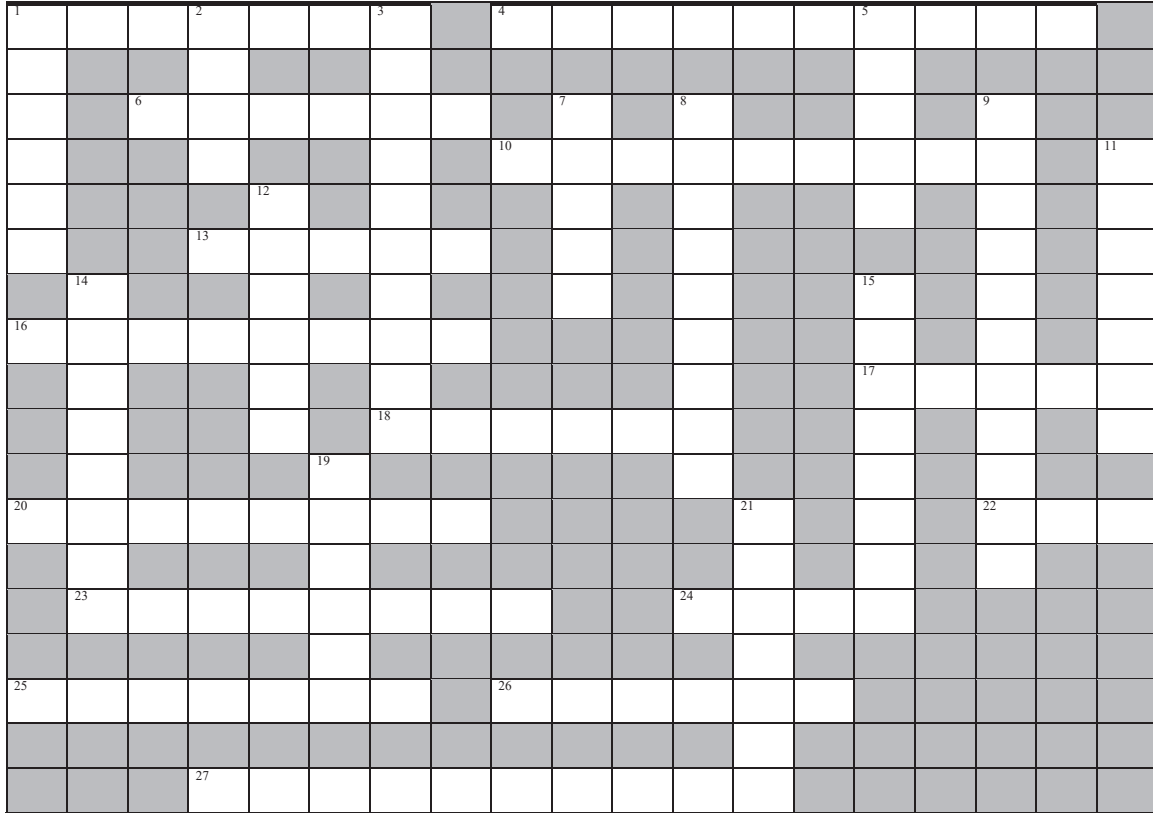
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												E						
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Paul's conversion

Activity B - Crossword

Saul Swaps Sides

Many changes occurred and people had varying reactions. Many needed to be convinced of the change. Fill in the crossword about the story. All the clues are in Acts chapter 9.



ACROSS

1. v10 The Lord spoke to him in a vision. (7)
4. v6 Part of Saul's reaction to the Lord...He felt _____. (10)
6. v21 All the people who knew Saul before, were now _____. (6)
10. v28 Saul and the disciples moved freely at this city. (9)
13. v3 This suddenly shone around Saul. (5)
16. v15 The Lord told Ananias that Saul was chosen to witness to the _____. (8)
17. v31 All the churches had this. (5)
18. v17 Ananias prayed with Saul so he would be filled with the Holy _____. (6)
20. v27 Saul told the disciples he had done this. (8)
22. v8 Saul could not see, so he had to be _____. (3)
23. v2 Saul asked for letters to the synagogues at this city. (8)
24. v19 After he had fasted and prayed, he ate this. (4)
25. v11 The Lord told Ananias that Saul was doing this. (7)
26. v13 Ananias had heard what Saul had done to these people. (6)
27. v22 Saul spoke with the Jews about Jesus. This _____ them. (10)

DOWN

1. v26 How the disciples first felt towards the new Saul. (6)
2. v14 Saul had authority to bind all those who call on the _____ of the Lord. (4)
3. v7 The people who travelled with Saul had this reaction. They were _____. (10)
5. v18 Something like these fell from Saul's eyes. (singular 5)
7. v5 Who spoke to Saul? (5)
8. v14 Saul had great power and _____. (9)
9. v20 How soon after his conversion did Saul preach? (11)
11. v17 Ananias now believed Saul was a changed man and addressed him as his _____. (7)
12. v10 The Lord spoke to Ananias in this way. (6)
14. v27 Saul _____ (8) all that had happened to him.
15. v18 Saul's immediate response was to be _____. (8)
19. v15 Saul was selected, or _____ (6) to go to the Gentiles.
21. v23 The Jews _____ (7) to kill Saul.

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Paul's first missionary journey

Acts 13 & 14

Storyline

Several significant facts emerge from Paul's first journey. Firstly, in the midst of a church gathering in Antioch, the Holy Spirit said for Paul and Barnabas to be separated and sent to do the Lord's work. The Holy Spirit called them and the church sent them. As they travelled around, the second fact became obvious. Everywhere that Paul preached the word of God, both Jews and Gentiles believed. However, the word of God also significantly divided the Jews. They were filled with envy, contradicting Paul, blaspheming and opposing him fiercely. This caused Paul to turn to the Gentiles to preach. Thirdly, many signs and wonders followed Paul's preaching. Many people believed because of what they saw and heard. When Paul and Barnabas arrived back in Antioch, they reported to the church all that had happened.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

Talk around the word 'tribulation' and what it means to the children. Describe what the apostle Paul had to experience in 2 Corinthians 11:23-33. Discuss tribulations that some of the children have had to face.

