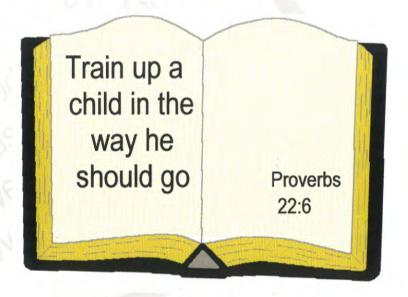
Friends and Enemies of the Apostle Paul

Vacation

Bible



School .

A series of lessons for Beginners

FRIENDS AND ENEMIES OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

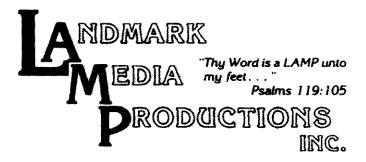
A series of five lessons designed for

Vacation Bible School

for

BEGINNERS Grades 1 & 2

Author: Betty Penn



Note to the teacher

Included in this notebook is a five-day series of lessons:

Lesson 1: Saul Of Tarsus, An Enemy Of the Church

Lesson 2: Barnabas, Paul's Friend

Lesson 3: Silas Becomes Paul's Friend

Lesson 4: Lydia At Philippi

Lesson 5: Timothy, A Friend Of Paul

These lessons are about people who became friends or enemies of the Apostle Paul, Bible characters not often studied for themselves. Many times we study the life of the Apostle Paul, but not much about the characters associated with him.

Worksheets are reproducible for classroom use only.

The lessons are produced in three-ring binder format for convenience in removing pages for copying. Since the worksheets are created in black and white rather than color, it is suggested that you use different colors of copy paper for each worksheet to create variety.

Craft projects are included at the end of the last lesson.

Aim:

Children should be taught while they are young that faithfulness to the truth is not popular with the world. To be faithful to the church will bring enemies with the world. To be faithful to what the Bible teaches may bring persecution. To be a christian will result in having enemies.

Emphasis:

Saul was a devout Jew who loved and served God. Before his conversion on the road to Damascus he was ignorant of Jesus as the Son of God. Even though he committed atrocities against the true church, God forgave him and he became a powerful apostle. He was not proud of his actions in persecuting the church. He stated that he did it in ignorance, thinking he was doing God a favor. After his conversion he determined to make up for his earlier actions by living a dedicated life of service to Jesus Christ and to the church. There were many other people who also suffered persecution by being a follower of Christ through the teachings of Paul. The lessons are designed to emphasize the lives of these people more than just Paul. Many people became Paul's friends, and many people became Paul's enemies.

May God bless the use of these lessons as you teach young people the truths of God's Word.

Betty Penn

SUGGESTED PROGRAM for

Beginner, Primary, and Junior Classes

(To be used along with songs.)

Distribute speaking parts the first day of Vacation Bible School so they can learn them to start rehearsing the second day for the closing program.

- This week we have been learning about the friends and the enemies of the Apostle Paul.
- The Apostle Paul was known as Saul of Tarsus.
 He was an enemy of the church.
 He changed his mind on the way to Damascus to arrest the Christians.
 The church became his friends and the

Jewish rulers became his enemies.

- Ananias obeyed God and became Paul's first friend in Damascus. He baptized Paul.
- Barnabas became Paul's friend.
 He convinced the apostles that Paul wanted to be their friend.
- The Bible says Barnabas was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith.
- Silas became Paul's friend.
 He was put in prison with Paul because they preached that Jesus was the Christ.

- Lydia became Paul's friend.
 The church at Philippi met in Lydia's house.
- Aquilla and Priscilla became Paul's friends.
 He stayed in their home and worked for them making tents.
- 9. Paul's friends at Jerusalem secretly put him on a ship and sent him to Tarsus so his enemies could not kill him.
- Paul's friends at Damascus let him down over the city wall in the night so he could escape from his enemies who wanted to kill him.
- 11. Paul's enemies at Lystra stoned him until they thought he was dead.
- 12. Timothy became Paul's friend when he was a very young man.

Paul told Timothy to: (GROUP RECITES)

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

(Insert songs the children have learned during the week where appropriate.)

Lesson 1: SAUL OF TARSUS, AN ENEMY OF THE CHURCH

I. Friends and Enemies at Jerusalem

- A. The Jewish rulers were friends of Saul.
- B. Saul, an enemy of the church.
 - 1. persecuted the church at Jerusalem
 - 2. Stephen was stoned.
 - 3. men and women were arrested and placed in prison.
 - 4. The church began to scatter.

II. Friends and Enemies at Damascus

- A. Saul, an enemy of the church at Damascus.
 - 1. went there to persecute the saints
 - 2. Saul changed on the way to Damascus.
- B. Saul, a friend of the church at Damascus
 - 1. Ananias became Saul's friend
 - 2. preached in the synagogue that Jesus was the Christ
 - 3. church protected him
- C. Jews at the synagogue became Saul's enemies
 - 1. made plans to kill Saul
 - 2. fled from Damascus at night

III. Friends and Enemies At Jerusalem

- A. Saul, a Friend of the church
 - 1. returned to Jerusalem
 - a. Apostles were afraid of Saul
- B. Barnabas became his friend
 - 1. convinced the apostles to accept him
 - 2. allowed him to preach in the temple.
 - a. spoke boldly in the name of Jesus
- C. The Jewish leaders became his enemies
 - 1. Grecians were about to slay him
 - a. his friends, the church, sent him to Tarsus
- D. The church had rest from persecution

Scripture: Acts 9:1-31 (22:3-21)

Aim: Impress upon the child that a person can be active in church, zealous in his service

to God, and be wrong in his actions if he does not know the truth of what the Bible

teaches.

Emphasis: Saul's sincerity in his wrong-doing, and his changed life.

Memory Verse: Acts 8:3 "As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."

Saul's Early Life

The Apostle Paul was born in the city of Tarsus, and was named Saul. He was known as Saul of Tarsus. He was born to Jewish parents, so he began his earthly life as a Jew. He began his spiritual life faithful to the Jewish religion. Since he practiced the Jewish religion, he was an enemy of the church. After he began preaching his name was changed to Paul.

Acts 22:3

Saul was raised as a strict Jew. The Jewish boys who could afford an education were taught at the synagogues. At an early age he was sent to Jerusalem to study at the synagogue. He learned from the greatest Jewish scholar, Gamaliel. He was taught the Law of Moses, and the customs of the Jews. Saul grew up to become a lawyer, a member of the highest Jewish court, the Sanhedrin. He had a lot of zeal, or enthusiasm, in keeping the laws and being a devout Jew. But he had one serious fault, he was very badly mistaken about who Jesus was. He believed in the one true God in heaven. He lived according to the laws of God. He worshiped at the synagogues, and attended the temple regularly for all of the feasts and celebrations that were required by the law. He believed the promise God made to send His Son into the world to redeem man from their sins. He believed someday God's Son would live on the earth, and rule as their king. But he did not believe that the man named Jesus, from Nazareth, was the Son of God. He believed in the Lord, but didn't know who He was.

The Church

God chose a man named John to baptize those who believed him when he said that God had sent His Son into the world, and that Jesus was the Christ. Baptism is immersion in water and pictures the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. When people came to John, repented of their sins and accepted the sacrifice that Jesus would make as payment for their sins, John baptized them. Jesus gathered those people who had been baptized by John the Baptist and started the church while He lived on the earth. From among those who followed Him, He called out twelve to be apostles, or preachers.

The church followed Jesus as He traveled from place to place while he lived on the earth. They learned from Him and witnessed His miracles that proved He was the Son of God. When Jesus went to Jerusalem the last time for the Feast of the Passover, the church went with Him. He told them He would be crucified, but He would rise again and return to heaven. He would no longer be there to teach and guide them. He told them to remain at Jerusalem after He was gone until God sent the Holy Spirit to come into their midst and guide them. He commanded

them to go into all the world and preach the gospel, baptize those who believed, and teach them all the things that He had taught them.

Jesus told His followers they would be persecuted. Matthew 10:16-23, "beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils - - scourge you in their synagogues - - be brought before governors and kings - - brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another." In Matthew 5:10-12 He promised, "great is your reward in heaven." II Timothy 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Other scriptures: Luke 11:49; 21:12; John 15:20. Jesus said the church would suffer persecution but would be rewarded.

Jesus promised there would always be a church in existence. Matthew 16:18, "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Even Satan himself and all of the evil forces that are in the world shall not be able to destroy the church. It has suffered and will suffer persecution, but will not be utterly destroyed.

When Jesus was crucified He removed the Jewish way of worship. No longer would they offer animal sacrifices. They no longer needed to shed the animal's blood to picture Jesus' death for their sins. They would no longer burn incense. The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom when Jesus died on the cross. They no longer needed priests, because Jesus is our High Priest. Their whole way of worship changed. Now they would follow the teachings of Jesus rather than the customs and rituals of the Jewish religion.

Enemy of the church at Jerusalem

Saul did not accept this change. Ten days after Jesus returned to heaven was the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came to dwell in the church. They received power to do as Jesus commanded - go into all the world and preach the gospel. They received power to speak languages they had not studied, to prophesy, and to do miracles in order to prove the message they preached was true. On the day of Pentecost Peter preached a great sermon, and three thousand people were saved, baptized, and added to the church. The church remained in Jerusalem. Every day more and more became followers and were added to the church, this new religion. Acts 2:47, "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Saul saw this as a threat to Judaism (the religion of the Jews). He was convinced that Jesus was an imposter and this new religion should be destroyed.

Saul was an enemy of the church. He began by bringing persecution on the church at Jerusalem. He said of himself, "And I persecuted this way (this religion, or the church) unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women." Stephen, the first deacon in the church was stoned to death because he preached that Jesus whom the Jews crucified arose from the dead and was seated on the right hand of God the Father in heaven. Others were arrested and put in prison for no other reason than they were members of the church. I Timothy 1:13 Saul stated that he persecuted the church in ignorance, "Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief." He thought he was doing God a favor by stamping out this "false religion". I Corinthians

15:9, "For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God."

After Stephen was stoned to death, many of the christians began to move away from Jerusalem to escape being put in prison or killed. The church began to scatter, Acts 8:3-4. Philip, another deacon went to Samaria. Acts 11:19-21, some went to Phenice, some to Cyprus, and some to Antioch, and other places seeking safety.

Enemy of the church at Damascus

Saul heard that many of the christians had gone to Damascus. He received permission to from the Jewish rulers go to Damascus and arrest them and bring them back to Jerusalem to be placed in prison. Acts 9:1-2 "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, and desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem." As he traveled, suddenly a very bright light shone down from heaven all around him and a voice said, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Saul asked, "Who art thou, Lord?" Jesus spoke to him and said, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest:" Saul believed in the Lord (that God would send His Son) but he didn't know who He was. Saul realized that he was wrong, and Jesus really was the Christ. Now he wanted to serve God by becoming a part of the church that he had been persecuting. Saul trembled and shook as he asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" He wanted to serve God by doing what God wanted him to do.

