

# TEACHER RESOURCE

# UNIT 8

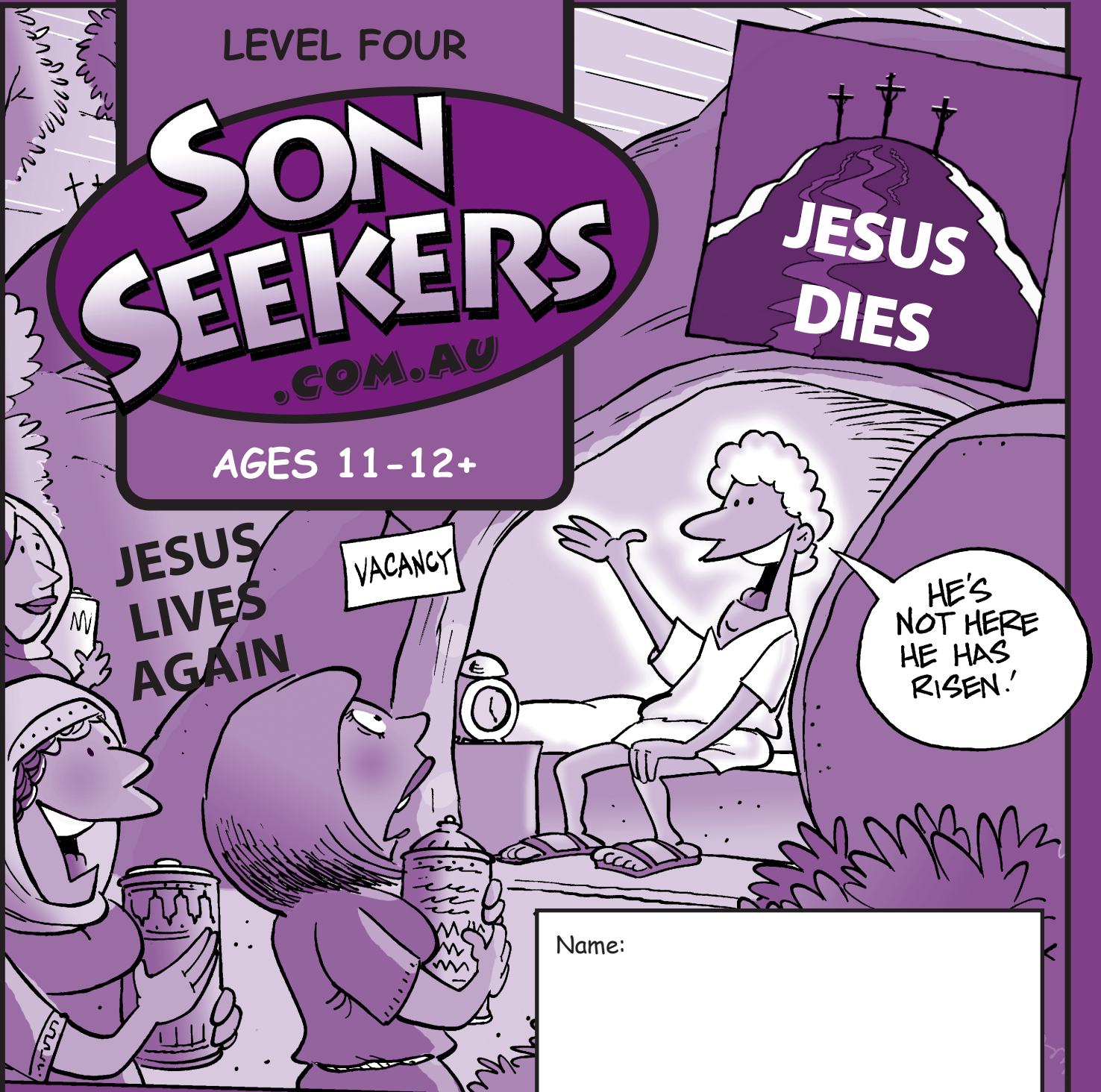
From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey

LEVEL FOUR

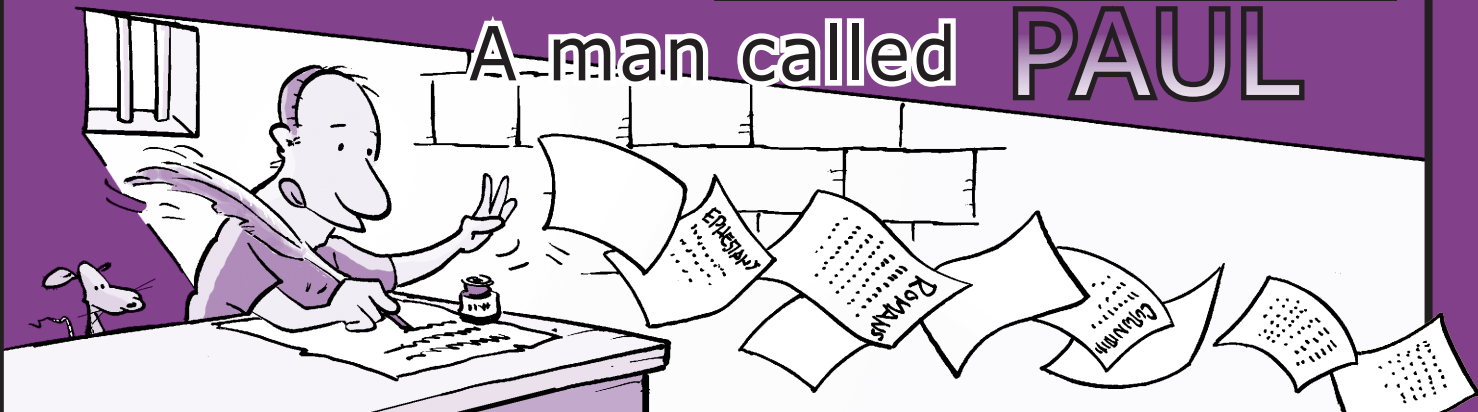
# SON SEEKERS

.COM.AU

AGES 11-12+



A man called **PAUL**



# Teacher Resource

## Contents

Teaching Sonseekers ..... 1

A teacher's guide ..... 2

Publisher's note ..... 3

### Unit 8 (Lessons 113-128):

113. *Palm Sunday* ..... 4

114. *The last supper and  
Gethsemane* ..... 8

115. *The crucifixion* ..... 12

116. *The resurrection* ..... 16

117. *Peter restored* ..... 20

118. *The risen Christ and His  
ascension* ..... 24

119. *The day of Pentecost* ..... 28

120. *Peter and John* ..... 32

121. *Peter and the Gentiles* ..... 36

122. *Stephen* ..... 40

123. *Philip* ..... 44

124. *Paul's conversion* ..... 48

125. *Paul's first missionary  
journey* ..... 52

126. *Paul's second and third  
missionary journeys* ..... 58

127. *Paul's capture and  
imprisonment* ..... 62

128. *Paul's final journey* ..... 66

Unit 8 Awards ..... 71

Curriculum Outline ..... 72

## Published by

**visionone** inc

ABN 37 430 685 890

10 Old Goombungee Rd

Toowoomba Qld 4350

Australia

Phone: 1300 885 048

Fax: 1300 728 293

Email: [info@visionone.org.au](mailto:info@visionone.org.au)

Web: [www.visionone.org.au](http://www.visionone.org.au)

©All rights reserved

July 2009



## 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 12+ 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	4 - 5	Kindergarten, Prep
Level Two	6 - 7	Lower Primary
Level Three	8 - 10	Middle Primary
Level Four	11 - 12+	Upper Primary

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 Four Teacher Resource?

Each Level Four 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.

---

### **Publisher's note:**

The publisher wishes to acknowledge the use of clip art from Coreldraw, Clickart, Bible View Clip Art by Pastoral Computer Services and Logos Bible Clips.

The publisher gives permission for artwork masters to be photocopied for the use of the students in the Sonseekers classes. However, no other part of this publication may be produced or transmitted in any form without permission in writing from the publisher.



# Palm Sunday

## 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

1. 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?
2. Do we really believe "who Jesus is" and live in the "fear of the Lord"?

## Theme One

### "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

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

*"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth." (Psalm 34:1).*

## Theme Two

### "Fear the judgement of God"

Jesus wept over Jerusalem because the people were blinded to the fact that God was visiting them at that time. He knew the judgement that would come upon them.

#### Key Thought

When God comes to us, we need to take it seriously and respond to Him.

#### Aim

To teach the children that it's a good thing to fear the judgements of God. When He speaks to them that they need to take it seriously by learning and obeying.

#### Memory Verse

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7).*

## 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

12 NISAN 3791

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)

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

### 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."

*This page is intentionally blank*



# 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

### **"Jesus never veered from doing His Father's will"**

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**

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord', shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." (Matthew 7:21).*

## Theme Two

### **"Jesus instituted the Lord's supper for His people"**

At the Last Supper, Jesus explained to His disciples about the meaning of communion. He said that we should eat bread to remember that His body was broken for us, and drink wine because His blood was shed for us.

#### **Key Thought**

Jesus' body was broken, and His blood was shed, for the making of the new covenant for the remission of sins.

#### **Aim**

To encourage discussion which will give a clearer understanding and a deeper meaning to the communion celebration.

#### **Memory Verse**

*"I am the living bread, which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." (John 6:51).*

## 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.



-----  
-----, "-----, -----;  
-----"

# 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

1. **Theme 1.** 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.
2. **Theme 2.** Discuss the original Passover Feast and all the regulations. Show how the last week of Jesus' life fitted exactly to that pattern.

## Theme One

### “God gives strength for full obedience”

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

*“He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.”*  
(Isaiah 53:7).