Theme 2

Ask the children about any special journey or trip they have been on. After each one has responded, ask these two questions:

1. Why did you go?
2. What special event, if any, can you remember about your trip?

Relate these two questions to Paul's journeys:

1. He was sent by the Holy Spirit.
2. Expound some interesting events from Acts 13 & 14

Theme One

"Through many tribulations"

Paul's life demonstrated great faith and perseverance as he walked with the Lord. He found God's grace was sufficient in every situation. We, too, can prove that His grace is sufficient for us.

Key Thought

When we're facing difficulties, we can find God's grace to overcome too. Nothing is too hard for the Lord.

Aim

To help the children realise they're able to turn to the Lord at any time for help and support in the trial they're facing.

Memory Verse

"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

Theme Two

"The gospel brings division"

As we see from Paul's missionary journeys, the gospel is a light which shows up the darkness in those who hear. Sometimes this brings repentance and salvation in them but it can bring out a very strong opposition to us and the word of God preached.

Key Thought

Our hope is that all may believe in Jesus and be saved, but all may not be willing to believe and will therefore resist all talk of Jesus.

Aim

For the children to understand that making a stand and being a Christian at school will mean that some people will treat us unkindly.

Memory Verse

"But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed." (1 Peter 3:14).

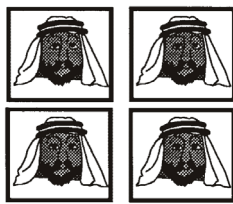
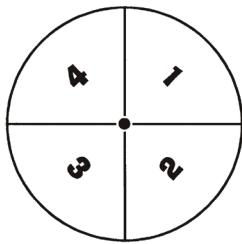
Activity A - Board Game

Materials

- Activity Sheet (game) between 4.
- 1 spinner between 4.
- 1 token per child.

Preparation

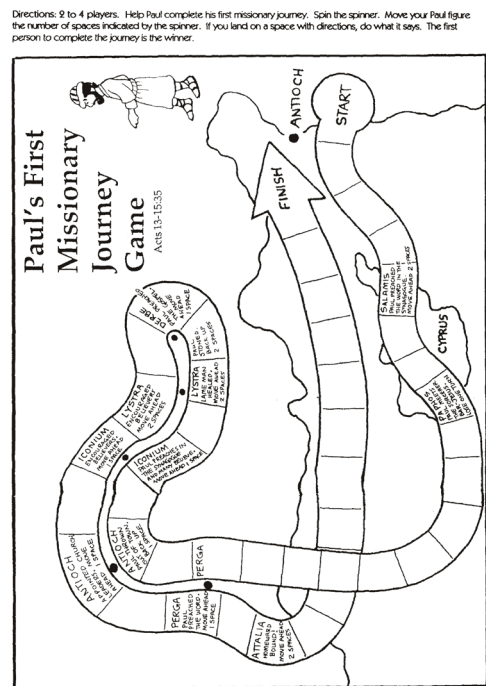
- Make spinners (1 per 4 children). Use a paper clip for the spinner. Attach it with a paper fastener and on the back, tape down the prongs of the paper fastener to prevent scratching.



- Make tokens (1 per child). Cut the tokens apart. Glue to cardboard or poster board. Colour them four different colours. Laminate or cover them with clear Contact paper.

Directions

- Help Paul complete his first missionary journey. Spin the spinner. Move your Paul figure the number of spaces indicated by the spinner. If you land on a space with directions, do what it says. The first person to complete the journey is the winner.



Activity B - Fill in the Missing Words

Materials

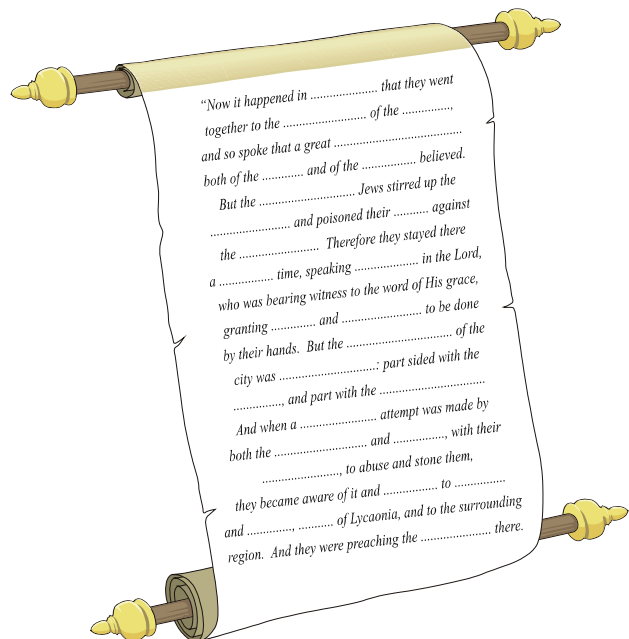
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children look up the Scripture references and fill in the missing words.

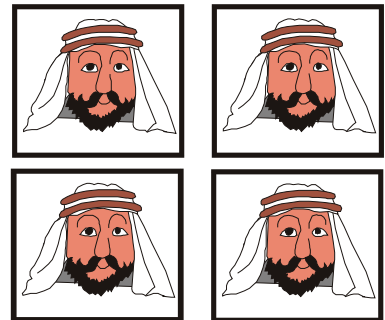
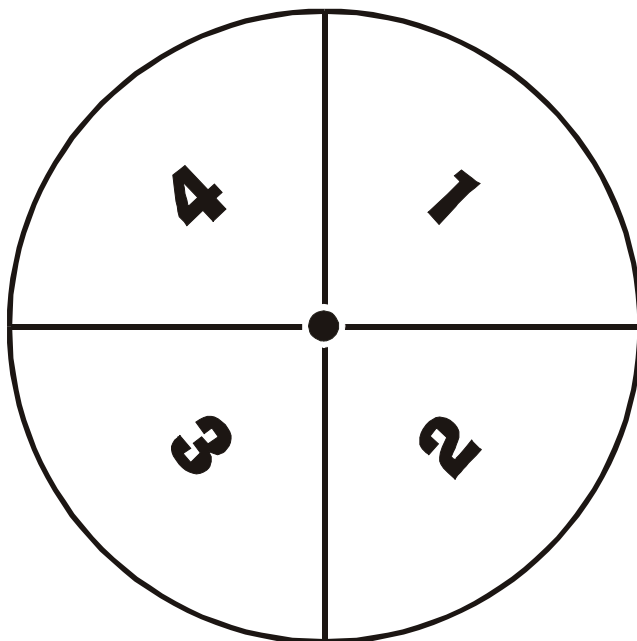
Answer

“Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brethren. Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the multitude of the city was divided: part sided with the Jews, and part with the apostles. And when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them, they became aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region. And they were preaching the gospel there.”