Friend of the church at Damascus

Jesus sent Saul to Ananias, who healed his blindness, baptized him, and became his first friend in Damascus. He was baptized and went into the desert of Arabia where he was taught by Jesus for three years. He came back to Damascus and preached in their synagogue. The Jews at the synagogue no longer liked Saul because he preached about Jesus. The church became his friends and the Jews became his enemies. Now Saul was being persecuted because he was a christian. The Jews at the synagogue planned to kill him, so the church members secretly let him down over the city wall in a basket during the night so he could escape in the darkness. He returned to Jerusalem.

Friend of the church at Jerusalem

When Saul left Jerusalem to go to Damascus he was an **enemy** of the church. When he returned he wanted to be a **friend** of the church, but the apostles were afraid of him. **Barnabas became his friend**. He believed Saul had changed and convinced the church to accept him. Saul began to preach boldly in the temple at Jerusalem that Jesus was the Christ. The **Jews** who had once been his **friends** when he persecuted the christians became his **enemies**. God warned him to leave Jerusalem, Acts 22:17-18, because the Grecians (Jews who spoke the Greek language) were going to kill him. When the church found out he was about to be killed, the brethren risked their lives for him. They took him to Caesarea on the seacoast and sent him by ship to Tarsus.

Lesson wrap-up:

Saul began his religious life as an enemy of the church.

Ananias became his first friend. God told him to heal Paul's blindness and baptize him.

He had been a friend of the Jews in Damascus became they became his enemies and attempted to kill him.

He had been an enemy of the church at Damascus, but they became his friends. They let him down over the wall of the city in a basket so he could escape during the night.

After he had been a bitter enemy of the church at Jerusalem, they became his friends.

Barnabas became his first friend in Jerusalem. The apostles and the church at Jerusalem were afraid of Saul until Barnabas convinced them to become his friends.

The church became his friends. The Grecians (Jews who spoke the Greek language) became his enemies and sought to kill him. The apostles sent him back to Tarsus.

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MEMORY VERSE: Acts 8:3

"As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."

Discussion:

Saul (Paul) devoted his time and energy to looking for members of the Lord's church so he could persecute them and put an end to this "false religion" that was growing fast since the death of it's founder. He went into their homes and arrested them. He was an enemy of the church until Jesus convinced him on the road to Damascus that He was the Son of God and not an imposter. Paul then became a friend of the church. He no longer arrested them.

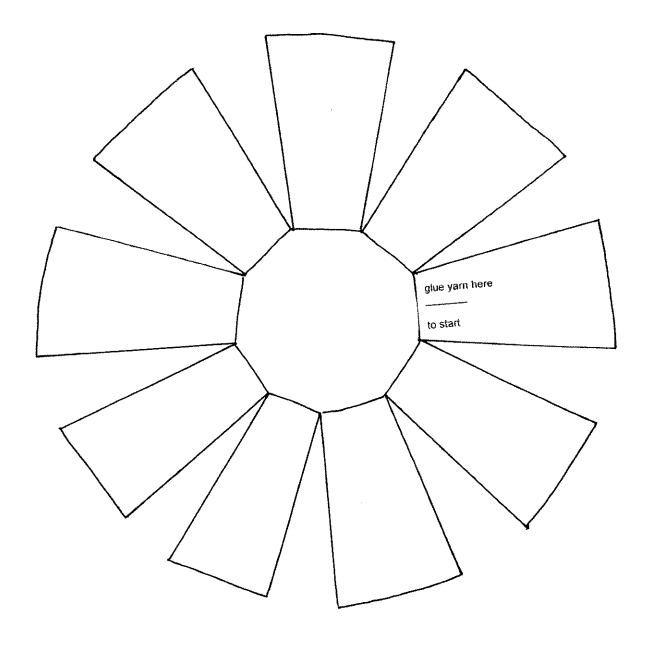
Paul showed his humility by thinking of himself as the least of all the apostles when he said in I Corinthians 15:9 "For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." Paul was not proud of the fact that he persecuted the church. He said that he was not worthy to even be called an apostle because he persecuted the church, but he did it ignorantly. He thought he was doing God a favor by stamping out what he thought was a false religion.

HANDCRAFT PROJECT

Materials necessary:

heavy brown construction paper about 10 yards of brown yarn - (heavy yarn is better) paper clips glue

Copy one for each child on heavy brown construction paper. Cut around edges. Fold up on fold tines. Glue about ½ inch of yarn to inside of one edge to hold in place to start. Wrap, alternating strips, around basket. Wrap snugly for the first few rounds, then not too tight toward the top, just enough to pull strips together. Stop about 1/4 inch from top and push end of yarn inside to secure loose end. Fold edges inside and glue to hold yarn in place. It helps to use paper clips to hold in place until dry.





Saul of Tarsus was an enemy of the church. He was changed on his way to Damascus. He was blinded by a bright light. The Lord told him to send for Ananias and he would tell him what to do.

Ananias was afraid of Saul because he knew that he was coming to Damascus to arrest the Christians. Ananias believed the Lord when He told him that He had chosen Saul to be an apostle to the Gentiles.

Ananias became Saul's friend. He healed his blindness and baptized him. The church at Damascus became his friends. The Jews at Damascus became his enemies.

Draw a line to the picture that answers the question.

He was an enemy of the church.





When he went to Damascus they became his enemies.

Ananias



In Damascus, they became his friends.



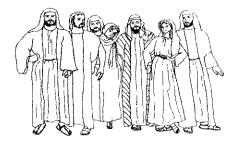


the Jews

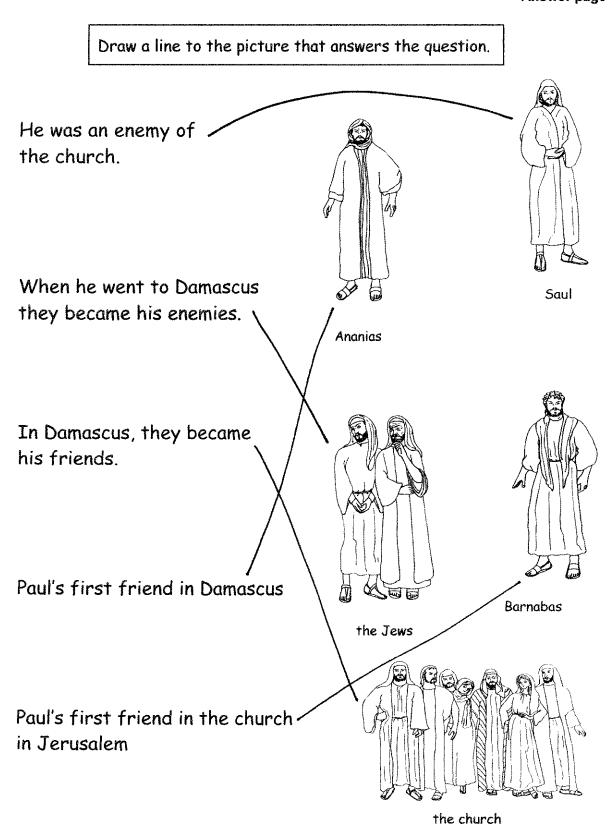
Barnabas

Paul's first friend in the church in Jerusalem

Paul's first friend in Damascus



the church



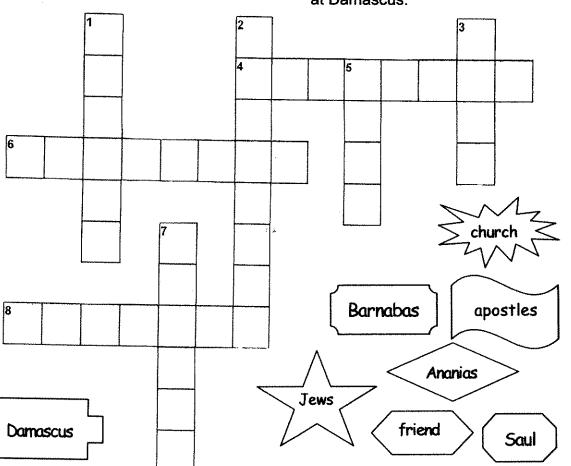
Select your answers from the words at the bottom of the page.

ACROSS

- 4. The _____ at Jerusalem were afraid of Saul.
- 6. He believed Saul and became his first friend at Jerusalem.
- 8. He baptized Saul and became his friend in Damascus.

DOWN

- The _____ at Damascus became became Saul's friends.
- 2. Saul went to _____ to arrest the Christians in the church.
- 3. The ____ at the synagogue in Damascus became Saul's enemies.
- 5. ____ of Tarsus was an enemy of the church.
- 7. Ananias became Saul's first _____ at Damascus.



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Lesson 1: Saul Of Tarsus, An Enemy Of the Church

Select your answers from the words at the bottom of the page.

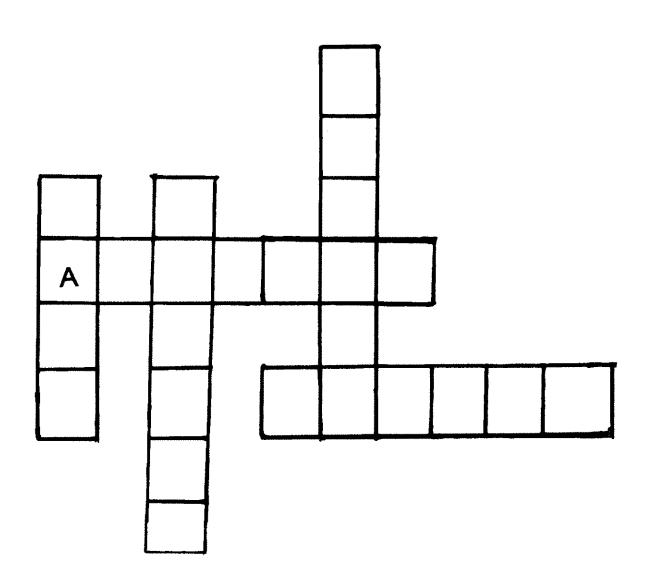
ACROSS DOWN 4. The _____ at Jerusalem 1. The____ at Damascus became were afraid of Saul became Saul's friends. 6. He believed Saul and became 2. Saul went to _____ to arrest the Christians in the church. his first friend at Jerusalem. 3. The _____ at the synagogue in 8. He baptized Saul and became Damascus became Saul's enemies. his friend in Damascus. of Tarsus was an enemy of 5. the church. 7. Ananias became Saul's first at Damascus. M Α AB S church R U Barnabas apostles N Α E **Ananias** Jews N friend Saul Damascus

Fit these words into the puzzle.

One letter is given to get you started.

ANANIAS PAUL CHURCH

BASKET PREACH

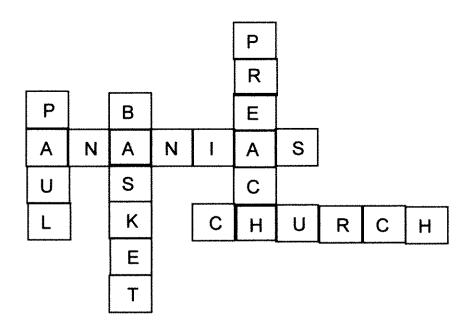


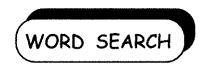
Fit these words into the puzzle.