## Theme Two

### “Jesus' death completely fulfilled the sacrifice of the Passover lamb”

Jesus, the perfect man, was taken and thoroughly examined just like the Passover lamb. He was crucified at the same hour as the Jews were sacrificing the Passover lamb. None of His bones were broken. The Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus is our Passover Lamb, who was sacrificed for us.

### Key Thought

God had planned for Jesus, the Lamb of God, to die, even before the foundation of the world.

### Aim

For the children to see the crucifixion as part of God's eternal plan for redeeming His people.

### Memory Verse

*“The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”*  
(John 1:29).

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

*This page is intentionally blank*



# The resurrection

## Storyline

Mary, the mother of James, and Mary Magdalene rose early on the first day of the week to complete the embalment 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

1. 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 how we often need some difficulties or a big jolt in our lives before we really understand God's promises and apply them.
2. Look at a clock and discuss how no one can stop time, slow time down or speed it up. That's how God's plans are, and that is how God is.

## Theme One

### "We forget God's promises if we become fearful and confused"

Jesus had told His disciples He would rise again on the third day, but in their fear and confusion they had forgotten. They were so scared of the Romans and priests, and felt so lonely and sorry for themselves, they didn't remember some of the lessons Jesus had taught them. Don't allow fears to cause us to forget God's promises. We need to remember that God is greater than anyone or anything that may come against us.

#### Key Thought

Remember it is God we trust, not man. Hide God's word in your heart.

#### Aim

To teach the children that fears and disappointments don't have to rule their actions and emotions.

#### Memory Verse

*"He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee." (Luke 24:6).*

## Theme Two

### "Man can never thwart the plans of God"

Because Jesus' life and teachings challenged the religious leaders, they wanted Him killed. However, all their planning and security could not stop Jesus rising from the tomb. They still refused to believe in God and used more lies and trickery to deceive the people. God's plan began before the universe was created. The Lamb (Jesus) was slain from the foundation of the world and was ordained to rise again. Nobody was able to change this plan.

#### Key Thought

Not Satan or his demons or wicked man or anything else can thwart God's plans. God will accomplish His purposes and His word.

#### Aim

For the children to realise that God has a plan and that nothing can change that plan. God is in control of all things.

#### Memory Verse

*"Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day." (Luke 24:46).*

## 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.

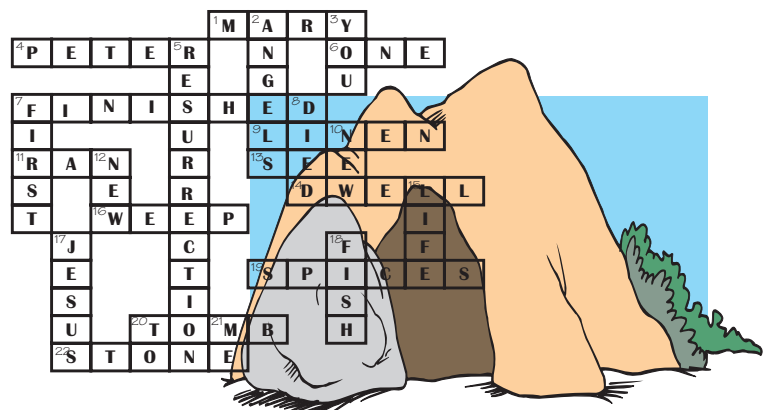
## Activity B - Crossword

### 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).

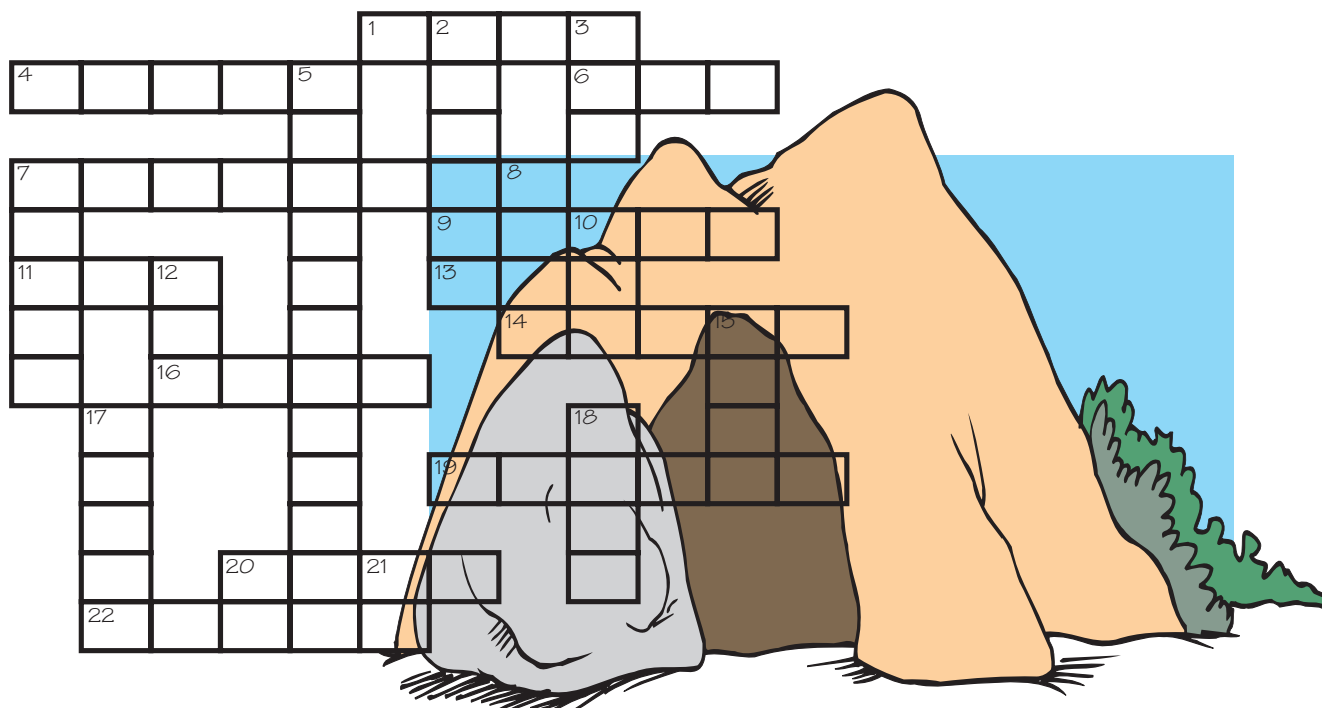
# The resurrection

## 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

1. Read the Scripture passage.
2. Highlight the discouragement felt by the disciples.
3. Discuss circumstances in children's lives which have caused them disappointment and discouragement.
4. Discuss how the Lord allows the trial of our faith in order to develop and strengthen our faith and character.
5. Emphasise that as we respond to difficulties in faith, showing forth the fruit of the Spirit, His nature is being planted firmly within us.
6. Discuss how this then sets us free to receive from the Lord, His blessings and provision, and in turn we are able to bless others with what we have received from Him.

## Theme One

### "God's provision is bountiful"

After an unsuccessful night's fishing the disciples could have felt discouraged and could have reacted negatively when Jesus told them to cast their nets again. However, they obeyed Him, and the Lord blessed them with more fish than they needed. As we are obedient to His word, the Lord will bless our lives and provide us with an abundance to share, and so bless others.

### Key Thought

The Lord gives abundantly of His true riches (peace, wisdom, love, joy, etc.) to those who respond to His word.

### Aim

To highlight that God desires to provide abundantly for us so that we can share what we have received.

### Memory Verse

*"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19).*

## Theme Two

### "The Lord reveals Himself to those who love Him"

Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples after His resurrection. As a result, they were overjoyed and greatly encouraged and became mighty men of faith. If we have ears willing to hear, and eyes willing to see, the Holy Spirit will reveal Jesus to our hearts and we too will be changed into men and women of faith, not doubting, because He has met with us.

### Key Thought

The ones who are able to recognise the Lord's voice when He speaks are those who love Him, those who want to hear Him, and who are willing to obey.

### Aim

To emphasise our need to put aside every obstacle in order to meet with Him and know His grace in every circumstance.

### Memory Verse

*"He who has an ear; let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 2:7).*

## 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

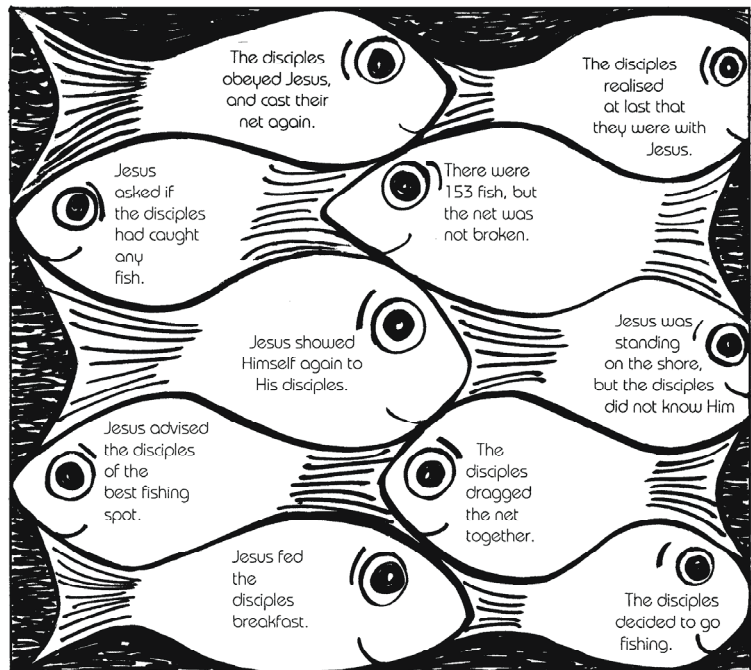
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