Paul's first missionary journey

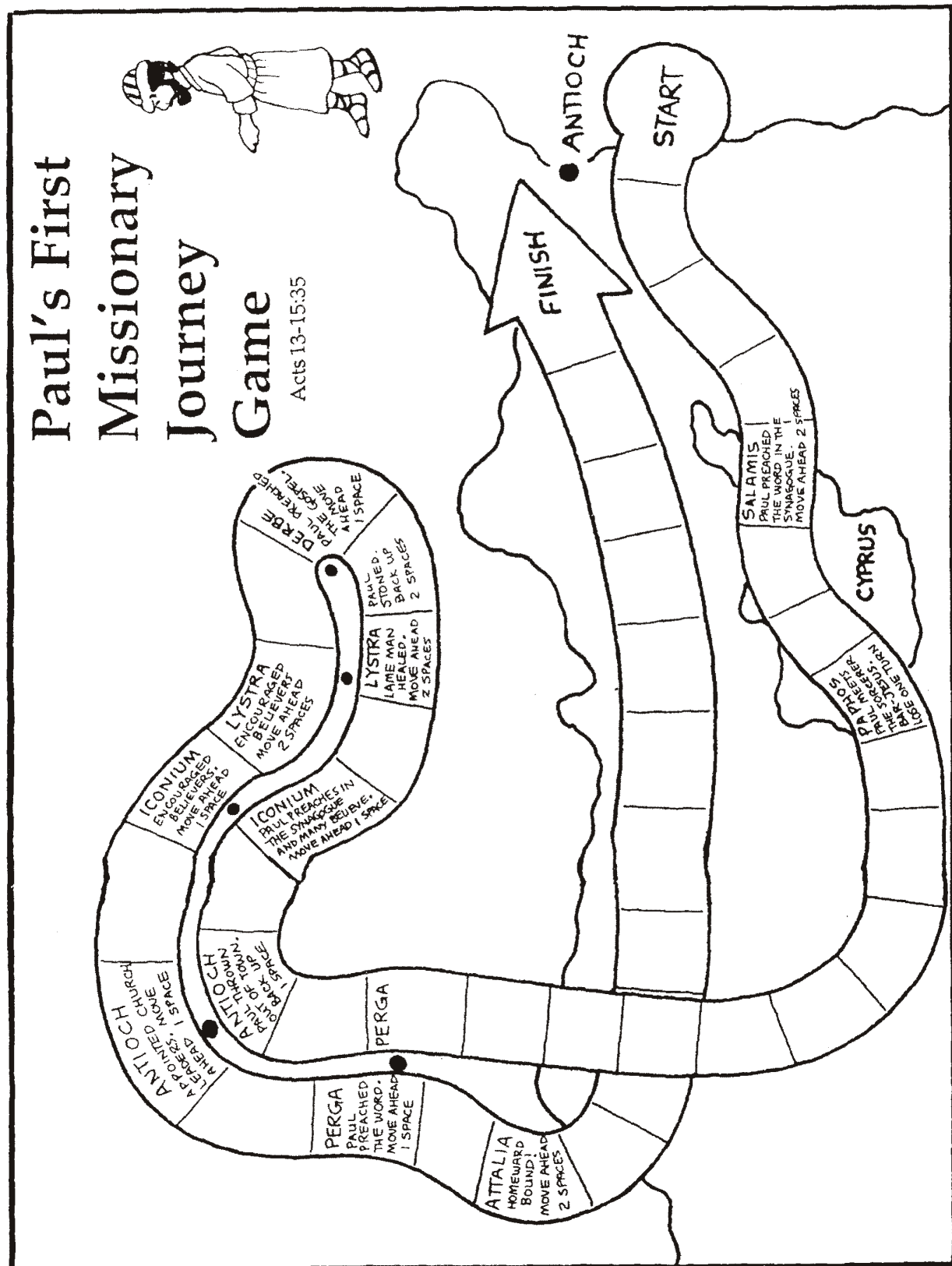
Activity A – Board Game



Paul's first missionary journey

Activity A – Board Game

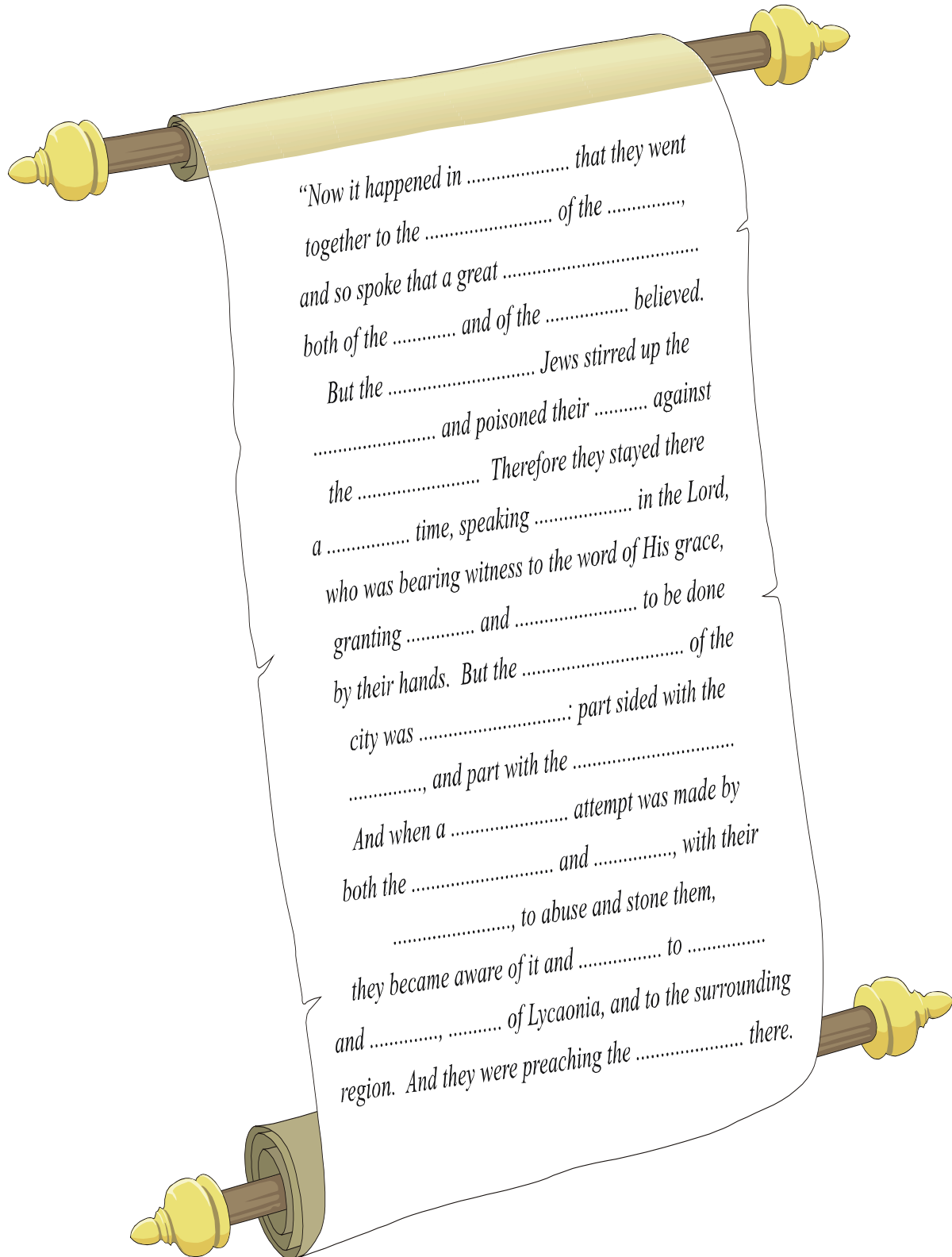
Directions: 2 to 4 players. Help Paul complete his first missionary journey. Spin the spinner. Move your Paul figure the number of spaces indicated by the spinner. If you land on a space with directions, do what it says. The first person to complete the journey is the winner.



Paul's first missionary journey

Activity B – Fill in the Missing Words

Fill in the missing words from Acts 14:1-7.



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Paul's second and third missionary journeys

Acts 15:36 - 21:19

Storyline

Paul and Silas, went through Syria and Cilicia, then met Timothy at Lystra and took him with them. They were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. A vision appeared to Paul and because of it they journeyed to Philippi in Macedonia. Paul spoke to Lydia, a seller of purple, and she and all her household were baptised. Because they delivered a slave girl from an evil spirit, her masters had Paul and Silas thrown in prison. At midnight, Paul and Silas were praising God when an earthquake caused the prison doors to be opened and everyone's chains loosed. Paul witnessed to the keeper and he and his family were baptised. When the magistrates heard that they were Romans, they were released. They continued on to Thessalonica, Berea and thence to Athens and Corinth where Paul dwelt with Aquila and Priscilla. Paul testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ. When they opposed him, he said he would go to the Gentiles from then on. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, telling him not to be afraid. Paul left Corinth and sailed to Ephesus, Caesarea and then to Antioch, Galatia and Phrygia. Paul returned to Ephesus where he spoke of the Holy Spirit. He baptised some disciples there in the name of the Lord Jesus and laid hands on them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Some in Ephesus caused trouble. Paul went to Macedonia and Syria. He then decided to travel to Jerusalem, but was warned that the Jews in Jerusalem were plotting against him. He said he was willing to die for the name of the Lord Jesus. He travelled to Jerusalem and told those present what God had done among the Gentiles.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Show a map of the places Paul passed through on his second and third missionary journeys.