One letter is given to get you started.

ANANIAS PAUL CHURCH

BASKET PREACH





Find each word in the puzzle 3 times:

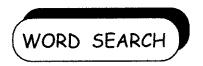
ANANIAS

BASKET

DAMASCUS

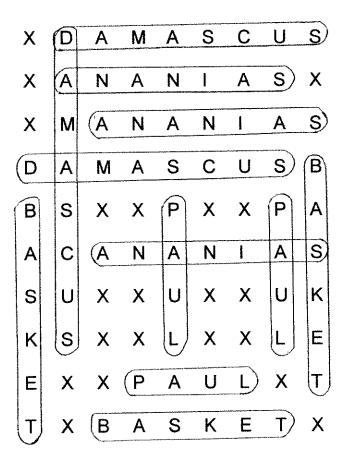
PAUL

Χ	D	Α	M	Α	S	С	U	S
X	Α	N	Α	N	l	Α	S	X
X	М	Α	N	Α	N	ļ	Α	S
D	Α	М	Α	s	С	U	S	В
В	S	X	X	Р	X	X	Р	Α
Α	С	Α	N	Α	N	1	Α	S
S	U	X	X	U	X	X	U	K
K	S	X	X	L	X	X	L	Ε
E	X	X	Р	Α	U	L	X	Т
Т	Х	В	Α	S	K	E	Т	Х



Find each word in the puzzle 3 times:

ANANIAS
BASKET
DAMASCUS
PAUL



Lesson 2: BARNABAS, PAUL'S FRIEND

I. Barnabas, A Good Man

- A. From Cyprus
- B. Sold land that he owned and gave the money to the church

II. Barnabas Becomes Paul's Friend

- A. Convinced the apostles and the church at Jerusalem that Paul had changed
- B. The Apostles and the church became Paul's friends

III. Barnabas Goes To Antioch In Syria

- A. Taught the new Christians
 - 1. Brought Paul to help him
- B. The Church at Antioch became Paul's friends
 - 1. Sent Barnabas and Saul out as missionaries
 - 2. From now on known as Paul

IV. Jews Became His Enemies and Gentiles Became His Friends

- A. Paphos
 - 1. Friend the deputy, Sergius Paulus
 - 2. Enemy Elymas the sorcerer
- B. Antioch in Pisidia
 - 1. Gentiles became his friends Acts 13:42
 - a. Whole city followed Paul v. 44
 - 2. Jews became his enemies v. 45
 - a. Ran them out of town
- C. Stoned At Lystra
 - 1. Jews and Gentiles at Iconium became his enemies
 - a. Attempted to stone them
 - b. Followed them to Lystra and convinced the people to stone Paul

III. Returned to Antioch

- A. Reported that the gospel had been spread to the Gentiles
- B. Planned another trip
 - 1. Parted company because Barnabas wanted to take John Mark

Scripture: Acts 4:31-37 9: 26-30 11:19-26 13:1-3 14:6-20

Aim: Barnabas became Paul's friend. He suffered persecution with Paul. A friend

may disagree with you but still be your friend.

Emphasis: Barnabas truly became Paul's friend. He believed that Paul really had changed,

and he convinced the apostles that Paul wanted to be a part of the church. Barnabas remained Paul's friend, and even put himself in danger because he

would not abandon Paul.

Memory Verse: Acts 11:24 "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord."

Barnabas, A Good Man

Acts 11:24 describes Barnabas as "a good man". He was not good of himself, but was a good man because he had been saved from his sins by the blood of Jesus. He was also "full of the Holy Ghost". He let the Holy Spirit of God lead him and direct his life. He lived a good life. He tried to obey the teachings of Jesus. He used his life in the service of God.

Barnabas was a Jew, born of the tribe of Levi. However, he was born on the island of Cyprus in the Mediterranean Sea, not in Jerusalem. He was taught the religion of the Jews and came to Jerusalem to worship at the temple. Many Jews came to Jerusalem for the feasts and celebrations at the temple several times a year. Cyprus was a few miles away but not too far for Barnabas to come to Jerusalem to worship.

Barnabas was unselfish

Barnabas must have been one of the first people to change from Judaism (the religion of the Jewish people) to Christianity. He was one of the earliest members of the church. He must have in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast when Jesus was crucified. The book of Acts tells us about Barnabas soon after the day of Pentecost, which was fifty days after Jesus arose from the grave. Jesus told the church to stay in Jerusalem after he went back to heaven until the Holy Spirit came upon them and gave them the power they needed to go into all the world and preach about Him to all nations. Forty days after Jesus came forth from the grave He went back to heaven. Ten days later the Holy Spirit came down to dwell in the church. Very soon persecution of the church began.

The church members depended on each other. Acts 4:32 tells us "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common." The church members were not selfish with their possessions. Some of them lived in Jerusalem. Many of them came from other places, following Jesus as He traveled and taught. Those in Jerusalem shared their belongings with the others. They did not look upon their possessions as being "theirs". They shared so that no one did without the things he or she needed. "Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need." Many of the

church members owned land or houses, either in Jerusalem or in other areas, which they sold. They brought the money and gave it to the apostles. It was then distributed among all of the church members according to how much each one needed.

Barnabas was the first person mentioned by name who sold his land and brought the money to the apostles. His name means "the son of consolation". It means he was a caring, comforting person; one who shows kindness. Acts 4:36-37, Barnabas, "Having land, (possibly in Cyprus) sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet." Barnabas brought all of his money. He did not hold back some for himself, but gave it all to the apostles.

Barnabas trusted Paul

We read about Barnabas again when Paul returned from Damascus to Jerusalem where he had earlier been an enemy of the church. Paul was a Pharisee who believed in keeping the laws of God. He observed all of the customs of the Jews. He was a very religious person but he did not believe that Jesus was the Christ. He arrested and put men and women in prison for no other reason than they were Christians until his mind was changed when he met the Lord on the road to Damascus. He repented for being an enemy of the church and began to preach that Jesus was the Christ. The Jews then became his enemies. They began to persecute him and he had to leave Damascus secretly during the night to keep from being killed.

Paul returned to Jerusalem as a friend of the church, but the apostles were afraid of him. He had been their enemy when he left. They were afraid that he was using a disguise of being a Christian so he could find out who the believers were and persecute them. They did not trust him. "But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus." Barnabas became Paul's friend. He believed that Paul really had changed. He convinced the apostles that Paul had met Jesus on the road to Damascus and had now become one of them. The Lord had called him to be an apostle. Barnabas told the apostles how Paul had not been afraid to preach the truth in Damascus even though the Jews there wanted to kill him. Barnabas trusted Paul and risked his life and his reputation by being his friend.

Paul became a friend of the church rather than an enemy. He "spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus." When he tried to convince the Grecians (Jews who spoke the Greek language) that Jesus whom they crucified was the Christ, they became his enemy. They made plans to kill him. The brethren in the church heard about their plan and secretly took Paul to Caesarea on the seacoast and sent him back to his home town in Tarsus. The church members and the apostles were his friends. They risked their lives to protect him.

The church sent Barnabas to Antioch in Syria

Stephen, the first deacon in the church at Jerusalem, preached that Jesus arose from the dead and returned to heaven and was seated on the right hand of God the Father. For this he was killed. Paul was still an enemy of the church at that time, and he consented to the stoning to death of Stephen. After this many members of the church left Jerusalem to keep from being killed. Some went to Antioch in Syria. They taught the Grecians the truth about Jesus and many of them believed. The good news of people accepting Jesus as the Christ spread back

to the church in Jerusalem. They were happy. They sent Barnabas to teach these new Christians. They chose Barnabas because "he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith." When Barnabas came to Antioch and saw how God had worked among these people, many of them Gentiles, he was glad. He encouraged them to remain faithful to the Lord.

Barnabas goes to Tarsus to get Paul

Barnabas stayed at Antioch for a while teaching the people. The church grew so fast he saw that he needed help. The one he wanted to help him was Paul. He knew Paul had the ability and the courage to teach these people the things they needed to know. He went to Tarsus and brought Paul back to Antioch. They stayed there and taught the people for a whole year. Acts 11:26, "And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Paul taught them to be Christians in their actions so others would see that they were followers of Christ. Prophets came from Jerusalem and told them about a famine in the land, and how badly they needed help. The saints at Antioch sent Barnabas and Paul to take help to the brethren in Jerusalem. After they completed their mission they returned to Antioch.

Barnabas and Paul become missionaries

God chose Paul to be a missionary to the Gentiles, and also chose Barnabas to be his helper. "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." They were sent out from the church at Antioch and traveled to many towns preaching the message that Jesus was the Christ. They made friends and enemies everywhere they went. Paul worked miracles to prove he preached the truth, and this caused him trouble in many places.

They went to the island of Cyprus (where Barnabas was born). Sergius Paulus, the deputy at Paphos, became a friend of Barnabas and Paul. He sent for them because he wanted to hear the truth. A sorcerer named Elymas, who was possessed with an evil spirit, became their enemy. He did not want Serguis Paulus to hear and accept the truth. Paul cast blindness on him for a period of time. They went to another town called Antioch, this one in Pisidia, and because so many Gentiles believed their message, the Jews became their enemies. They were filled with hatred and ran them out of town. They went to Iconium and preached in the synagogue. The Jews there stirred up the Gentiles and both groups joined together and became their enemies. They attempted to stone them to death, so they fled to Lystra. At Lystra Paul healed a crippled man and the people decided they were gods who had come down to the earth in the form of men. They called Barnabas Jupiter, and they called Paul Mercury. The priest of the false god, Jupiter, brought oxen and garlands and prepared a sacrifice. Barnabas and Paul refused to allow them to worship them as gods.

By this time their enemies from Antioch and Iconium caught up with them and convinced the people they were evil. They stoned Paul and left him outside the city thinking he was dead. Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch and reported to the church all that God had done through them, and all the Gentiles who had accepted their message. After staying in Antioch for a while, "Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do." Barnabas wanted to take his nephew, John Mark, with them and Paul did not. He had gone with them earlier and after a short while he turned back, so Paul did not want to take him again. The tension became so great between them that they decided to go their separate ways.

Lesson wrap-up:

Barnabas was a good man, and filled with the Holy Spirit. He became Paul's friend.

When Paul returned to Jerusalem and wanted to be a part of the church Barnabas trusted him and convinced the apostles to accept him and become his friends.

Barnabas was a good man. He was sent to Antioch to teach new converts there. He went to Tarsus and brought Paul back to help him.

The church at Antioch sent them out as missionaries. They made friends and enemies everywhere they went. Paul had the power of God to work miracles in the name of Jesus.

They were run out of Antioch at Pisidia. They attempted to stone them at Iconium. They did stone Paul at Lystra.

They returned with a good report that many Gentiles were saved as a result of their preaching. Many Gentile churches were started.