### 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.

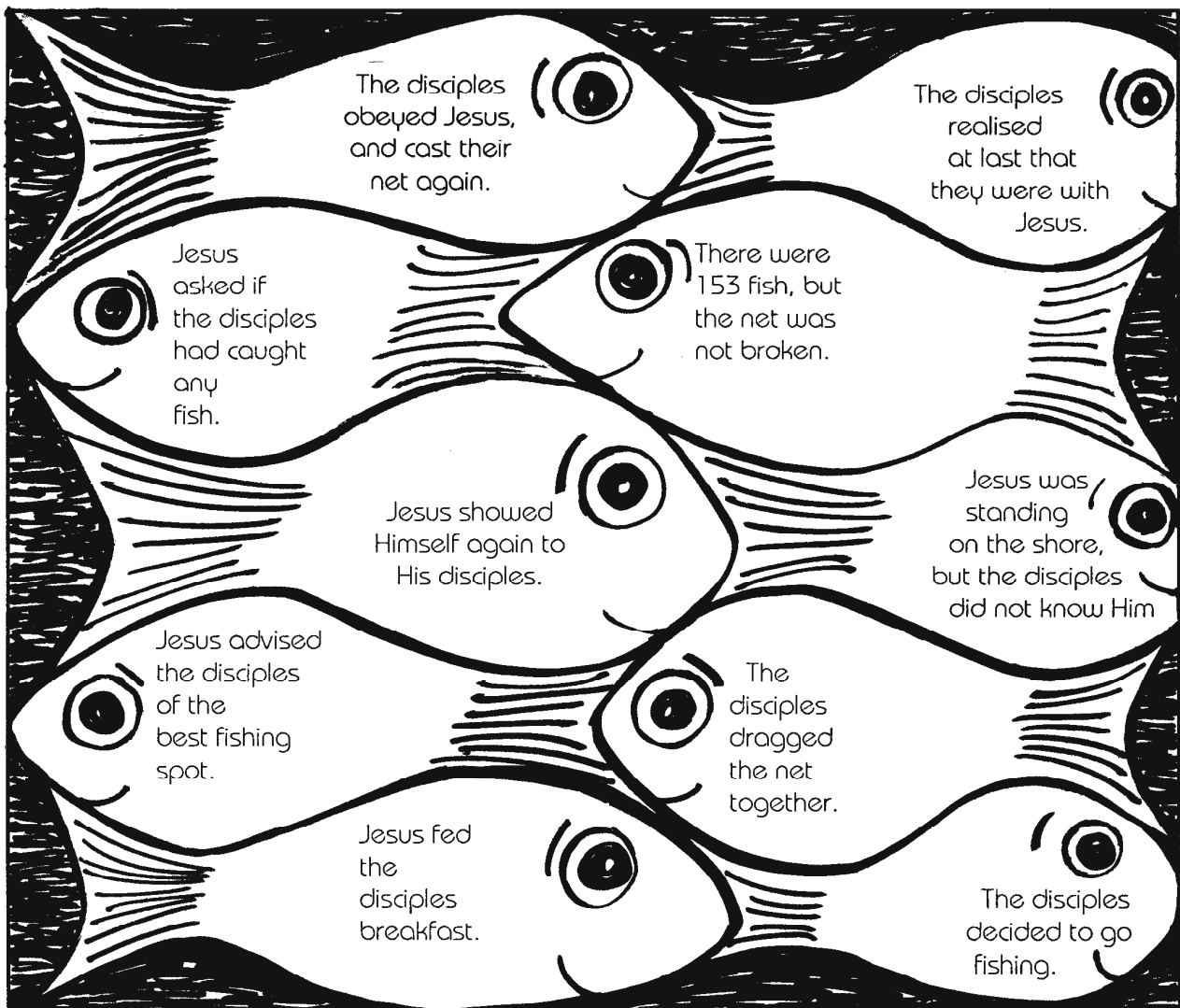


# Peter restored

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



*This page is intentionally blank*

# 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

1. Discuss the doubts of the disciples and reasons for these.
2. Discuss the reactions of the disciples and of other Jews during the last forty days of Jesus' life on earth.
3. Stress the humility of Jesus and urgency of His teaching and preparing of His disciples.

## Theme One

### **"Jesus wants His disciples to spread the gospel to the whole world"**

Jesus left the task of spreading the gospel all over the world, to His disciples. The call is still here today for those who are willing to be His disciples.

#### **Key Thought**

The "Great Commission" of Jesus is for everyone who loves Him and professes to be His disciple.

#### **Aim**

To have the students understand that as Christ's followers they have a part in sharing His love and gospel.

#### **Memory Verse**

*"And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature'." (Mark 16:15).*

## Theme Two

### **"Faith is believing when we cannot see"**

Like Thomas, we are often challenged in our faith. We cannot see Jesus today, but we know by faith that He is with us, and believe that He died for our sin and rose again.

#### **Key Thought**

Even though we have never seen Jesus it is important to accept what the Bible teaches us about Him and to want to live in the way He taught His first disciples to live.

#### **Aim**

For the students realise and accept that the Christian way of life is a walk of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Memory Verse**

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

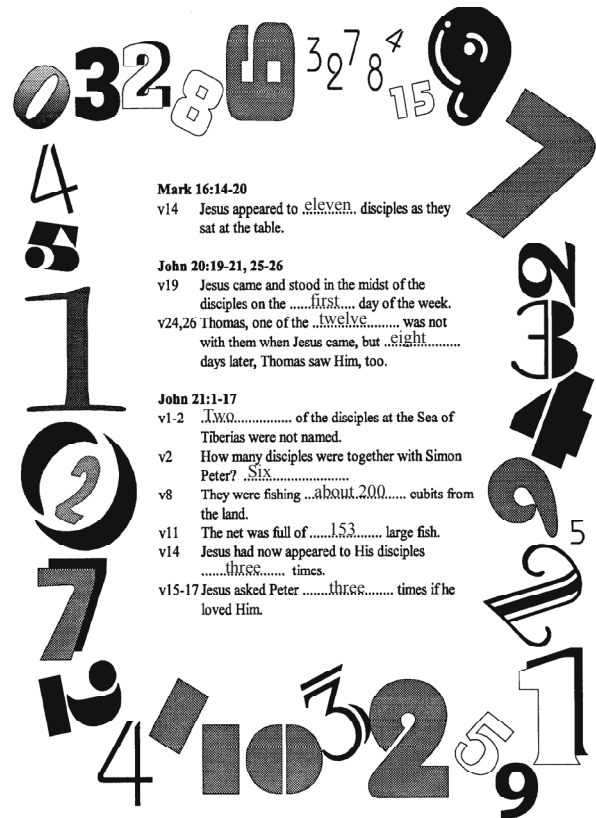
## Activity A - How Many Quiz

### 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.

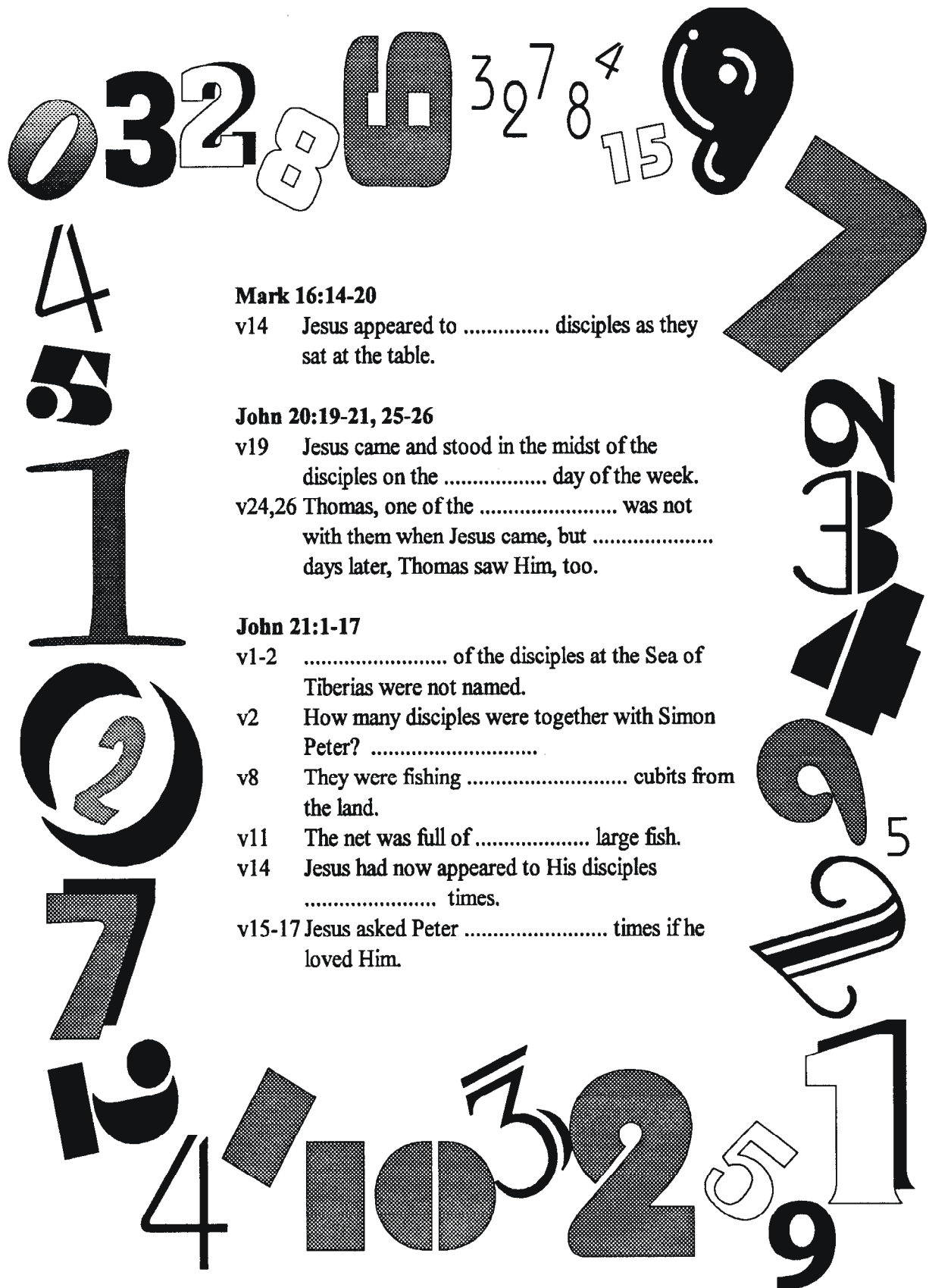
"G O I N T O A L L T H E W O R L D A N D  
P R E A C H T H E G O S P E L T O E V E R Y  
C R E A T U R E . H E W H O B E L I E V E S  
A N D I S B A P T I S E D W I L L B E S A V E D ;  
B U T H E W H O D O E S N O T B E L I E V E  
W I L L B E C O N D E M N E D ."