Ask the children to suggest some of the dangers he may have faced travelling in those times.

Theme One

"In everything give thanks"

Paul and Silas had right heart attitudes and praised God in prison. God brought good out of their difficulty in the salvation and baptism of the jailer and all his household. We can praise the Lord in all of circumstances. If we have a right heart towards the Lord, He can bring good out of any difficulty.

Key Thought

It is easy to ask God to help us, but we need to remember to thank Him, even when He allows troubles to come into our lives.

Aim

To teach the children the importance of having a good attitude in difficulties. This enables God to bring good out of all things.

Memory Verse

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God." (Romans 8:28).

Theme Two

"Trusting God in all circumstances"

Just as God protected Paul and Silas in prison, He will protect us no matter where we are as we turn to Him. He is able to set us free from our enemies.

Key Thought

No one is greater than God. No power or evil that threatens His people is greater than His power to save us.

Aim

To show the children that we need have no fear in our circumstances because God watches over us at all times wherever we are.

Memory Verse

"For to this end we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God." (1 Timothy 4:10).

Activity A - Jumbled Town Names

Materials

- Blackboard or large cardboard.

Preparation

- Teacher have the jumbled names of the following 10 towns or regions that Paul visited written on the blackboard or large card. If necessary allow the children to use their Bibles to look up town names, try to identify each one and spell it correctly.

1. alamppihy	Pamphylia
2. psycru	Cyprus
3. rasiy	Syria
4. Iciiaic	Cilicia
5. breed	Derbe
6. tarsly	Lystra
7. yasim	Mysia
8. lesonapi	Neapolis
9. rebea	Berea
10. hitocan	Antioch

Activity B - Bible Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Bibles.
- Pencils.

Steps

- Explain to the children that the names of people Paul met on his journeys have been separated from the description of them. Join the names to their descriptions.