They disagreed over taking John Mark with them on their next journey. The tension was so great they parted company. Barnabas took Mark, and Paul chose Silas to be his helper.



MEMORY VERSE: Acts 11:24

"For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord."

Discussion:

Barnabas was a "good man" because he had received Jesus as his Savior, and he had the Spirit of God living in him. He wanted to obey and please God. He was not selfish. He shared his earthly possessions with others in the church who were in need.

He was willing to go where God wanted him to go. He used his influence in Antioch to teach the new converts. They were called "Christians first at Antioch".

Because he loved and obeyed God many people were saved, and churches were started and strengthened in many places.



Saul left Jerusalem as an enemy of the church. On the way to Damascus he met the Lord and became an apostle.

When he returned to Jerusalem the apostles and the church were afraid of him. They thought he was claiming to be an apostle so he could arrest them and maybe even have them killed, because he had been their enemy.

Barnabas believed Saul. He became Saul's friend. He brought Saul to the apostles and convinced them that he really was a follower of Jesus. Barnabas was a good man, and trustworthy. The apostles believed Barnabas, and Saul became a friend of the church.

Use your Bible
Find Acts 11:24.
What kind of person was Barnabas?
He was a man and full of the
and of
Find Acts 4:37.
What did Barnabas do to help the church?
He his land and brought the and
gave it to the
Find Acts 13:3.
How did the church at Antioch send out Barnabas and Paul as nissionaries?
They and and laid their
on them, and sent them

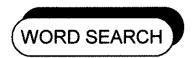
Use your Bible
Look up the scriptures and answer the questions.
Find Acts 11:24.
What kind of person was Barnabas?
He was a <u>good</u> man and full of the <u>Holy</u> <u>Ghost</u>
and of <u>faith</u> .
Find Acts 4:37.
What did Barnabas do to help the church?
He <u>sold</u> his land and brought the <u>money</u> and
gave it to the <u>apostles</u> .
Find Acts 13:3.

How did the church at Antioch send out Barnabas and Paul as

on them, and sent them <u>away</u>.

They <u>fasted</u> and <u>prayed</u> and laid their <u>hands</u>

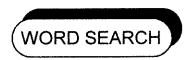
missionaries?



Find the following words from our lesson that are hidden in the puzzle.

Each words is hidden 2 times — once across and once down.

BARNABAS CHURCH				FRIEND JESUS					PAUL SEND	
	J	X	X	Р	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Ε	X	В	A	R	N	A	В	A	S
	5	С	Н	U	R	С	Н	A	X	Ε
	U	Н	F	L	X	X	X	R	X	N
	5	U	R	5	Ε	N	D	Ν	X	D
	F	R	I	Ε	N	D	Ρ	A	U	L
	X	С	Ε	X	X	X	X	В	X	X
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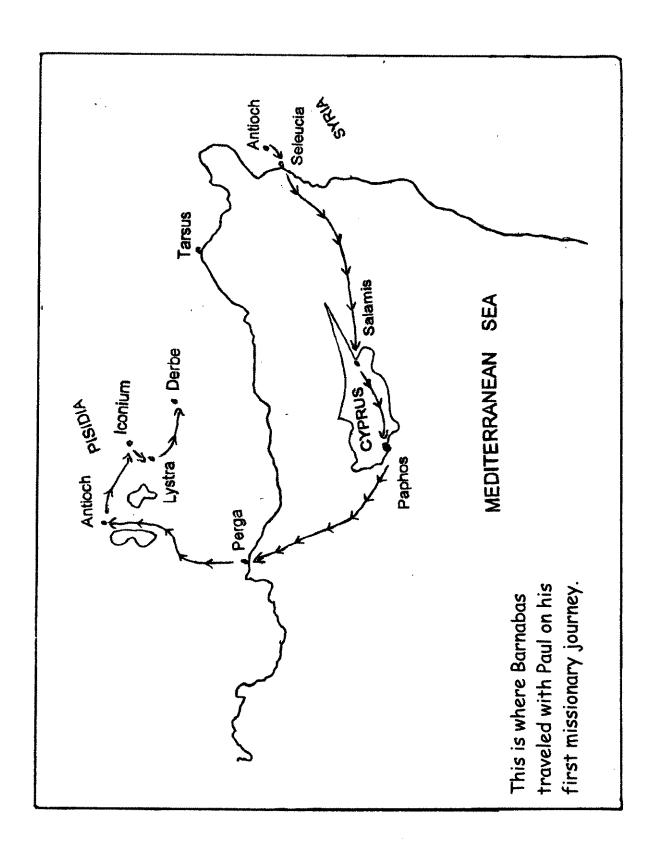


Find the following words from our lesson that are hidden in the puzzle.

Each words is hidden 2 times — once across and once down.

BARNABAS FRIEND PAUL CHURCH JESUS SEND

J	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X
E	X	B	A	R	Ν	Α	B	Α	5
5	C	Н	U	R	С	H	Α	×	E
U	H	F		X	X	X	R	X	N
s	U	R	<u>s</u>	E	N	D	N	X	D
F	R	I	E	Ν	D	P	Α	U	D
X	c	Е	X	Х	X	×	В	X	X
Х	H	N	X	X	X	×	A	X	X
Х	×	0	J	E	5	U	S	X	X



Lesson 3: Silas Becomes Saul's Friend

I. Silas in Jerusalem

- A. A trusted member of the congregation
 - 1. a good man, respected
 - 2. had risked his life for the cause of Christ
 - 3. a prophet

II. In Antioch

- A. trusted to be sent as a representative of the council
- B. Silas was sent from Jerusalem to Antioch to confirm that the letters Paul and Barnabas brought back were authentic, and the will of the council.

III. Accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey

- A. Paul chose him because of his reputation of being truthful and dependable.
- B. in Philippi
 - 1. not ashamed to speak publicly
 - 2. harassed by a soothsayer
 - 3. beaten and put in prison
- A. protected by God
 - 1. earthquake

IV. Thessalonica

- A. opposed by the Jewish rulers
- B. left secretly by night to avoid harm
- C. stayed behind in Berea and met Paul again in Corinth

Scripture: Acts 15:1-2, 6, 20, 22-27, 32-34, 40-41

16:9, 12-13, 16-39 17:5

Aim: Show the character of Silas as an honest man, and trustworthy. He proved

himself worthy to be entrusted with important matters.

Emphasis: Silas proved by the way he lived that he was a "good man". Those who knew

him trusted him to always tell the truth. Silas was persecuted for doing what was right. Persecution did not make him deny God. We should remain firm

in believing the truth no mater how unpopular it is.

Memory Verse: Psalms 7:1, "O Lord my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:"

Silas comes to Antioch

Paul and Barnabas returned from their first missionary journey and found that some men had come from Judea while they were away and taught the church some false doctrines. They taught that Christianity was a Jewish religion, so the Gentiles must put themselves under the Law of Moses and the customs of the Jews before they could be saved.

Paul and Barnabas disagreed. The church at Antioch decided to send them and some other members to Jerusalem to ask the apostles and elders of the church what they should do. They formed a council to study the matter and decide what the truth was. They decided that since God had sent the Holy Spirit on Gentile churches just as He did on the church at Jerusalem, that God had accepted them as Gentiles and not as Jews. They should not require them to do things that God did not require of them. James suggested that they would not make them become Jews before they could be saved, baptized, and accepted into the church. However, they would write letters encouraging them to live by certain things that the law taught, just because it was a good way to live.

The council wrote letters of instruction and sent them back to the Gentiles at Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia. The whole church at Jerusalem agreed that they would choose two good men from the church who were honest and dependable, and send them back with Paul and Barnabas to be a witness that this was what the church decided. The two men were Judas, surnamed Barsabas, and Silas. They were men who had placed their own lives in danger because they believed that Jesus was the Christ.

The council wrote the letters assuring the Gentiles that they did not send the men who came teaching that they must observe Jewish customs or they could not be Christians. They said, "to whom we gave no such commandment." (Acts 15:24) They instructed them in some good practices, V. 29, and they all agreed that they should send Judas and Silas with Paul and Barnabas to confirm that the letters were from the council, and were the wishes of the church. They considered the Gentiles to be their brethren in Christ. They sent Judas and Silas so they could tell them the same things that were written in the letters so they would know it was true. This was a very important matter. They wanted the Gentile churches to believe that this was what they decided, not just what Paul and Barnabas wanted them to believe. Silas was a

trustworthy man. The Gentile churches could believe what he said. After they delivered the letters Judas returned to Jerusalem, but Silas chose to stay with Paul at Antioch..

The Bible as we have it today had not been completed. The people did not have all of the written word of God to read. God still used prophets to revealed His will. Silas was one God chose to be a prophet. When Paul and Barnabas separated as a missionary team, Paul chose Silas to be his partner on his second missionary journey.

Paul and Silas persecuted

Paul and Silas went to the city of Philippi. They looked for a synagogue to worship on the Sabbath. They did not find one, so they went outside the city by the river side to pray. There were other people from the city who went to a certain place by the river side to pray. Paul and Silas saw a group of women who came regularly to pray, and they preached to them.

Every day they would go to the river and teach the people. Every day a young woman followed them. She was possessed with an evil spirit and was a fortune teller. She was not a prophet like Silas who had the power of God to tell things that God wanted the people to know. Evil spirits would imitate the power of God by possessing people and causing them to tell things about the future. In the Bible they are called false prophets. They practiced witchcraft and idolatry. Some men in the city owned this young woman, and she earned a lot of money for them by her evil powers. She became an enemy of Paul and Silas.

Every day she followed Paul and Silas mocking them. Everywhere they went, she followed them crying out, "These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation." Day after day after day she followed them, making fun of them for being men of God. Every day it was the same thing everywhere they went. She distracted from their preaching by her presence. Finally Paul got tired of it. He was tired of her distracting others by making fun of them. After she had done this for many days, Paul turned to her and said to the evil spirit that was inside her, "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." The Bible says he immediately came out of the young woman.

The men who owned her were angry when she could no longer earn a lot of money for them by telling fortunes. They did not care about the young woman and her unhappiness by being possessed with evil. All they cared about was the money she made for them. They were displeased with what Paul had done. They became Paul's enemies.

They brought Paul and Silas to the rulers in the marketplace. They accused them of being trouble-makers and took them before the judges. They said, "These men are Jews and they are teaching things that are against our Roman beliefs." To punish them for "causing trouble", the magistrates had their coats removed and commanded them to be publicly beaten. Verse 23-24, "And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks."

After striking Paul and Silas many times across their backs with a rod they cast them into prison. Their feet were fastened securely in stocks. Stocks were logs or pieces of heavy

wood with holes in them so their feet could be placed through the holes and tied with thongs or chains so they could not pull them out. They could not stand, walk, or move around. Silas had risked his life before in Jerusalem for the cause of Christ, and he did not forsake Paul now.