# 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

1. Read the relevant Scriptures.
2. Discuss how the coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the early church.
3. Discuss how the coming of the Holy Spirit can transform us today.

## Theme One

### “Power to live”

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.

### Aim

For the students 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).*

## Theme Two

### “A promise fulfilled”

Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come and bring power from on high. This is surely what happened on the Day of Pentecost. Jesus kept His promise and His disciples did receive power when the Spirit descended upon them. He keeps His promises to us also.

### Key Thought

The Day of Pentecost was the fulfilment of a promise Jesus made. The same promise is for us who are “afar off” (verse 39).

### Aim

For the students to understand that both their Heavenly Father and Jesus keep the promises they make.

### Memory Verse

*“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:23).*

## 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:

*This page is intentionally blank*



# 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

1. Relate the events of the storyline to the class.
2. Discuss what motivated the Pharisees and Simon the sorcerer, when they attempted to influence the disciples.
3. Consider the motives (both our own and of others) which could divert us from the Lord's way.
4. Discuss the effects of receiving meekly the implanted word (salvation; a knowing of what is acceptable; confusion flees; ability to stand firm).

## Theme One

### "Be filled with the Holy Spirit"

The Lord requires His people to worship Him in spirit and in truth. Therefore it is important that we are continually being filled with the Holy Spirit from day to day.

### Key Thought

When they receive the Holy Spirit, Christians are empowered to speak boldly, to heal the sick and to walk victoriously in the way the Lord leads them.

### Aim

To be encouraged together, knowing that the Holy Spirit who led Jesus and empowered the apostles, will also lead us in all His ways.

### Memory Verse

*"And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues."*  
(Mark 16:17).

## Theme Two

### "Listen to God, not man"

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).

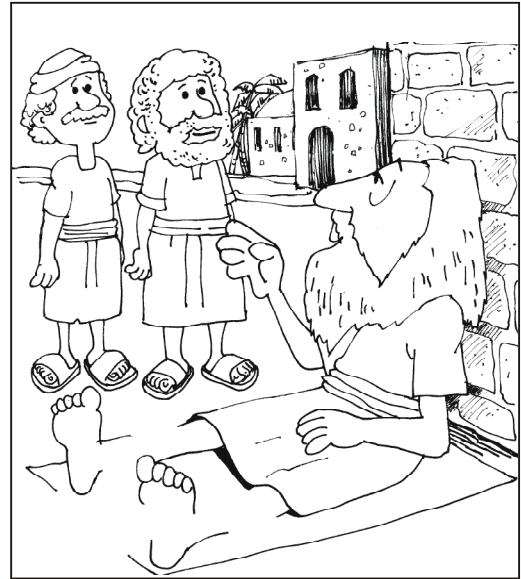
### Steps

#### 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

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

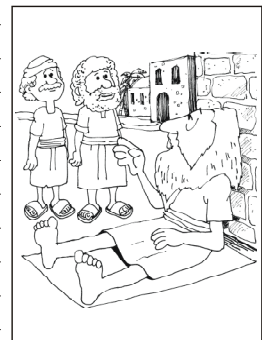
## GRACE DAILY

### PETER AND JOHN - NO FREE SPEECH

(HEADLINE)

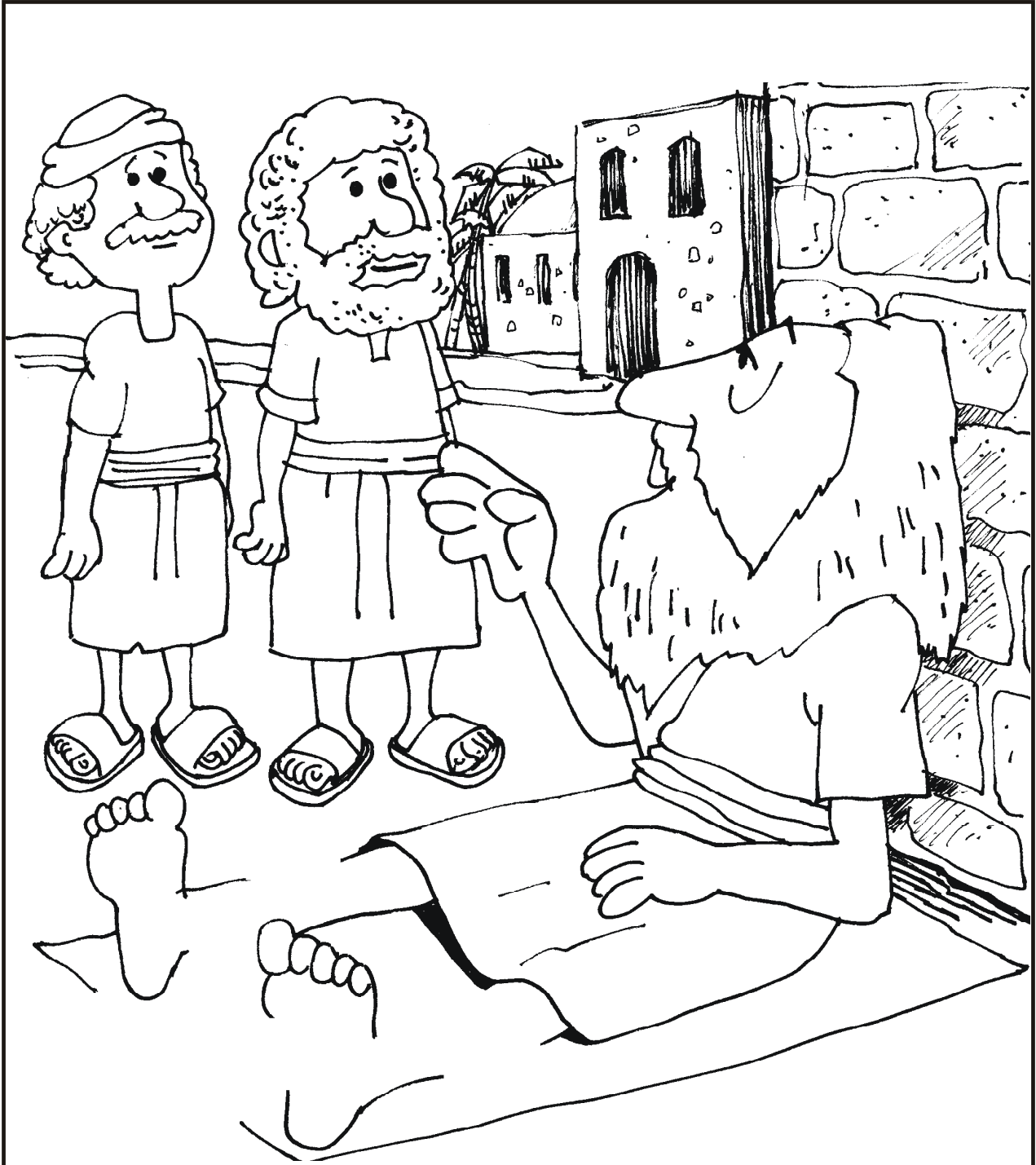
A further update on the situation at Jerusalem.

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

<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>
<b>Where</b>	<b>When</b>
<b>Why</b>	<b>... and then ...</b>

**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)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

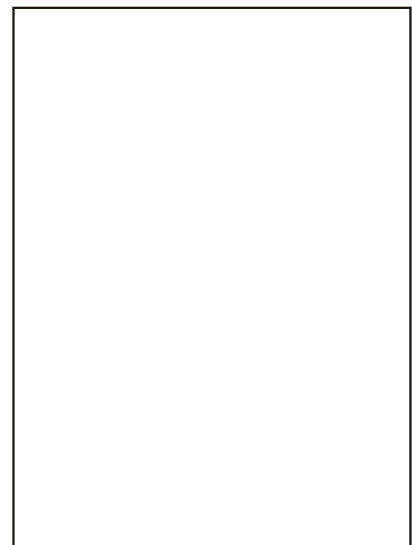
---

---

---

---

---



# 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

1. Read the relevant Scriptures.
2. Discuss the importance of the baptism in the Holy Spirit to his life.

## 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

*“For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.” (Romans 10:12).*

## Theme Two

### “Miracles and wonders”

It was only by the power of God through the Holy Spirit that Peter was able to heal and restore life. The power of the Holy Spirit is also important to us, that we might see wonders and miracles occur in our lives and that we might have the power to live God’s lifestyle.

### Key Thought

Without the Holy Spirit miracles and wonders will not happen.

### Aim

For the students to understand that the Holy Spirit is the power by which we live in God’s life and by which signs and wonders will be shown to the world.