Answer

- Philip 4
- Silas 3
- Lydia 5
- Jason 2
- Crispus 7
- Apollos 6
- Eutychus 8
- Agabus 1

Philip	1. This man was a prophet who came from Judea and showed Paul how he would be bound in Jerusalem. (Acts 21:10-11).
Silas	2. A mob of evil men attacked this man's house because he had harboured Paul and Silas. (Acts 17:5-7).
Lydia	3. This man became Paul's travelling companion after Barnabas and Paul argued and parted. (Acts 15:38-40).
Jason	4. While in Caesarea, Paul and his companions stayed in this evangelist's house. (Acts 21:8).
Crispus	5. This woman from Thyatira was a seller of purple. She and her household heeded Paul and were baptised. (Acts 16:14-15).
Apollos	6. Aquilla and Priscilla helped this Jew learn more about the way of God. (Acts 18:24-26).
Eutychus	7. This ruler of the synagogue believed on the Lord with all his household. (Acts 18:8).
Agabus	8. This young man fell asleep while Paul was preaching and fell out of the third story window. (Acts 20:8,9).



Paul's second and third missionary journeys

Activity B – Bible Search

Using the Bible references to help you, see if you can match the persons listed to the descriptions opposite.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Philip | 1. This man was a prophet who came from Judea and showed Paul how he would be bound in Jerusalem. (Acts 21:10-11). |
| Silas | 2. A mob of evil men attacked this man's house because he had harboured Paul and Silas. (Acts 17:5-7). |
| Lydia | 3. This man became Paul's travelling companion after Barnabas and Paul argued and parted. (Acts 15:38-40). |
| Jason | 4. While in Caesarea, Paul and his companions stayed in this evangelist's house. (Acts 21:8). |
| Crispus | 5. This woman from Thyatira was a seller of purple. She and her household heeded Paul and were baptised. (Acts 16:14-15). |
| Apollos | 6. Aquilla and Priscilla helped this Jew learn more about the way of God. (Acts 18:24-26). |
| Eutychus | 7. This ruler of the synagogue believed on the Lord with all his household. (Acts 18:8). |
| Agabus | 8. This young man fell asleep while Paul was preaching and fell out of the third story window. (Acts 20:8,9). |



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Paul's capture and imprisonment

Acts 21:26 - 26:32

Storyline

Paul was hated by the Jews of Asia Minor. They caused an uproar in Jerusalem that led to his being arrested by the Romans. Paul testified to the crowd about his vision on the road to Damascus and how God had sent him to witness to the Gentiles. This caused further anger. He was brought before the Sanhedrin where the Pharisees and Sadducees argued over Paul's testimony. The Jews plotted to kill Paul so he was transferred to Caesarea to appear before the governor, Felix. Paul was kept in custody for two years while Felix regularly called for him and discussed 'the Way'. Festus succeeded Felix. When Paul appealed to the emperor, Festus sent him to Rome for his defence to be heard in Caesar's court.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Have the class close their eyes and try to imagine what it would be like to be locked up for two years. Have them say how they would feel if they knew they were innocent. Tell the story.

Theme One

"We are God's servants"

Paul spent his life, after his conversion, being God's servant. He preached to the people wherever he went. Even when he was imprisoned, he served the Lord, and others were blessed by this. Even though we are young, we can serve God by obeying our parents, praying for others and being a good friend.

Key Thought

A good servant loves and obeys his master. People will know we serve God if we are loving and obedient at all times.

Aim

For the children to see that obeying their parents, praying for others and being a good friend, is serving God.

Memory Verse

"Let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." (Hebrews 12:28).

Theme Two

"Receiving strength from the Lord"

Paul received strength from God to endure the time in prison and to witness as he had opportunity. When we are faced with trials in our daily life, it is important for us to pray and trust that the Lord is in control and knows every situation. The Lord has promised to give us strength to handle these situations. Although the Lord's strength is always available, it is our responsibility to seek it.

Key Thought

We must **ask** the Lord for strength. He will encourage us just as He did Paul when he was in prison.

Aim

To teach the children that God can strengthen us when we feel discouraged.

Memory Verse

"My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the strength of my heart." (Psalm 73:26).

Activity A - Jailbreak

Materials

- Cards with letters on them from different words from the story eg Prison, Felix, Rome. Prepare this beforehand.

Steps

- Shuffle the cards and deal out 12 cards each.
- Explain that the students must try to collect cards to make as many words from the story as they can.
- Show the students the list of words.

Rules

- The game must be played in silence
- The aim is to swap cards and make up the correct words in your hand.
- One student approaches another to swap. They nod and swap one card only. They must then move to another student.
- They must swap with every other student.
- Once a student collects a word they call out 'Jailbreak'. The game stops. They score a point and the cards are taken up, shuffled again and distributed evenly once more. Add in extra cards when necessary