Paul and Silas had been beaten severely. Their backs hurt. They were in prison, and their feet were fastened securely in stocks. They were in this position for several hours. You would not expect someone in this condition to want to sing praises to God. But that is exactly what they did. At midnight the other prisoners heard Paul and Silas praying and singing praises to God. They did not understand how they could be happy enough to sing at this time of night in their miserable condition.

Suddenly they felt an earthquake. The foundations of the prison shook. All of the doors of the prison were opened. All of the bands that held the prisoners securely were loosened. They were all free. They could run. They could get away from the prison. The jailor was awakened from his sleep by the shaking and the noise of the earthquake. He saw the prison doors open and he was sure that all of the prisoners had escaped. If a jailor let a prisoner escape, he was punished by being put to death. The jailor reached for his own sword and intended to kill himself so he would not be tortured and killed for letting the prisoners escape. Paul saw what was happening. He knew the jailor feared for his life, so he called out very loudly, "Don't harm yourself. We are all here." Paul assured him that no one had escaped.

The jailor knew Paul and Silas worshiped God, and he feared God. He knew this was the work of God to protect His servants. He asked for a light so he could see for himself in the darkness. He came into the prison and was shaking and trembling when he fell down at the feet of Paul and Silas. He asked them, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" He wanted to trust the God that they worshiped. He wanted to be saved from his sins. They told him simply, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." All the members of his household, his family members, and those who lived there and worked for him could be saved the same way. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."

The jailor became Paul's friend. Paul and Silas preached to them that night. They told them that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to live as a man and die on the cross to pay the price for sin. They told them how to be saved. They believed what they heard and were saved that night. The jailor took Paul and Silas immediately and washed their stripes, probably anointing them with ointment to make them feel better. Paul then baptized him and the other members of his household who believed. The jailer took them into his own house and gave them food to eat. He rejoiced. He was happy. He had been forgiven of his sins and was now a child of God. He had reason to rejoice because he now believed in God, and he had influenced those in his household to also believe. Paul and Silas rejoiced because the will of God had been done in the lives of many people. God had protected them. God sent the earthquake to release them and to prove to the town that they were His servants, His children, and He would protect them from their enemies.

Silas knew it was God who sent the earthquake. It was God who protected them, and he continued to go with Paul to preach to others that Jesus was the Christ. They left Philippi and went to Thessalonica. There they preached in the synagogue of the Jews that Jesus whom

the Jews crucified was the Christ, and that it was necessary for Him to die in order for all the world to be saved. Once again Silas was in danger because he was Paul's friend. Some of the Jews believed, but some did not. Those who did not believe accused Paul and Silas of being trouble makers and teaching the people that there was another king besides Caesar, a man named Jesus. They went to the house of Jason, one of Paul's followers. They accused Jason of hiding Paul and Silas and had him arrested. The brethren in the church heard about it and secretly sent Paul and Silas away during the night so they would not be persecuted. They went to Berea, and when the Thessalonians followed them there to persecute them, Silas stayed behind while Paul went on to Athens and Corinth. Silas came to be with him in Corinth, and probably spent much of the rest of his life preaching in Corinth.

Lesson wrap-up:

Silas was respected by the church at Jerusalem. He was called a "good man". He was endowed by the Holy Spirit with the gift of prophecy. He was trusted to go to Antioch and witness for Paul that what he preached to the Gentiles regarding salvation was true.

Paul chose him to be his traveling companion, knowing they would face persecution. He trusted Silas to help him. The church at Antioch recommended Silas as a missionary.

Silas had risked his life in Jerusalem for the cause of Christ. He chose to be a friend of Paul even in the face of persecution, and remained faithful to him during many years of traveling and preaching. He was beaten and went to prison with Paul, and remained faithful to him and to the cause of Christ. He was run out of Thessalonica with Paul. He traveled delivering letters to churches for Paul. Paul trusted him with the care of churches when he had to go on somewhere else to preach.

Later in his life Paul referred to him as a faithful brother.

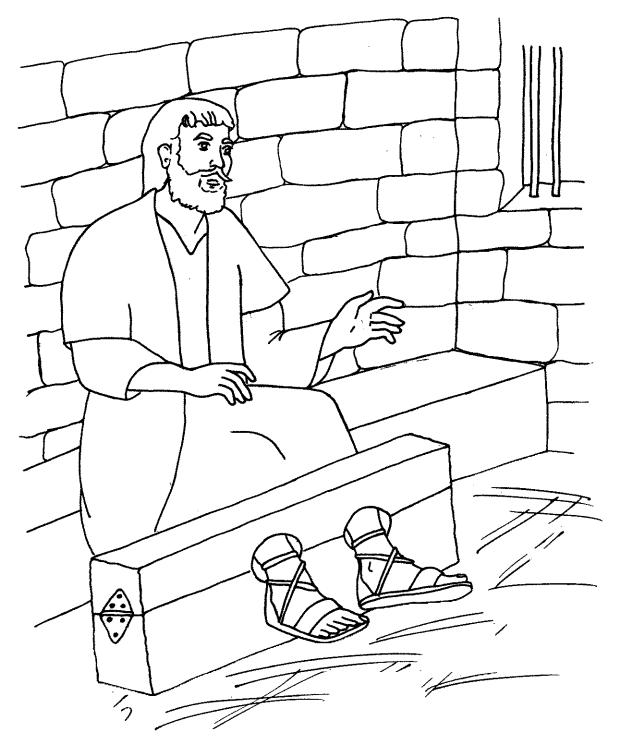
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Memory verse: Psalms 7:1

"O Lord my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:"

Discussion:

Silas trusted the Lord to save him from his enemies. He risked his life by remaining a true believer in the first church at Jerusalem. He went to Antioch to deliver a ruling on a controversial issue. He preached the truth with Paul and did not forsake him when he was confronted by the angry Jews in the synagogues. He stood with him even when he was arrested. Silas was persecuted, but he trusted God to protect him.



Silas was beaten and placed in stocks in prison because he was a friend of Paul and a follower of Jesus. He traveled with Paul to Philippi where they were accused of being trouble makers and were arrested.

They sang and praised God at midnight while in prison. God sent an earthquake to release them. The prison shook, the doors were opened, and the stocks fell off from their feet.

Circle the word "friend" or "enemy" for you answer.

Silas was Paul's (friend enemy).

The Jews at Philippi were Paul's (friends enemies).

The soothsayer at Philippi was Paul's (friend enemy).

The men who owned the soothsayer were Paul's (friends enemies).

The judge who put Paul and Silas in prison was their (friend enemy).

The Jailer was Paul's (friend enemy).

The Jews at Thessalonica were Paul's (friends enemies).

Jason was Paul's (friend enemy).

The church at Thessalonica was Paul's (friend enemy).

The church at Berea was Paul's (friend enemy).

Silas remained Paul's (friend) or became his (enemy).

Circle the word "friend" or "enemy" for you answer.

Silas was Paul's (friend enemy).

The Jews at Philippi were Paul's (friends enemies).

The soothsayer at Philippi was Paul's (friend enemy).

The men who owned the soothsayer were Paul's (friends enemies).

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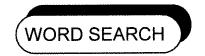
The Jews at Thessalonica were Paul's (friends <u>enemies</u>).

Jason was Paul's (friend enemy).

The church at Thessalonica was Paul's (friend) enemy).

The church at Berea was Paul's (friend enemy).

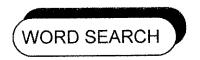
Silas remained Paul's (friend) or became his (enemy).



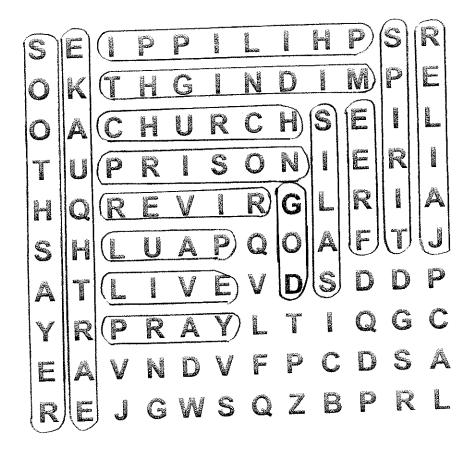
Find the words from our lesson backward, forward, or up and down.

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O A C H U R C H S E I L
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S H L U A P Q O A F T J
A T L I V E V D S D D P
Y R P R A Y L T I Q G C
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CHURCH EARTHQUAKE EVIL FREE GOD JAILER MIDNIGHT PAUL PHILIPPI PRAY PRISON RIVER SILAS SOOTHSAYER SPIRIT

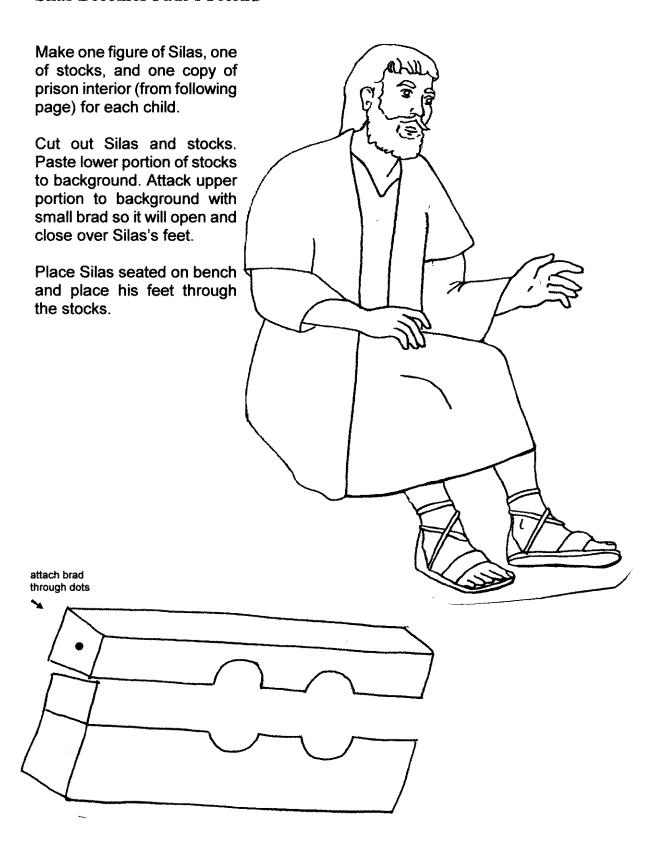


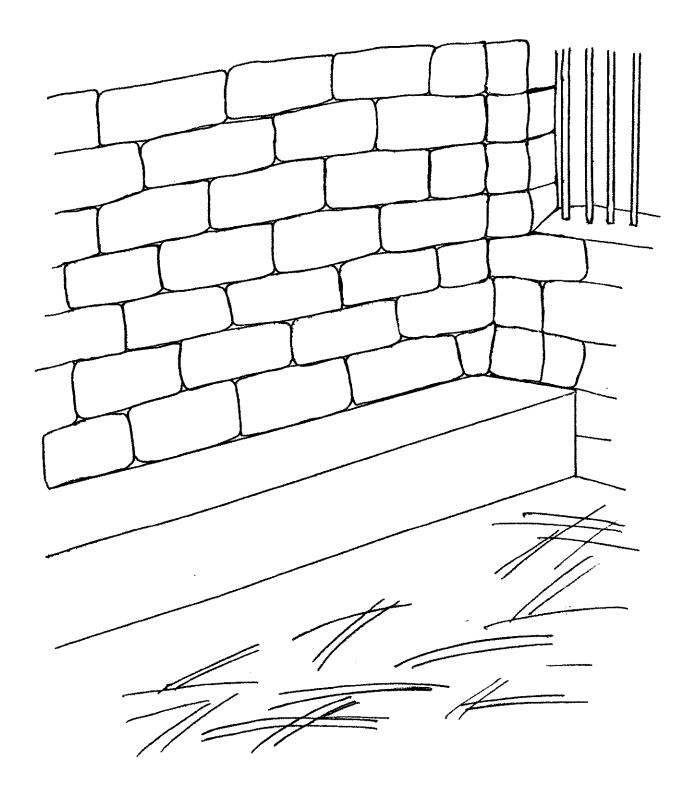
Find the words from our lesson backward, forward, or up and down.