### Memory Verse

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

## 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

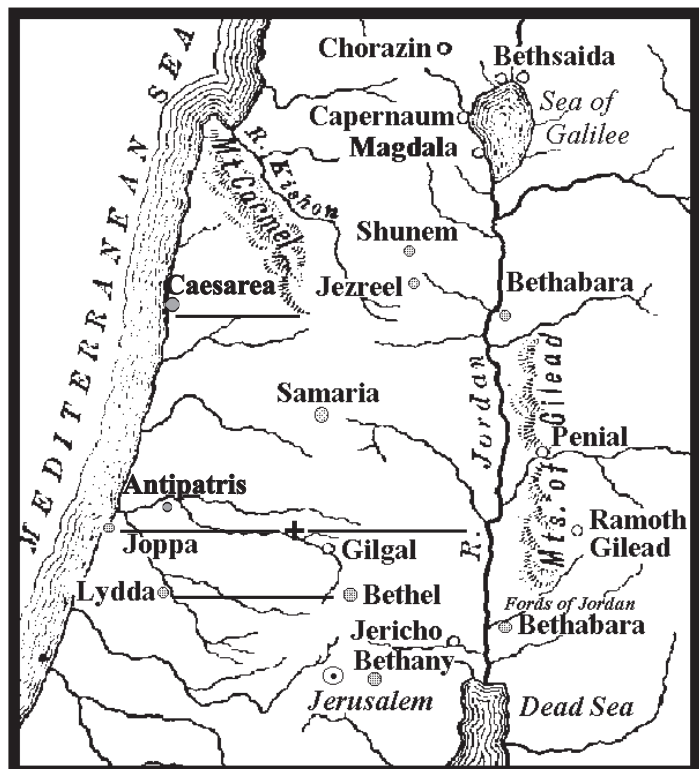
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

### 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 |



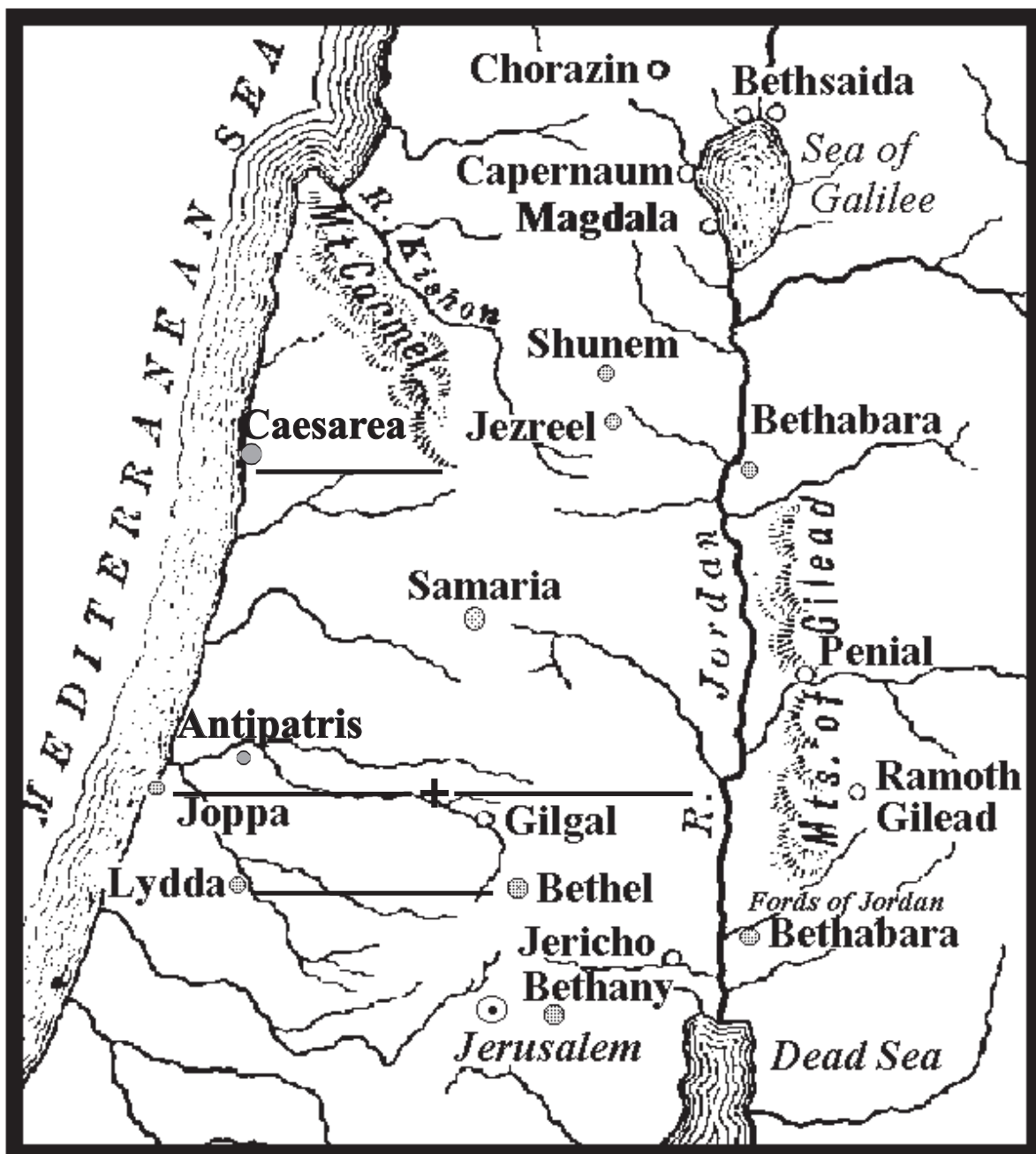


# Peter and the Gentiles

## 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



*This page is intentionally blank*

# 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

1. Read the relevant Scriptures.
2. 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.
3. Discuss how Stephen was able to die in such a manner.

## Theme One

### “Grace to die”

The power of God’s grace was evident in Stephen’s life and especially so at the point of his death. The challenge to us is this: at the point of our death we will need to be found at peace, having committed our spirit into His hands and having forgiven any who have caused us sorrow.

### Key Thought

Our death as well as our life can be completely committed to God’s keeping.

### Aim

For the students to understand that God’s grace is available in death as well as in life.

### Memory Verse

*“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*  
(Revelation 2:10).

## Theme Two

### “God’s enabling 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 students 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

*“He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:24).

## 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

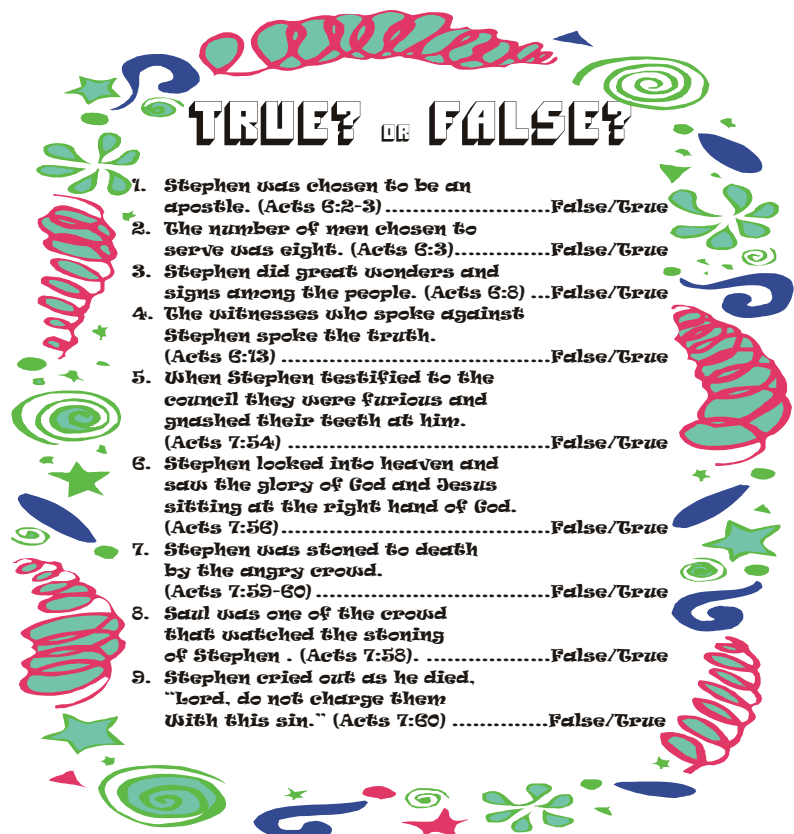
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

### 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

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. True
8. True
9. 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

*This page is intentionally blank*



# 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

1. Read the passage of Scripture together.
2. 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.
3. Emphasise that this illustrates how God blesses those who search for Him and how the response of faith results in life and rejoicing.
4. Discuss together how the students can practically involve themselves in seeking the Lord from day to day.

## Theme One

### “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 students to be diligent in seeking the Lord by participating in worship, family altar and prayer.