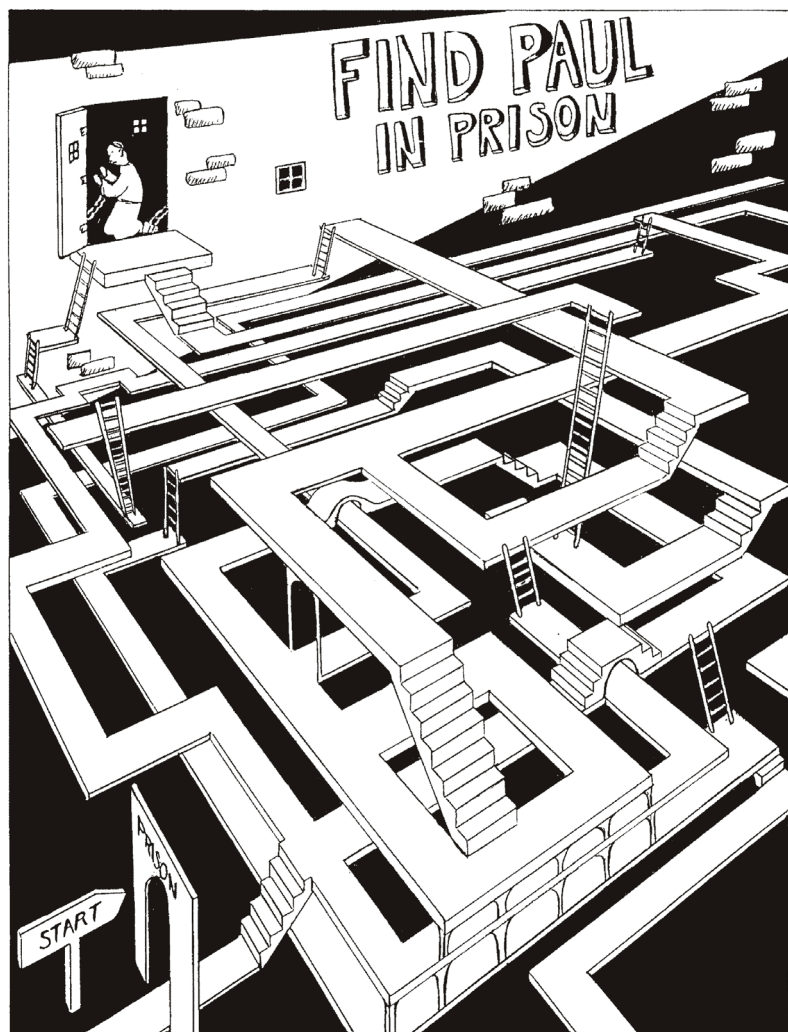
Activity B - Maze – Find Paul in Prison

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child
- Pens/pencils

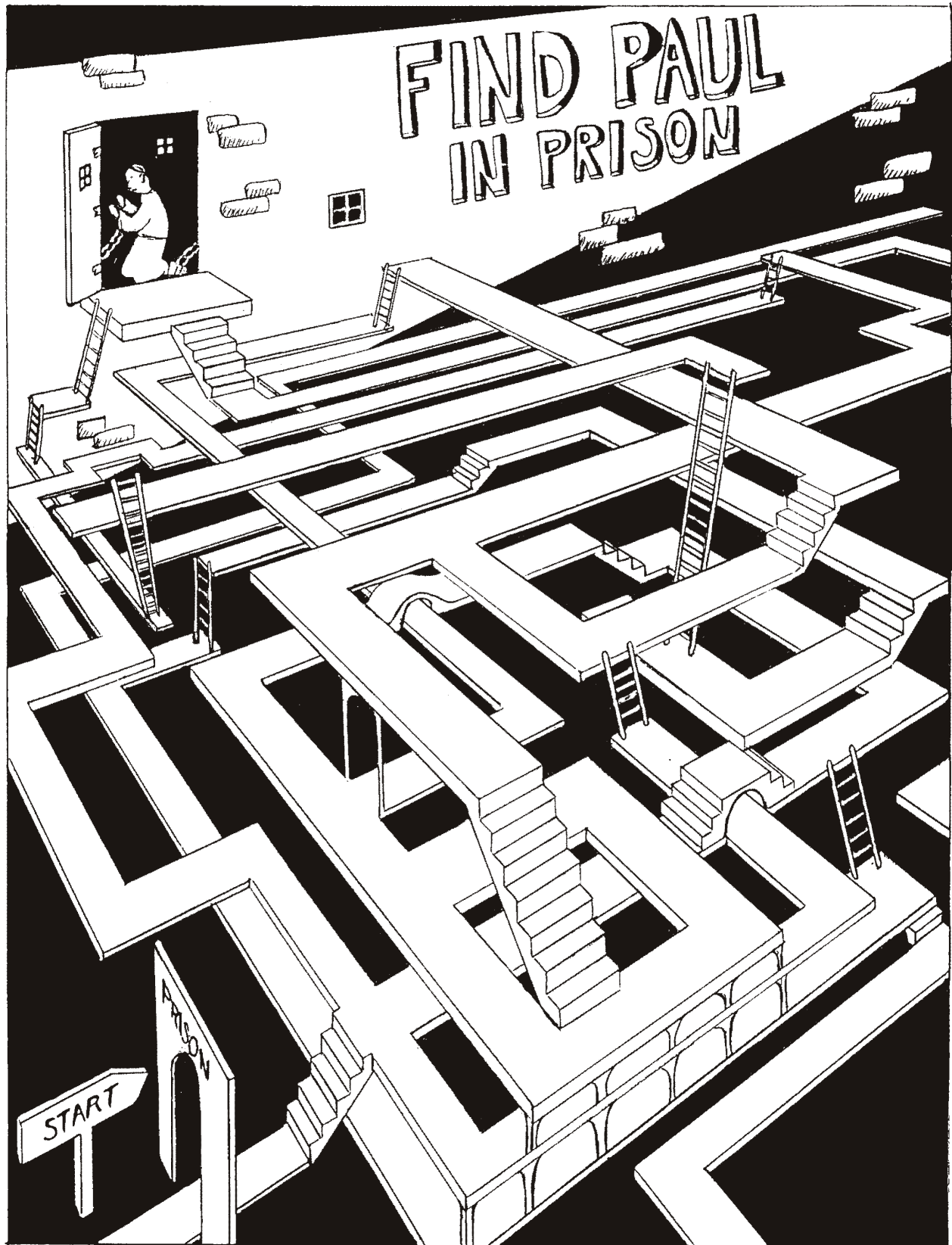
Steps

- Students find their way through the hallways, up and down ladders and stairs, into Paul's cell.
- Have the students create their own mazes and share them with one another.



Paul's capture and imprisonment

Activity B – Maze – Find Paul in Prison



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Paul's final journey

Acts 27 & 28

Storyline

Paul was delivered to Julius, a centurion, and they sailed for Italy. When they reached Fair Havens, Paul advised them not to sail on as the voyage would end in disaster. When the ship ran aground, the soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent their escaping. The centurion stopped them and all landed safely on the island of Malta. The people there built a fire for them. As Paul laid sticks on it a viper bit him, but he suffered no harm. The people, who at first thought he was a murderer, now said he was a god. Paul prayed for the sick and they were healed. After finally arriving in Rome, Paul spoke to the leaders of the Jews. Some believed his testimony; others did not. This caused disputes among them. Paul dwelt there for two years in his own rented house, guarded by a soldier, preaching and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with no one forbidding him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Show the students a map of Malta and explain the story while referring to the map.