CHURCH EARTHQUAKE EVIL FREE GOD JAILER MIDNIGHT PAUL PHILIPPI PRAY PRISON RIVER SILAS SOOTHSAYER SPIRIT

Silas Becomes Paul's Friend





Silas was placed in prison along with Paul.

Lesson 4: LYDIA AT PHILIPPI

I. Paul and Silas went to Philippi

- A. Paul went to Troas
 - 1. God sent a vision to go to Europe
 - 2. went to Macedonia, to the city of Philippi

II. The synagogues

- A. In every town where he traveled, Paul went first to the synagogue.
- B. no synagogue in Philippi
 - 1. Paul went outside the city to the river on the Sabbath
 - 2. women came to a certain place by the river to pray
 - 3. Paul preached that Jesus was the Christ.

III. Lydia accepted Paul's message

- A. was baptized
- B. witnessed to her household

IV. Church in her house

- A. Other occasions when the church met in a person's house
 - 1. Acts 17:6-7 the house of Jason
 - 2. Acts 18:7 the house of Justus

V. Other women who became friends of Paul

- A. synagogue at Thessalonica, Acts 17:4, chief women, not a few
- B. Priscilla and her husband Aquila Acts 18:1-3, 18
 - 1. employed Paul to help them make tents
 - 2. left Corinth and went to Ephesus with him

Scripture: Acts 16:12-15, 40 Philippians 4:3

Aim: To show how women were instrumental in the spread of the gospel in the early

church.

Emphasis: Lydia was a prosperous and influential business woman. She was not ashamed

to be seen going to her regular place of worship. She listened to the teaching of Paul, and led the members of her household to believe. She was the first

member in the church at Philippi.

Memory Verse: Acts 16:14, "And a certain woman named Lydia, ---- whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul."

The call to Europe

Paul and Silas went to Troas, and Paul saw a vision. Acts 16:9, "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us." God had a work for Paul to do in Europe. He obeyed the call and went to Philippi which was the chief city in that part of Macedonia.

The synagogues

The first place Paul went was to the synagogue when he went into a city. The synagogue was the place where the Jews met on the Sabbath to worship God. They had prayer, they chanted from the Psalms, and they read from the scrolls. Then someone was appointed to explain what was read. In any town where at least ten Jewish men lived they built a synagogue. Some larger towns had many synagogues. When Paul went to Damascus he preached in more than one synagogue. "Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God."

Wherever Paul went he first looked for a synagogue and went there and preached to the Jews. On the Isle of Cyprus, "And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews." "They came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath." Many times Gentiles also came to the synagogue to worship because they had accepted the God of the Israelites, and came there to pray and be taught. "And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed." "They came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures." Even at Athens, "his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons." In Corinth, "he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks." In Ephesus, "he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews."

Paul in Philippi

In Philippi there was no synagogue. Paul and Silas obeyed the call to come over into Macedonia and help the people there. Paul sailed from Troas to Neapolis, on the sea coast, and

traveled on to Philippi which was located about nine miles from the Sea. The road leading into the city crossed a river about a mile outside the city. There was a certain place down by the river where people came to pray. Even though there was no synagogue in Philippi, there were people there who believed in the true God. They chose a spot by the river to worship God, and came there on the Sabbath to pray.

Paul and Silas did not find a synagogue, but they heard that people gathered down by the river to pray, so on the Sabbath they went down by the river side. They sat down and spoke to some of the women who had gathered. One the of women was named Lydia.

Her occupation

The Bible doesn't tell us much about Lydia except that she was a seller of purple from Thyatira, and worshiped God. She was not born a Jew, but the phrase "which worshiped God" indicates that she had converted to the Jewish religion. She was not an idol worshiper, but worshiped the true God in heaven. She was the head of a "household" and her husband is not mentioned, so she must have been a widow.

Thyatira is a city in Asia (now Turkey). Purple is a red-blue color that was the prized choice for dying garments. It was very expensive, so only the kings and the very wealthy could afford richly colored clothing of red, blue, or purple. The famous Tyrian purple dye was made from a tiny shellfish found off the coasts of the city of Tyre in Phoenicia. It was exported to many parts of the world. The waters of Thyatira were known for being well suited to permanently dye brilliant colors. The purple dye was extracted from the secretion of this tiny shellfish. It was a very intricate process and resulted in a very small bit at a time. Therefore the color purple was very expensive.

Purple, the color of royalty

When God told Moses to ask the people of Israel to bring an offering of the things of value that they brought out of Egypt to be used to build the Tabernacle, He specifically asked for "blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and rams' skins dyed red", Exodus 25:4-5. God gave instructions for building the Tabernacle, Exodus 26:31, "And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet," and v. 36, "And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet." Specific instructions were given for the garments of the high priest, Exodus 28:5, "And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen." Also verses 6,8,15.

Kings wore purple and scarlet. Esther 8:15, Daniel 5:7, Luke 16:19. Before Jesus was crucified, a purple robe was placed on Him in jest because of His claim to be king of the Jews.

Lydia, a religious woman

Lydia apparently came to Philippi to find a market for her goods, bringing purple (probably including reds and blues) fabric and garments from Asia to sell in Macedonia. She was head of a household, which probably included those who worked for her in her business. She was not only a good business person, but she was dedicated to the worship of God. She prayed regularly. There was a certain place down by the river where she went on the Sabbath to pray. She not only prayed secretly, but gathered with other women and prayed publicly.

Paul and those traveling with him went down by the river on the Sabbath and sat down at the place of prayer. They spoke that Jesus was the Christ, the promised Messiah, to the women who had gathered at the usual time and the usual place to pray. Lydia was there and she heard Paul, and the Bible says that God opened her heart. She paid attention to the things Paul spoke. Lydia believed in the true God in heaven, and she accepted to the truth when it was preached. She believed Paul when he said Jesus was the Christ, and she believed when he said those who accepted Him as the Savior should be baptized. Not only did she believe and was baptized, but she witnessed to those of her household, and they also believed and were baptized.

The church in her house

Lydia had a desire to be a part of the true church. She insisted that Paul and his companions come to her house and stay there. Travelers did not have hotels and motels in which to stay, or apartments to rent. They often depended on the local people to open their homes and give them a place to stay. Lydia wanted to know more. She wanted Paul to teach her household. "And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, if ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us." Lydia became Paul's friend.

When the soothsayer in Philippi became an enemy of Paul and Silas, and followed them for many days mocking them and saying in a disrespectful way, "These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation," Paul cast out the evil spirit that controlled her. They were arrested for being "trouble makers" and cast into prison. At midnight God sent an earthquake to open the prison doors and release the chains that held their feet in stocks. When Paul and Silas were released from prison they returned to Lydia's house. Verse 40, "And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, (the church) they comforted them, and departed."

Other women who became friends of Paul

When Paul wrote the letter to the church at Philippi he said to "help those women which laboured with me in the gospel," probably Lydia and the other women who gathered with her for prayer down by the river. When Paul went to Thessalonica, he preached in the synagogue for three Sabbath days. Acts 17:4, some of the Jews believed, and "of the chief women not a few."

When Paul went to Corinth he met Priscilla and her husband Aquila. They took him into their home and employed him to help them make tents. They became his devout followers, and went to Ephesus with him when he left Corinth. They remained there while he went to Jerusalem for the Feast. While he was away they took Apollo (Acts 18:24-26) "and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly." In Paul's letter to the Romans he said, "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus." I Cor. 16:19, Paul wrote "Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house."

Lesson wrap-up:

Paul and Silas encountered Lydia and a group of women at Philippi. It was their usual habit to gather by the river on the Sabbath to pray.

Lydia listened as Paul preached about Jesus, the Christ.

God caused Lydia's heart to be opened so that she was receptive to the words he spoke.

She insisted that Paul and his companions stay at her home while in Philippi preaching.

Lydia led members of her household to be saved and baptized, and apparently a church assembled in her house.

Priscilla and her husband Aquila became followers at Corinth. They had been persecuted in Rome, and moved to Corinth when "Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome."

+ + + + + + + +

Memory Verse: Acts 16:14

"And a certain woman named Lydia, ---- whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul."

Discussion:

Lydia was apparently a widow since her husband is not mentioned, and she was the head of a household. She was intelligent. She was a successful business woman, acquainted with the ways of royalty. She was a devout believer in the true God in heaven. She prayed regularly on the Sabbath with a group of other women.

The Lord opened her heart. She was receptive to the preaching of Paul. She wanted to know the truth and believed the truth. She did what was expected after salvation - she was baptized and became a part of the true church. She obeyed the things Paul taught.



Lydia lived at Philippi. There was not a synagogue in Philippi, so Paul and Silas went to the riverside on the Sabbath to pray.

Some women from Philippi met every Sabbath by the river to pray. Paul preached to them.

One of the women was Lydia, a seller of purple goods. She believed what Paul preached, and was baptized. She invited Paul and his friends to stay in her home. She led her household to also believe and be baptized.

The church at Philippi met in Lydia's house.

Fill in the blanks and then find the answers in the Word Search.

1.	Paul saw a vision at	*
2.	A man from	_said, "Come over and help us."
3.	Paul and went to Ma	acedonia.
4.	They went to the city of	•
5.	A woman named lived	l at Philippi.
6.	Lydia sold dye, fa	abric, and garments.
7.	The women went down to the	on the Sabbath to pray
8.	preached to Lydia.	
9	Lydia was the first member of the	at Philippi

WORD SEARCH

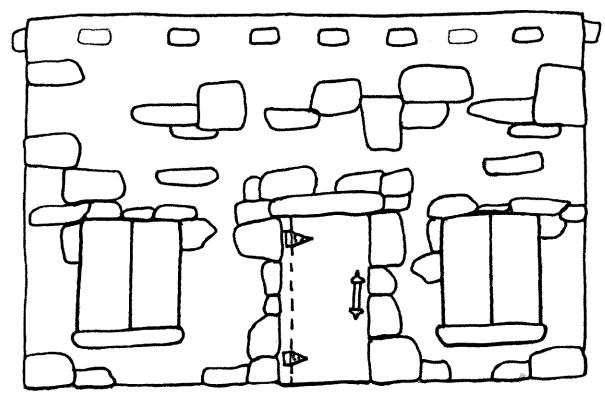
M	Α	С	Ε	D	0	N	ı	Α	D
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Н	Н	Q	Y	٧	E	s	Р	E	Y
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R	Y	L	ı	R	Α	1	D	Υ	L.
Т	С	М	Х	J	s	G	N	0	Υ

Fill in the blanks and then find the answers in the Word Search.