### Memory Verse

*“You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:13).*

## Theme Two

### “Tell others about 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, 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

*“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32).*

## 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

1. Ethiopia (v27)
2. Chariot (v28)
3. Spirit (v29)
4. Isaiah (v30)
5. Guides (v31)
6. Lamb (v32)
7. Slaughter (v32)
8. Silent (v32)
9. Justice (v33)
10. Prophet (v34)
11. Opened (v35)
12. Water (v36)
13. Baptised (v36)
14. Believe (v37)
15. God (v37)
16. Caught (v39)
17. 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.**

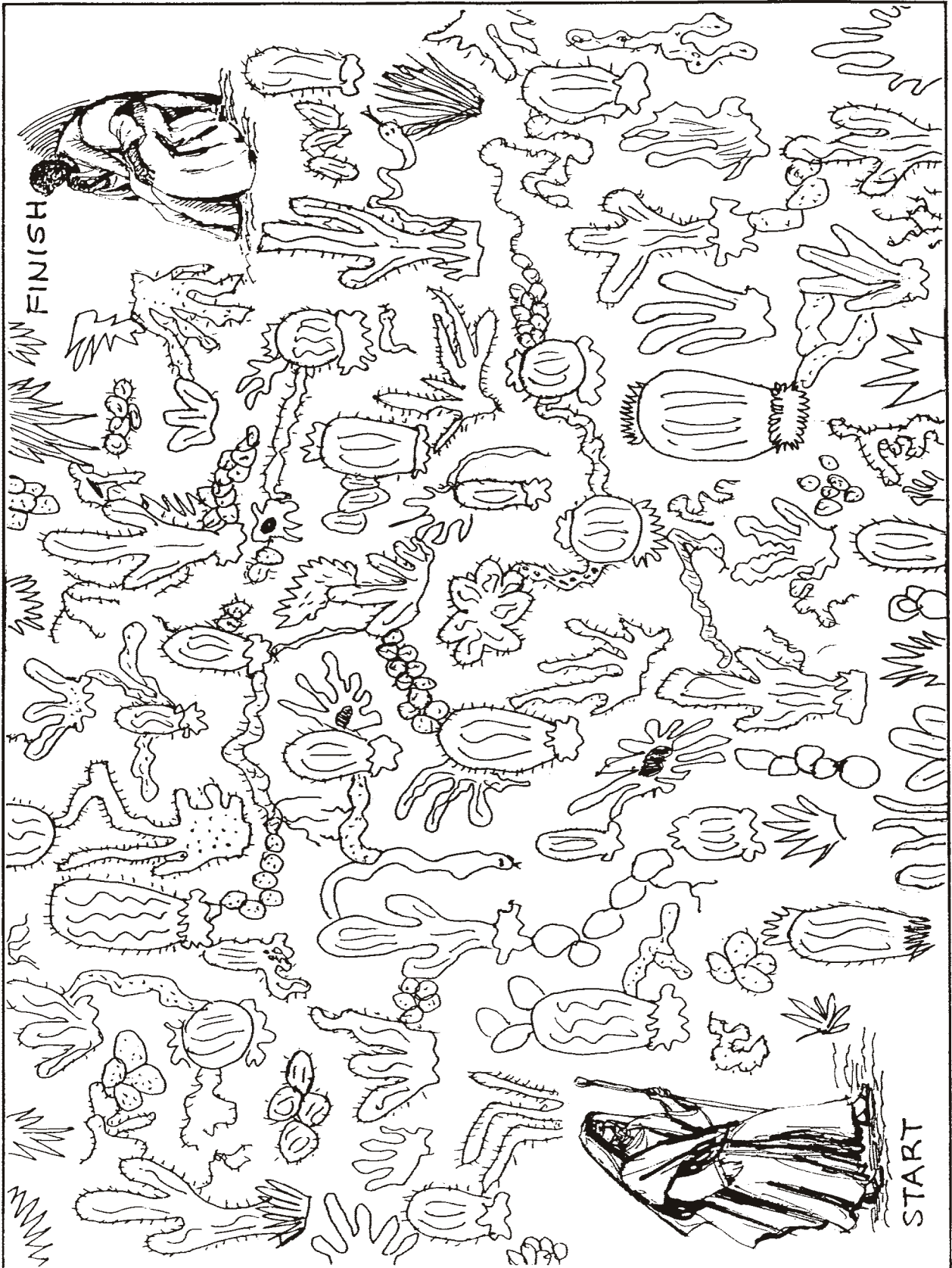
Small word list:

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.
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. Si \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_.



# 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

### Theme 1

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

### "God reveals Himself"

God 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. God also desires to reveal Himself in His people as we respond in repentance and faith.

### Key Thought

Firstly, God reveals Himself to us and then He desires to reveal Himself in and through us, His people.

### Aim

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

### Memory Verse

*"As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness." (Psalm 17:15).*

## Theme Two

### "God requires total obedience"

Because Saul and Ananias obeyed the Lord, the lives of many were blessed. The Lord directs His people to do various things: to gather together, to worship, to love one another, to obey parents, etc. He requires obedience in these matters in order for His will to be fulfilled and for our lives to be a blessing to others.

### Key Thought

If we are only hearers of the word, and not obedient doers, we will deceive ourselves, and be unfruitful.

### Aim

To show that obedience involves the crossing of our will. It is the way of the cross and will result in the Lord's life being formed in us.

### Memory Verse

*"Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls." (Hebrews 13:17).*

## 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

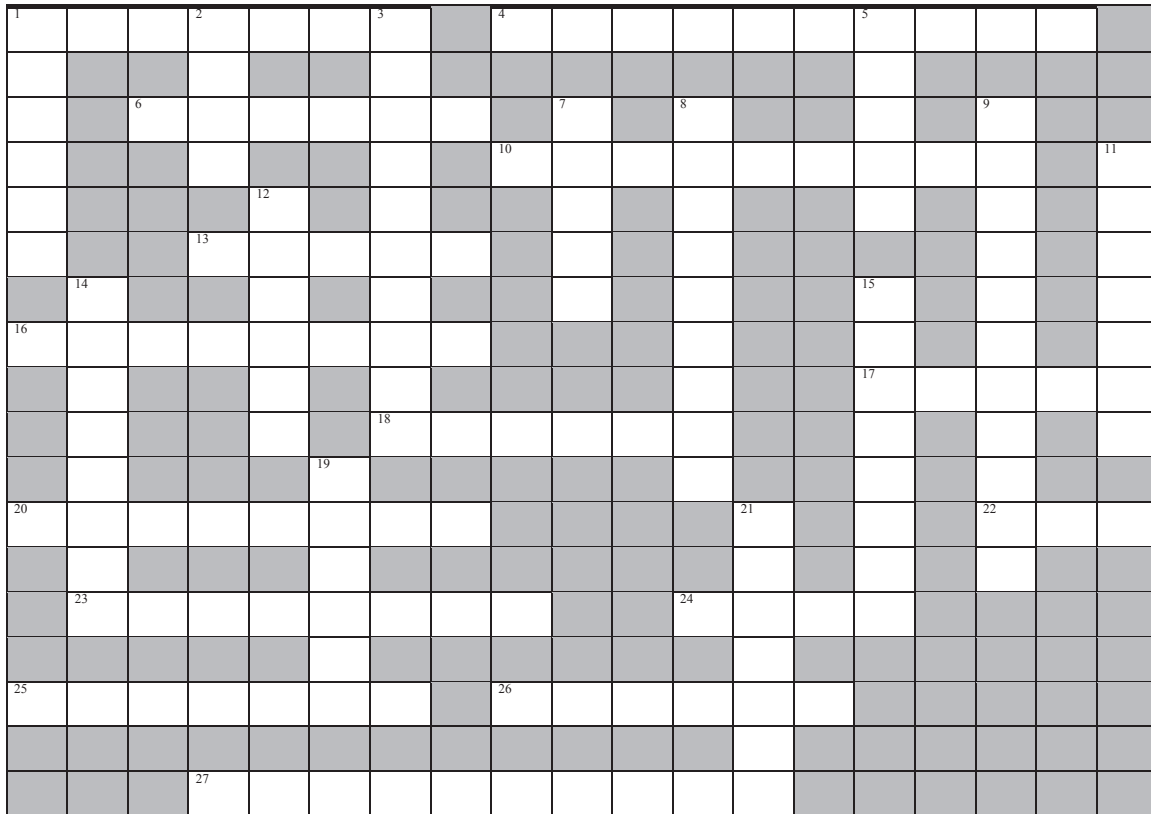
<sup>1</sup> A	N	A	<sup>2</sup> N	I	A	<sup>3</sup> S		<sup>4</sup> A	S	T	O	N	I	<sup>5</sup> S	H	E	D	
F			A			P								C				
R		<sup>6</sup> A	M	A	Z	E	D		<sup>7</sup> J		<sup>8</sup> A			A		<sup>9</sup> I		
A			E			E		<sup>10</sup> J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M		<sup>11</sup> B
I				<sup>12</sup> V		C			S		T			E		M		R
D			<sup>13</sup> L	I	G	H	T		U		H					E		O
	<sup>14</sup> D			S		L			S		O			<sup>15</sup> B		D		T
<sup>16</sup> G	E	N	T	I	L	E	S				R			A		I		H
	C			O		S					I			<sup>17</sup> P	E	A	C	E
	L			N		<sup>18</sup> S	P	I	R	I	T			T		T		R
	A				<sup>19</sup> C						Y			I		E		
<sup>20</sup> P	R	E	A	C	H	E	D					<sup>21</sup> P		S		<sup>22</sup> L	E	D
	E				O							L		E		Y		
	<sup>23</sup> D	A	M	A	S	C	U	S			<sup>24</sup> F	O	O	D				
					E							T						
<sup>25</sup> P	R	A	Y	I	N	G		<sup>26</sup> S	A	I	N	T	S					
												E						
			<sup>27</sup> C	O	N	F	O	U	N	D	E	D						

# 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.



*This page is intentionally blank*

# 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

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

### "When Jesus is preached, division may come"

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

*"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit." (Hebrews 4:12).*

## Theme Two

### "Be diligent in the work that God calls us to do"

Paul and Barnabas were separated to the work of God. The call of God upon our lives regarding any aspect of our 'moving on' requires a separating from the 'old' and a commitment to the 'new'. We are called to be in relationship with, and in submission to, those God has called to lead us.

### Key Thought

As God's will and calling for us become evident, it will be recognised and agreed upon by those who are responsible for our care.

### Aim

For the students to understand that God gives us work to do.