Discuss the story.

- Why did God allow Paul to be shipwrecked?
- Why didn't Paul try to escape?
- Why didn't the soldiers listen to Paul's warnings?

Theme One

"God protects and enables His people"

Because Paul trusted the Lord, He looked after him through dangerous and difficult experiences. When we believe in the Lord, we can trust Him to watch over us even in the most difficult circumstances. Although things may not always go right for us, God will help us through our difficult times.

Key Thought

The Lord is always with us, irrespective of the circumstances.

Aim

To have the children understand that God cares for us in every situation in our life.

Memory Verse

"Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." (Psalm 37:5).

Theme Two

"Faithful to God's call"

Paul remained faithful to the call of God right to the end of his life. He knew that God had a plan for his life and that He would bring it to pass, through many difficult circumstances. The same is true for us. As we walk in obedience to God and His word, we can believe that His plan for our life will come pass, no matter what happens along the way.

Key Thought

As we remain faithful to God's plan for us, He will bring it to pass.

Aim

To help the children understand that the Lord will bring His plan for our life to pass through many difficult circumstances.

Memory Verse

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7).

Activity A - Discussion

Materials

- Bibles

Steps

After telling the story, divide the class into twos or threes. Give each group a Bible passage containing exhortations from Paul. Let them discuss this in their group and then share with the rest of the class what they feel Paul's testimonies teach.

Suitable passages could be:

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

2 Corinthians 1:8-12

1 Corinthians 13:3-7

Romans 8:35-39

Philippians 4:10-13

Activity B - Mapping Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

Steps

- Ask the children to colour the map to distinguish between land and water.
- Tell the children to see if they can answer the questions about Paul's journey to Rome.

Answer

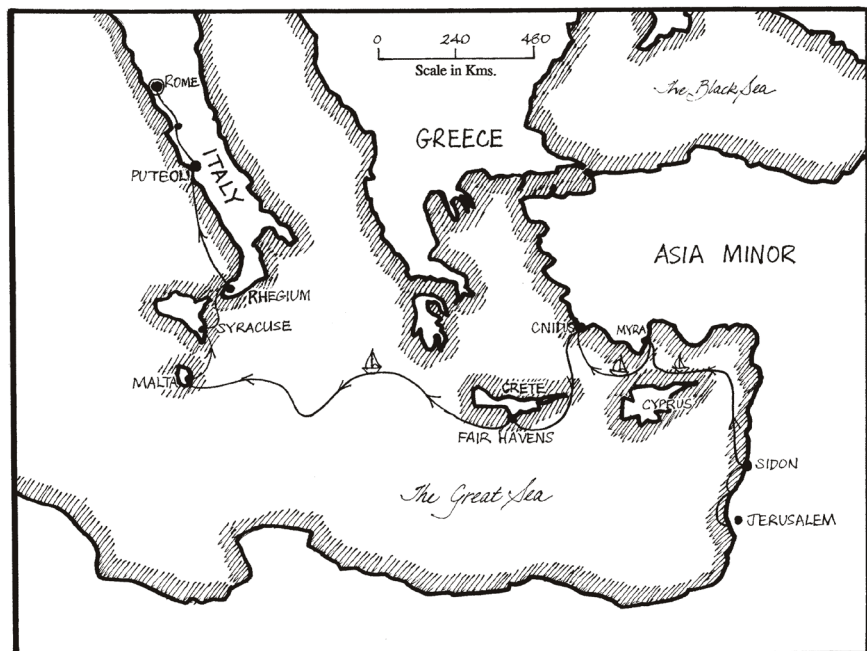
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Cyprus.

Myra.

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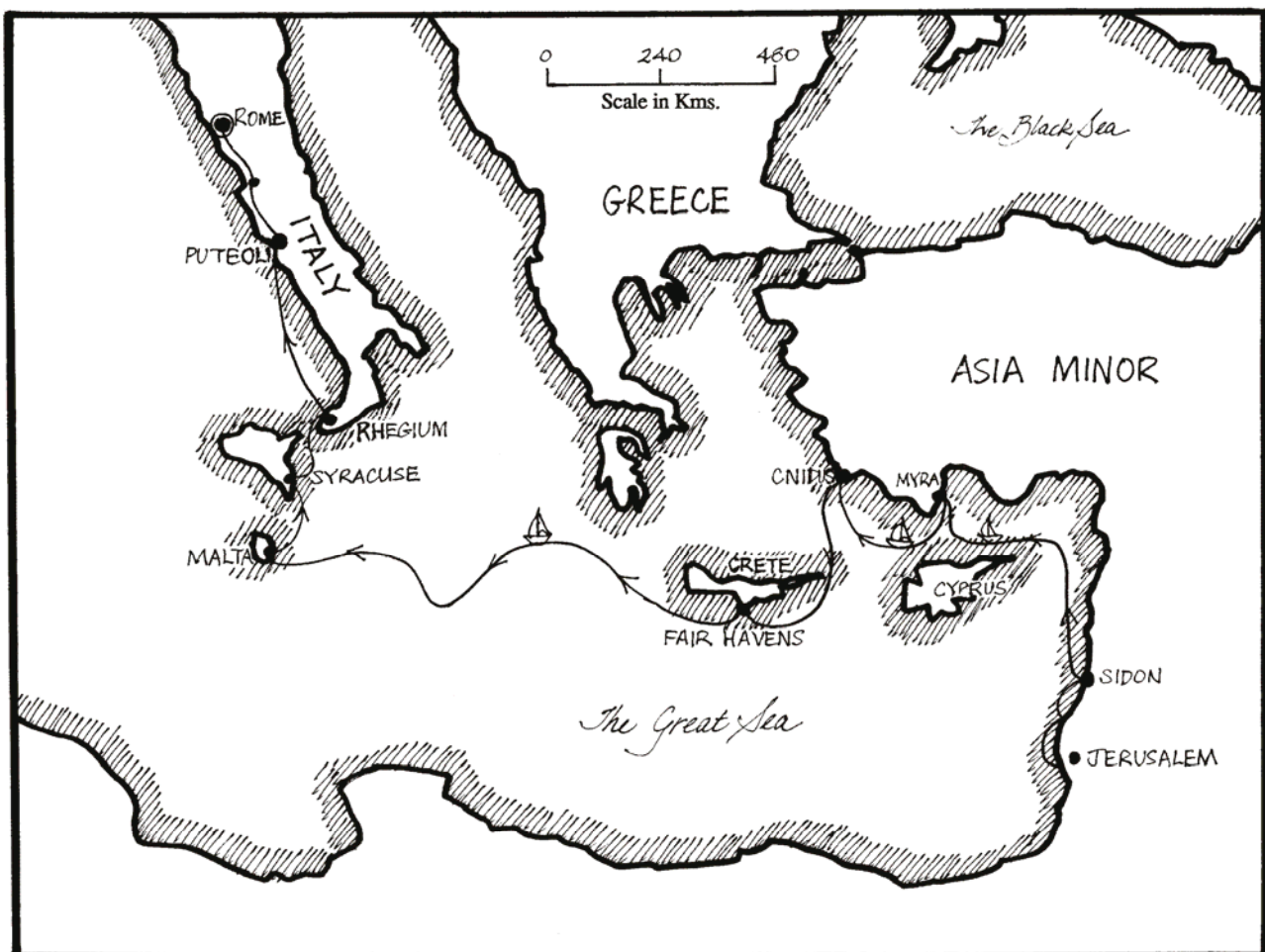