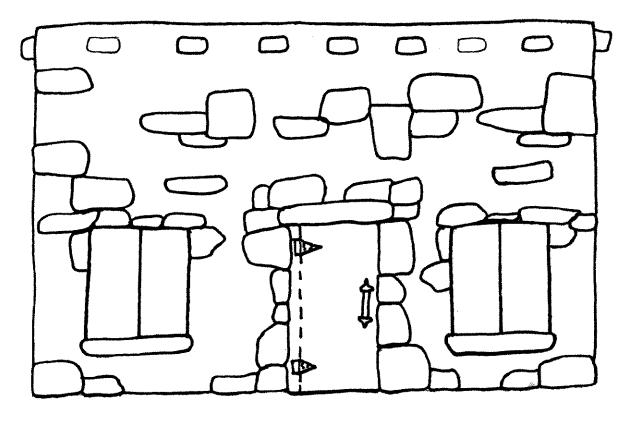
- 1. Paul saw a vision at TROAS.
- 2. A man from MACEDONIA said, "Come over and help us."
- 3. Paul and SILAS went to Macedonia.
- 4. They went to the city of PHILIPPI.
- 5. A woman named <u>LYDIA</u> lived at Philippi.
- 6. Lydia sold PURPLE dye, fabric, and garments.
- 7. The women went down to the RIVER on the Sabbath to pray.
- 8. Paul preached to Lydia.
- 9. Lydia was the first member of the <u>CHURCH</u> at Philippi.

WORD SEARCH

M	Α	С	E	D	0	N		A	D
В	Y	R	D	P	U	R	Р	L	E)
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R	Υ	L	ı	R	A	I	D	Υ	
T	С	М	Х	J	s	G	N	0	Υ



Make one for each child. Cut across top and side of door. Cut middle, top, and bottom of shutters. Fold back to open.

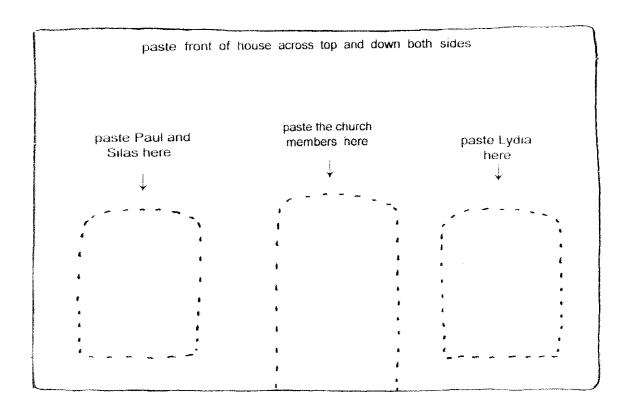


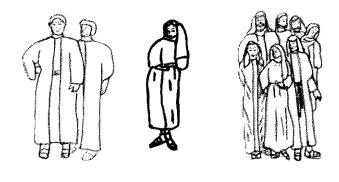
Make one for each child. Cut across top and side of door. Cut middle, top, and bottom of shutters. Fold back to open.

Cut one house for each child out of gray or tan construction paper.

Cut one house underlay out of white construction paper for each child.

Make one set of people for each child to be cut out and pasted on house underlay under window shutters and behind door - so they will be seen when shutters and door are opened.





Paul and Silas

Lydia

church members

Lesson 5: Timothy, A Friend Of Paul

I. Timothy, Paul's son in the faith

- A. Jewish mother and Greek father
- B. Paul's son in the faith, or the ministry
 - 1. joined Paul at Lystra on his second missionary journey
 - 2. was taught by Paul as a father would teach his son

II. Born at Lystra

- A. Grandmother Lois and mother Eunice
 - 1. godly women
 - 2. taught Timothy the Jewish religion
 - a. Law of Moses
 - b. prophecies
 - c. observed Jewish customs
- B. grew up among idolatry

III. Had a desire to preach

- A. Paul began the church at Lystra on his first missionary journey
 - 1. probably baptized Timothy
- B. Paul returned to Lystra on his second missionary journey
 - 1. Timothy desired to travel with him and Silas
 - a. the church at Lystra authorized him to go with Paul
- C. Traveled with Paul through Asia, Macedonia, and Greece
 - 1. left by Paul to pastor churches while Paul went elsewhere

Scripture: I Timothy 1:2 3:1 4:11-16

II Timothy 1:2, 5, 13, 2:1-3 16:1-5

Acts 16:1-5

Aim: Timothy as a young man decided he would serve Christ. He remained faithful

to the service of God all of his life.

Emphasis: Timothy was taught the scriptures by his mother and his grandmother when he

was a child. He was obedient, and learned the things they taught him. He knew the Law of Moses, and accepted it as being from God even as a child. He knew and understood the prophecies as God as a child. It is not necessary to wait until adulthood to decide you want to believe the Bible and to serve God.

Memory Verse: II Timothy 2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Paul's Son In the Faith

The Bible does not tell us much about Paul's family. He was born to Jewish parents in the city of Tarsus. We do not know if he had any children of his own, they are not mentioned. He met a young man named Timothy in Lystra. Timothy wanted to preach about Jesus. He wanted to go with Paul as he traveled. Paul considered Timothy as a son. He called him "his son in the faith", I Timothy 1:2, "Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith". II Timothy 1:2-3, "To Timothy, my dearly beloved son". He was not Paul's actual son, but was called his "son in the faith, or his son in the ministry".

When he was born he became his father's son. He was taught by his father when he was growing up as a child. Timothy became Paul's son in the ministry when he became a preacher and was "growing up as a Christian". As he traveled with Paul, he taught him all of the things he needed to know in order to teach other people and pastor churches. As a father would train his son to carry on his trade, Paul took Timothy as a young man and taught him, and trained him as a preacher. He said he did not cease to pray for Timothy night and day. Timothy loved and respected Paul, and learned from him as if he was his own father.

Timothy's Early Life

We do not know if Timothy had any brothers or sisters. His mother was a young Jewish woman who was faithful to the teachings of Judaism. His father was not a Jew, he was a Greek. He was named Timotheus, which is the Greek name for Timothy. Acts 16:1 tells us he lived at Lystra, and was "the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek". Apparently his father was not a believer, and he did not practice the Jewish customs.

Timothy was taught the laws of God and the customs of the Jews by his mother and his grandmother. Even though she was married to a Greek, his mother did not forsake her religion. Paul said in II Timothy 1:5 that he remembered the unfeigned faith that was in Timothy, that was first in his grandmother, Lois, and then in his mother, Eunice, and had been instilled in him. "Unfeigned" means not counterfeit, not hypocritical, but real and genuine.

This strong faith was first in his grandmother, Lois, and she taught her daughter, Eunice. It was the custom for several generations to live in the same household, so his grandmother probably had a part in teaching Timothy from the time he was born.

Paul's First Visit To Lystra

Timothy lived at Lystra. On his first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas went to Lystra. They preached that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah that God had promised to send to the Jewish nation as their redeemer. The Jews as a nation rejected Jesus as the Son of God. Paul preached in their synagogues that this man named Jesus whom they crucified was indeed the Son of God. It seems that Timothy heard Paul preaching and accepted his message as true. He apparently was baptized by Paul and was a member of the church at Lystra.

Paul's first visit to Lystra wasn't pleasant. The Jews ran him out of Antioch in Pisidia because he preached that Jesus was the Christ. The Jews hated the Gentiles, and when Paul told them it was necessary that the Word of God should first have been spoken to them: but because they rejected it God turned to the Gentiles, they became his enemies. They became so angry they ran him off. He went to Iconium and preached, and the Jews there became his enemies. They were going to stone him to death for preaching the truth, so he fled to Lystra.

Many people in Lystra believed in false gods. They did not believe in the true God in heaven, so they made idols with their hands so they would have something to worship. Outside the city of Lystra they built a temple to worship the false god, Jupiter. There were false priests who served at this temple. Timothy knew about idol worship when he was growing up, but his mother and his grandmother taught him not to worship false gods, but to believe in and worship the true God in heaven. In Lystra Paul healed a crippled man and the people decided he and Barnabas were gods who had come down in human form. They attempted to worship them as gods and offer sacrifices to them. They were upset when Paul refused to allow it. The Jews from Antioch and Iconium heard what had happened and followed them to Lystra. They persuaded the people that they were evil, and to kill them. They stoned Paul so badly they thought he was dead and left him outside the city. Paul lived, and left Lystra. They went to Derbe and then went back through Lystra to check on the believers there as they returned to Antioch in Syria, the church that had sent them out to preach.

Timothy's Desire To Preach

Many months later Paul began a second missionary journey with Silas as his traveling companion. When Paul came back to Lystra on this trip he learned about Timothy and his desire to be a preacher. Timothy was a fine young man and well liked by all the church members. "Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium." He wanted to go with Paul, and Paul wanted to take him with them. The church laid hands on Timothy and recommended him to travel with Paul and Silas. They visited the churches in Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch on their way to Troas where Luke joined them.

Timothy traveled with Paul for several years. Soon Paul began leaving him to oversee the work of a church while he went on to another place to preach and start a new church. It seems that Paul left him at Philippi to teach the young church there while he went on to Berea. He joined Paul later in Berea and stayed behind when Paul went to Athens.

Since he could not be at all of the churches at the same time Paul began writing letters to send back to the churches where he had been, instructing them and helping them with problems. They did not have postal service like we have today, or telephones, or computers to send e-mail. So Paul would write a letter and send someone to take it to its destination. Sometimes he would send Timothy to deliver the letters to the churches. This way Paul could stay and preach in one church and send information to another church without having to spend time traveling. Timothy was a great help to Paul for many years.

Timothy Begins To Pastor

After Timothy had traveled with Paul for several years the church at Ephesus needed a pastor. They needed someone to teach them the truth, and lead them in the right way so they would not follow people who taught false doctrines. Paul left Timothy at Ephesus to guide those people while he went on to other places. After Paul had been gone2 for a few years, he wrote a letter to Timothy giving him instructions since he was not there to teach him personally. Several years later he wrote another letter to Timothy. These two letters are part of our Bible. They are the books of First Timothy and Second Timothy.