### Memory Verse

*"Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure." (II Peter 1:10).*

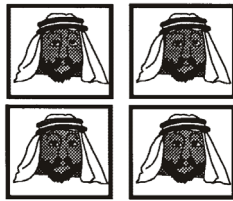
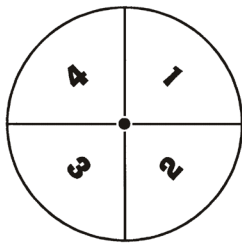
## Activity A - Board Game

### Materials

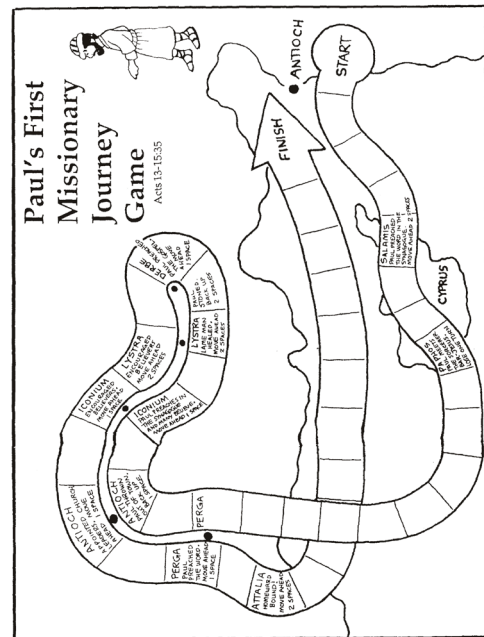
- Activity Sheet (game) between 4.
- 1 spinner between 4.
- 1 token per child.

### 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.



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.



- 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

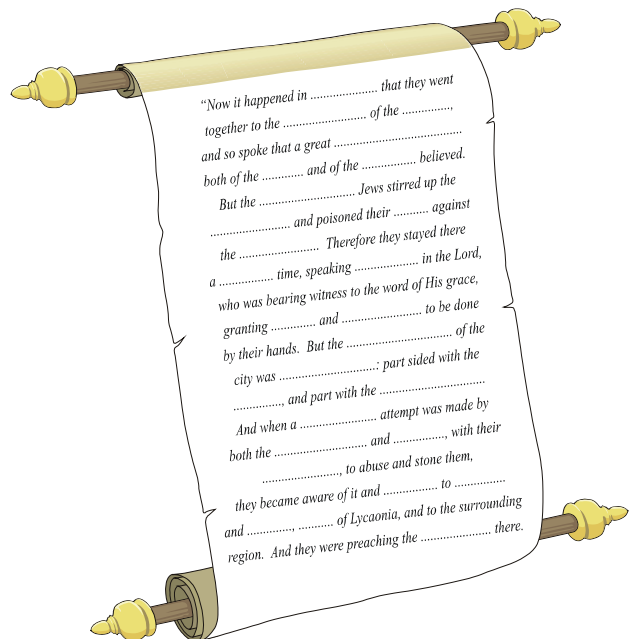
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

### Steps

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

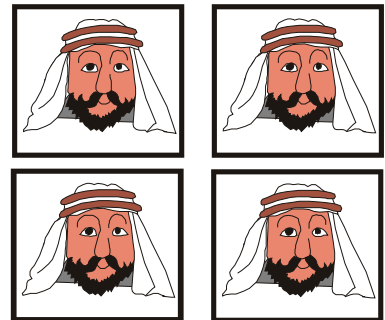
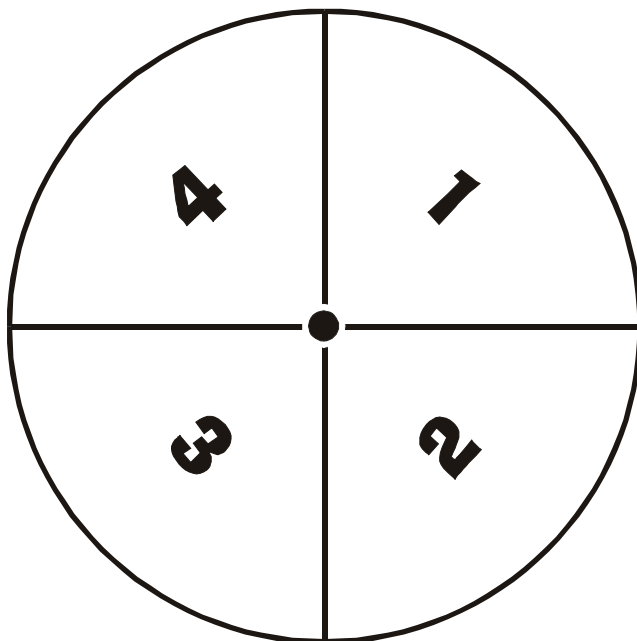
### Answer

"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 Lord. 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



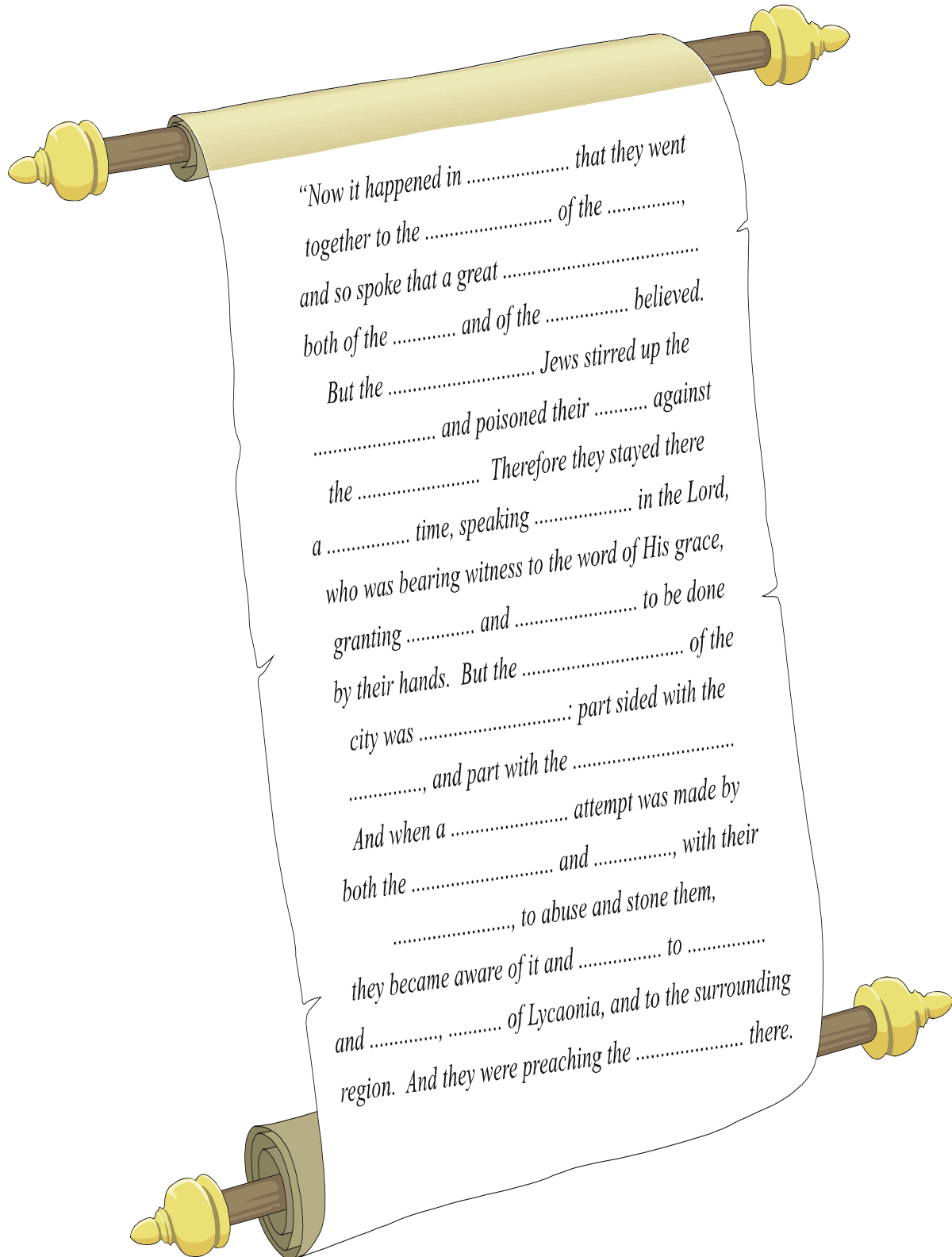
## Activity A – Board Game

[illegible]

# Paul's first missionary journey

## Activity B – Fill in the Missing Words

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



*This page is intentionally blank*



# 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

1. Show a map of the places Paul passed through on his second and third missionary journeys.
2. Ask the children to suggest some of the dangers he may have faced travelling in those times.

## Theme One

### "God will protect us and set us free"

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

### Memory Verse

*"Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, ... He will come and save you." (Isaiah 35:4).*

## Theme Two

### "Give all for the Lord"

Paul was ready to die for his faith. We, too, must be ready to lay down our lives for what we believe. We must be prepared to give up everything to be His disciples.

### Key Thought

To follow the Lord, we must be willing to put ourselves last and put the Lord first.

### Aim

To show the students that we cannot be half-hearted in our commitment if we desire to be the children of God.

### Memory Verse

*"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow Me.'" (Matthew 16:24).*

## 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).             |



*This page is intentionally blank*

# 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

1. 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.
2. Tell the story.

## Theme One

### "To be an honest witness"

Just as Paul spoke to the crowd about what he saw on the way to Damascus, the Lord calls us to speak honestly about the things that He has done for us in our lives. The Lord brings many people across our paths in daily life and our honest testimony in this regard is the response of a faithful servant.

### Key Thought

To witness, we must simply be honest with one another and never be ashamed to express our thanks and praise to the Lord.

### Aim

To explain to the students what it means to be a witness.