Paul's final journey

Activity B – Mapping Quiz

Questions: (Acts 27)

1. Where did they land on Day 2? _____
2. What island sheltered them from the winds as they sailed north? _____
3. At what port did they change ships? _____
4. About how many days did they take to travel from Fair Havens to Malta? _____
5. How many people were on the ship that was wrecked? _____



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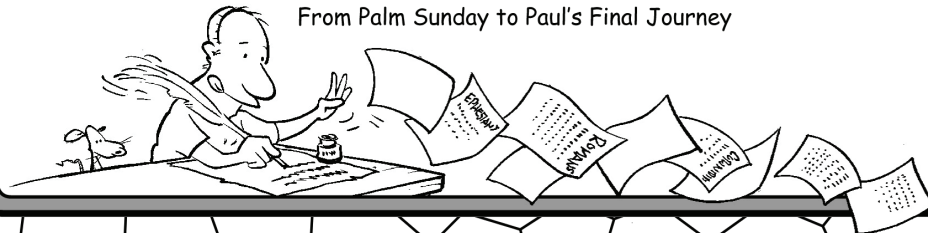


Well Done!

for completing

SonSeekers Unit 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey

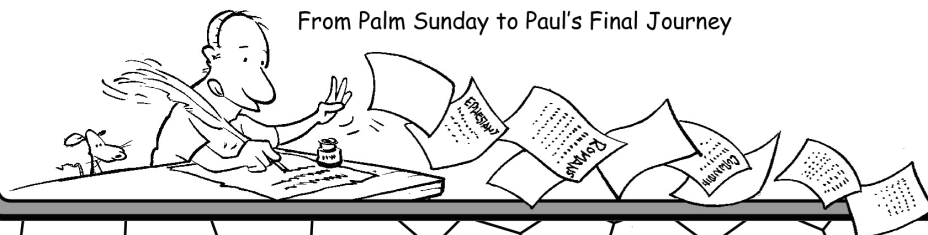


Well Done!

for completing

SonSeekers Unit 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey



Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One	Unit Two	Unit Three	Unit Four
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creation 1 Creation 2 Adam and Eve The fall Cain and Abel Noah builds an ark The flood, Noah and his sons The tower of Babel Abram called, Abram and Lot The covenant with Abraham Ishmael and Isaac Sodom and Gomorrah The sacrifice of Isaac Rebekah, Isaac's bride Jacob and Esau Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob becomes Israel Joseph, the favourite son Joseph goes to Egypt Joseph interprets the dreams Joseph's brothers Israel in Egypt Israelite slaves, Moses born Moses flees and returns to Egypt "Let My people go" The first passover, Israel delivered Crossing the Red Sea Manna, water from the rock Sinai and the ten commandments Moses and the tabernacle The golden calf Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron's rod Moses hits the rock The bronze serpent Balaam and his donkey Joshua and Rahab Crossing the Jordan, Jericho The sin of Achan The sun stands still Gideon's fleece Gideon and his army Samson Samson and Delilah Ruth, Naomi and Boaz Hannah Samuel hears God speak Eli, Hophni and Phinehas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saul chosen Saul and the Amalekites David chosen David and Goliath David and Jonathan David and Saul David crowned David and the ark Absalom Solomon becomes king Solomon's temple Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam Elijah and the widow Elijah on Mount Carmel Good King Jehoshaphat Elisha and the double portion
Unit Five	Unit Six	Unit Seven	Unit Eight
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The widow's oil, a boy raised Naaman Famine in Samaria Jonah The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom) Hezekiah and Sennacherib Isaiah Josiah Jeremiah The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom) Daniel interprets the king's dream The fiery furnace The writing on the wall Daniel in the lions' den Esther Restoration 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John The birth of Jesus Jesus in the temple John the Baptist Jesus baptised and tempted The call of the disciples Water turned to wine The temple cleansed, Nicodemus The woman at the well Healing of the paralysed man The house built on the rock Jesus stills the storm The feeding of the 5000 The centurion's servant Forgiveness in Simon's house The sower and the seed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus Jesus walks on the water Miracles of healing The transfiguration A boy is healed The unmerciful servant A man born blind The good Samaritan Prayer The raising of Lazarus The lost sheep, coin and son Attitudes of a servant The marriage of the king's son The ten lepers The ten virgins The talents 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Palm Sunday The last supper and Gethsemane The crucifixion The resurrection Peter restored The risen Christ and His ascension The day of Pentecost Peter and John Peter and the Gentiles Stephen Philip Paul's conversion Paul's first missionary journey Paul's second and third missionary journeys Paul's capture and imprisonment Paul's final journey