Paul was proud of Timothy as a father is proud of his son. He praised him for being a strong and faithful servant of God, II Timothy 1:5. He said Timothy had a good mother and a good grandmother for teaching him the truth. He said he did a good thing in wanting to be a "bishop" or pastor, I Timothy 3:1. He wrote the letters to instruct him what to preach to the members of the church. He encouraged Timothy to remain strong and faithful. These letters that Paul wrote to Timothy are included in the Bible so we can learn from them also. II Timothy 2:2, Paul told Timothy to remember what he had taught him, and teach it to other faithful men so they might in turn teach it to others. One of the most important things that Paul told Timothy is in II Timothy 2:15. Paul told him to study in order to know the truth and to please God by the way he served Him. Paul said to study so God would approve of the work he did, and he would not have to be ashamed because he did not know how to teach the Word of God correctly.

Other Friends

Many other people traveled with Paul, and befriended him in towns where he stayed. Luke, who wrote the book of Luke and the book of Acts joined Paul at Troas when he went into Macedonia the first time and traveled with him. Priscilla and Aquilla became his friends at Corinth and went with him to Ephesus. When the Jews in Corinth became his enemies, Justus, who lived next door to the synagogue became his friend and let the church meet in his house. Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue became Paul's friend and left the synagogue. He worshiped in the house of Justus with them. On Paul's third missionary journey there were several who became his friends and traveled with him on his way back to Jerusalem. Acts 20:4 lists Sopater of Berea, Aristarchus and Secundus of Thessalonica, Gaius of Derbe, as well as Timothy, and Tychicus and Trophimus of Ephesus. As they sailed back toward Jerusalem they came to Caesarea and went to the home of Philip. Philip was a deacon in the church at Jerusalem when Paul was their enemy. After Stephen was stoned Philip left Jerusalem so Paul would not kill him also. He fled to Samaria and after preaching in other places he went to Caesarea. It had been more than twenty years, and now Philip was no longer afraid of Paul. Paul, who was once his bitter enemy, was welcomed into the home of Philip as his friend.

Lesson wrap-up:

Timothy was from Lystra. His mother was Jewish and his father was a Greek. His mother was a devout believer, and apparently his father was not.

He grew up amidst idolatry, but had a strong faith even as a child.

As a young man he desired to preach.

He traveled with Paul extensively and stayed behind on occasions to oversee churches in Paul's absence. He traveled for Paul delivering letters to other churches.

I Timothy and II Timothy are letters Paul wrote to Timothy instructing him in the way he should conduct himself as a pastor, and in how to teach his congregation.

When Paul was an enemy of the church in Jerusalem, Philip left there so Paul could not kill him for preaching the truth about Jesus. More than twenty years later Philip welcomed Paul into his home at Caesarea as his friend.

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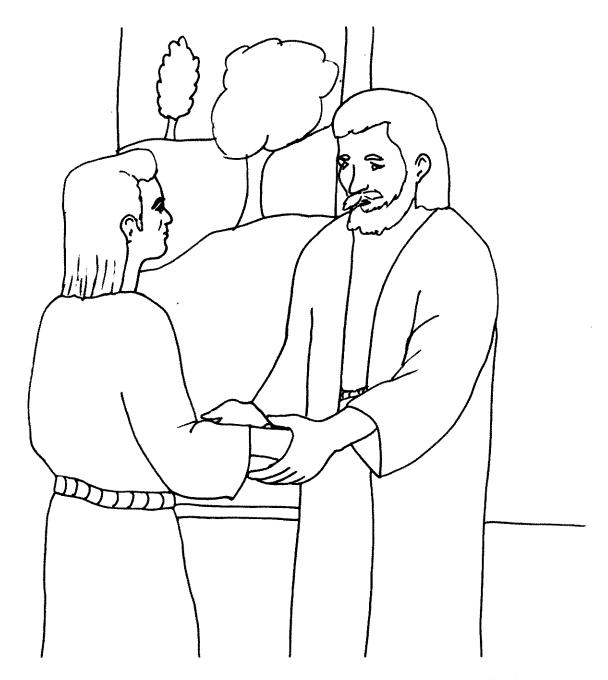
Memory Verse: II Timothy 2:15

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Discussion:

Paul wrote two letters to Timothy instructing him and encouraging him as a preacher. He advised him to study the scriptures in order to know the truth. If Timothy did not know the truth he would not know what to preach, and consequently might preach error. Any man who works must know what he is doing in order to do a good job. If a man does a poor job he will be embarrassed by the results and ashamed of his work. Eternal results are much more serious than anything else.

Paul wanted Timothy to study so he would know how to correctly interpret the word of God. He wanted him to teach the truth and conduct himself according to the teachings of God's Word so that God would approve of his service to Him. He would not be ashamed before God because he had not done what was right or taught what was right.



Timothy was a young man from Lystra. He was like Paul's own son. His mother and his grandmother taught him the scriptures when he was a child. He became Paul's friend.

He went with Paul on his second missionary journey. He helped him and learned from him. A few years later when Timothy was pastor of a church Paul wrote two letters of advice and instruction to him. They are in our Bible — the books of I Timothy and II Timothy.

Circle the correct answer

- 1. Paul and (Silas Peter) traveled together.
- 2. Paul found Timothy at (Derbe Lystra).
- 3. Timothy's (aunt mother) taught him about God.
- 4. Timothy worshiped (God idols).
- 5. Timothy wanted to be a (preacher lawyer).
- 6. Timothy traveled with Paul for many (weeks years).
- 7. Paul wrote two letters to (Luke Timothy).
- 8. Silas was Paul's (friend enemy).
- 9. Timothy was Paul's (friend enemy).
- 10. Paul was Philip's (friend enemy).

Circle the correct answer

- 1. Paul and (Silas) Peter) traveled together.
- 2. Paul found Timothy at (Derbe Lystra).
- 3. Timothy's (aunt mother) taught him about God.
- 4. Timothy worshiped (God idols).
- 5. Timothy wanted to be a (preacher lawyer).
- 6. Timothy traveled with Paul for many (weeks vears).
- 7. Paul wrote two letters to (Luke (Timothy)).
- 8. Silas was Paul's (friend enemy).
- 9. Timothy was Paul's (friend enemy).
- 10. Paul was Philip's (friend enemy).



When Paul was sent to prison for preaching,
he wrote letters to Timothy.
These letters are in our Bible. They are the books of
I Timothy and II Timothy.

CRAFT PROJECT

Using card stock or heavy weight paper make a card to fold in half crosswise.

Print a picture of your church, and the name of the church, on the lower half so it will be on the front when it is folded.

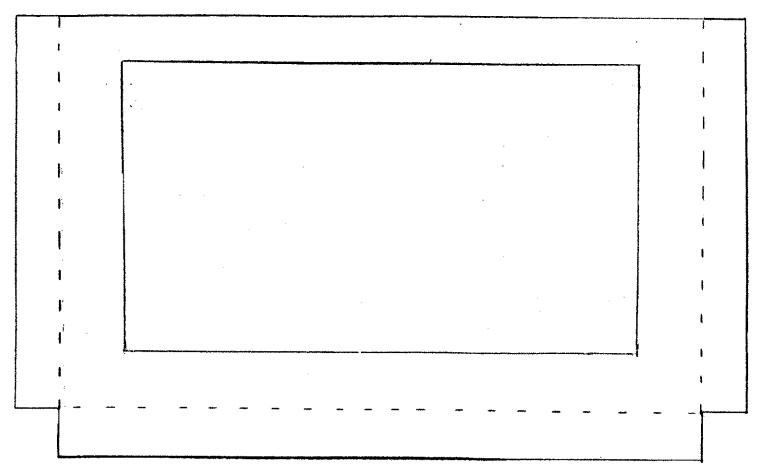
On the top half of the inside put: "I came to Vacation Bible School with my friends — the date — name of class — and teacher's name.

Make pocket for inside according to pattern below using any color you choose.

Cut out around dark lines. Carefully cut out middle.

Fold back on dotted lines.

Paste backs of the edges that are folded under to the inside of card with church picture on the front to make a pocket to insert a 4 X 6 inch group picture of the class.



Craft Project 1 Friends and Enemies Of the Apostle Paul

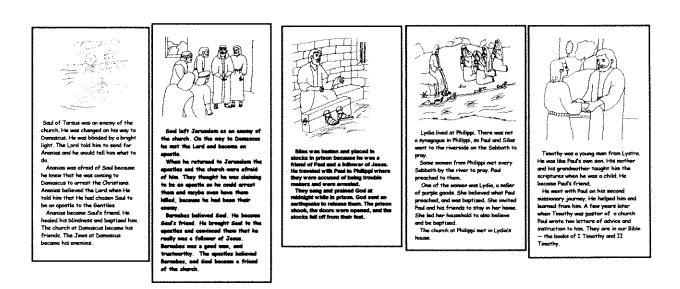
PUPIL PROJECT 2

On white construction paper, make a front for each pupil from the following pattern page.

Have pupils color the letters, red for V B S, and blue for remaining letters.

Use a plain piece of construction paper for the back.

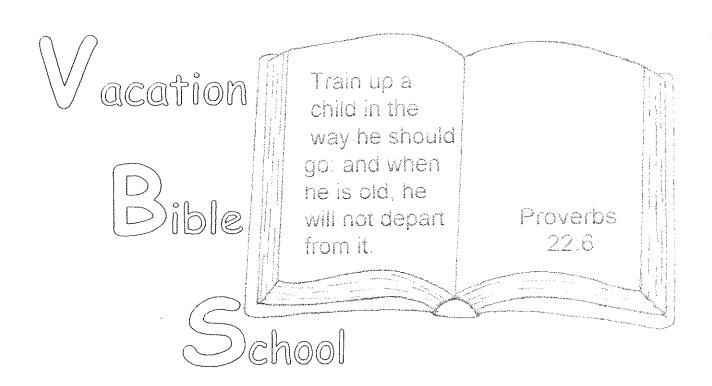
Take up the following coloring pictures from each day's lesson:



On the last day, put pictures from the five lessons between booklet fronts and backs. Punch holes and lace with narrow paper ribbon. Tie ribbon to form booklets.

Friends and Enemies of the

Apostle Paul



Craft Project 3

To assemble house:

Cut out all four sections.

Cut around door in large house so it will open. Fold back on hinge side. Fold steps on dotted lines.

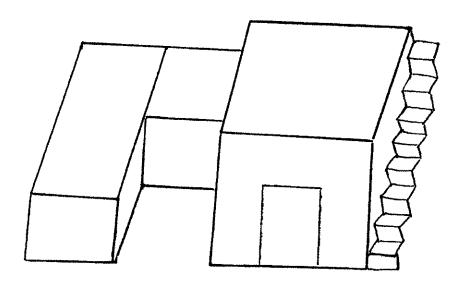
Paste steps to right side of large house starting at back.
Pull bottom step to front edge and paste to bottom side of house.

Paste small section to large house at back on left side.

Paste long section to small section on left side with door on inside toward front.

Paste to ground.

Add chenille wire figures for Paul, Silas, Timothy, Luke, and Lydia.



Paste house on heavy paper for ground according to diagram. (Use green or tan)

Lydia opened her home to Paul and Silas, and Timothy and Luke. The church met in her house.