### Memory Verse

*"For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard." (Acts 22:15).*

## 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. (Acts 23:11).

### Aim

To teach the students 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

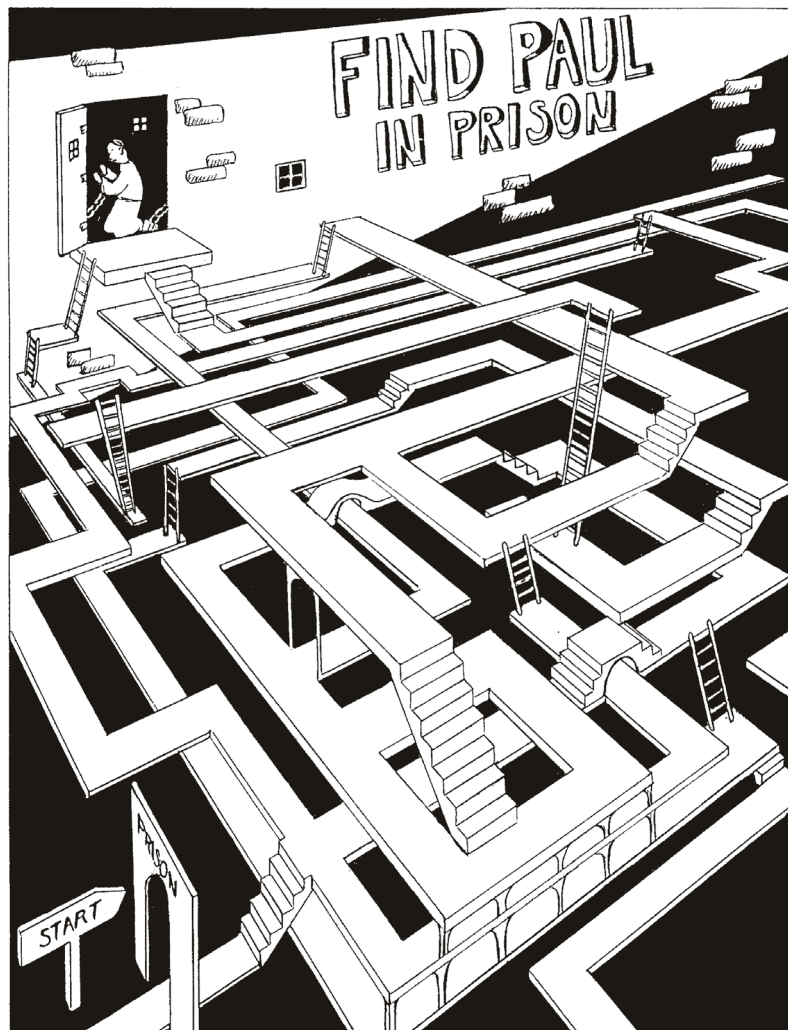
## Activity B - Maze – Find Paul in Prison

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child
- Pens/pencils

### Steps

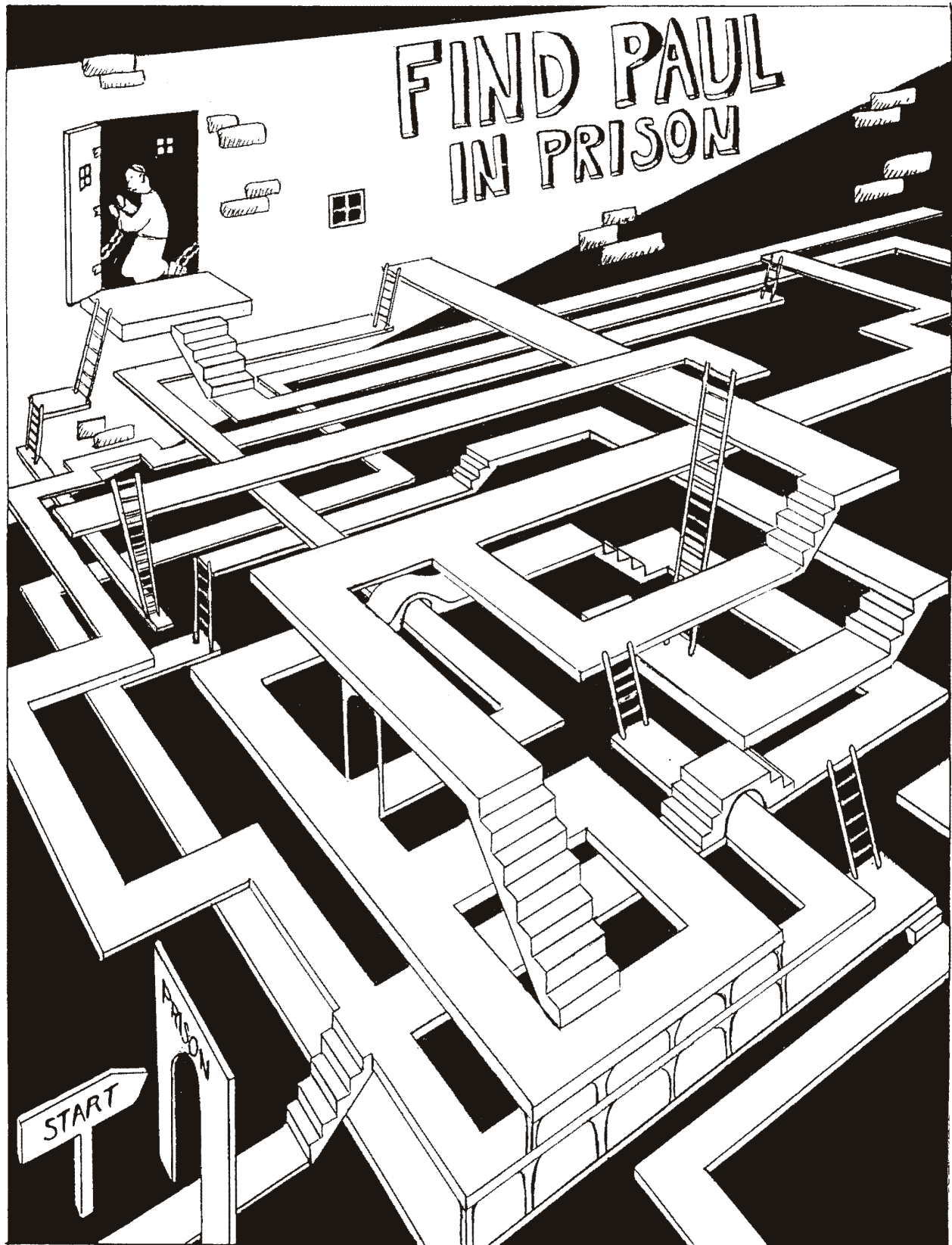
- Students find their way through the hallways, up and down ladders and stairs, into Paul's cell.
- Have the students create their own mazes and share them with one another.





# Paul's capture and imprisonment

## Activity B – Maze – Find Paul in Prison





*This page is intentionally blank*

# 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

### "Safe in the Lord"

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 students understand that God cares for us in every situation in our life.

### Memory Verse

*"So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:6).*

## Theme Two

### "Listen to the wise"

The centurion was keen to leave Fair Havens as it was not a good harbour in which to spend the winter. He ignored Paul's warnings and listened to the advice of the helmsman and owner of the boat. This resulted in the shipwreck. When we are having difficulties, we need to listen to the advice of those whom we know live by godly wisdom. The ways of the world will be no help to us.

### Key Thought

Only the wisdom of God will help us in our trials.

### Aim

To help the children to understand our need to listen to those in the body who are wiser than we are, or we, too, will become 'shipwrecked'.

### Memory Verse

*"A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel." (Proverbs 1:5).*

## 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:

II Corinthians 12:7-10

II Corinthians 1:8-12

I Corinthians 13:3-7

Romans 8:35-39

Philippians 4:10-13

## Activity B - Mapping Quiz

### Materials

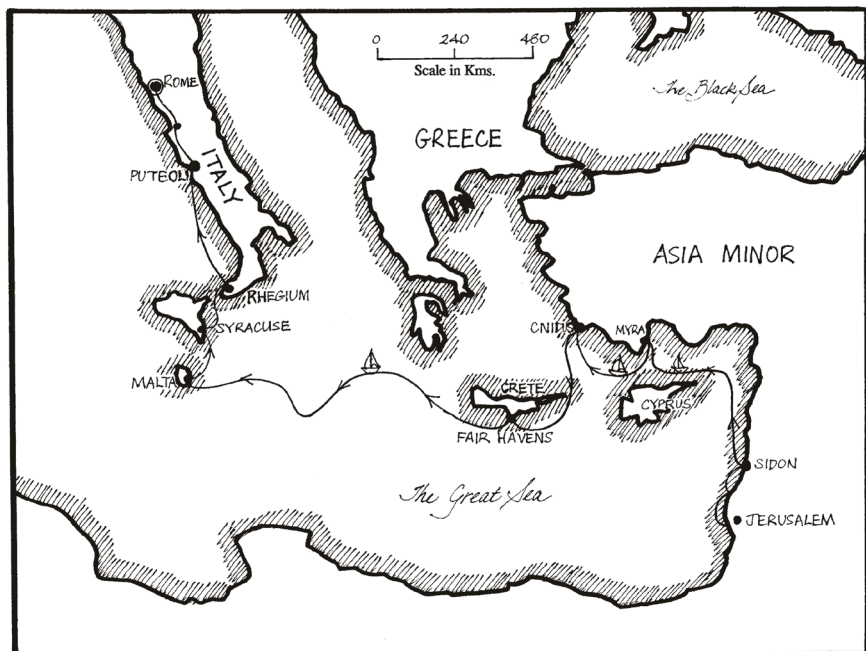
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

### 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

1. Sidon.
2. Cyprus.
3. Myra.
4. 14.
5. 276.

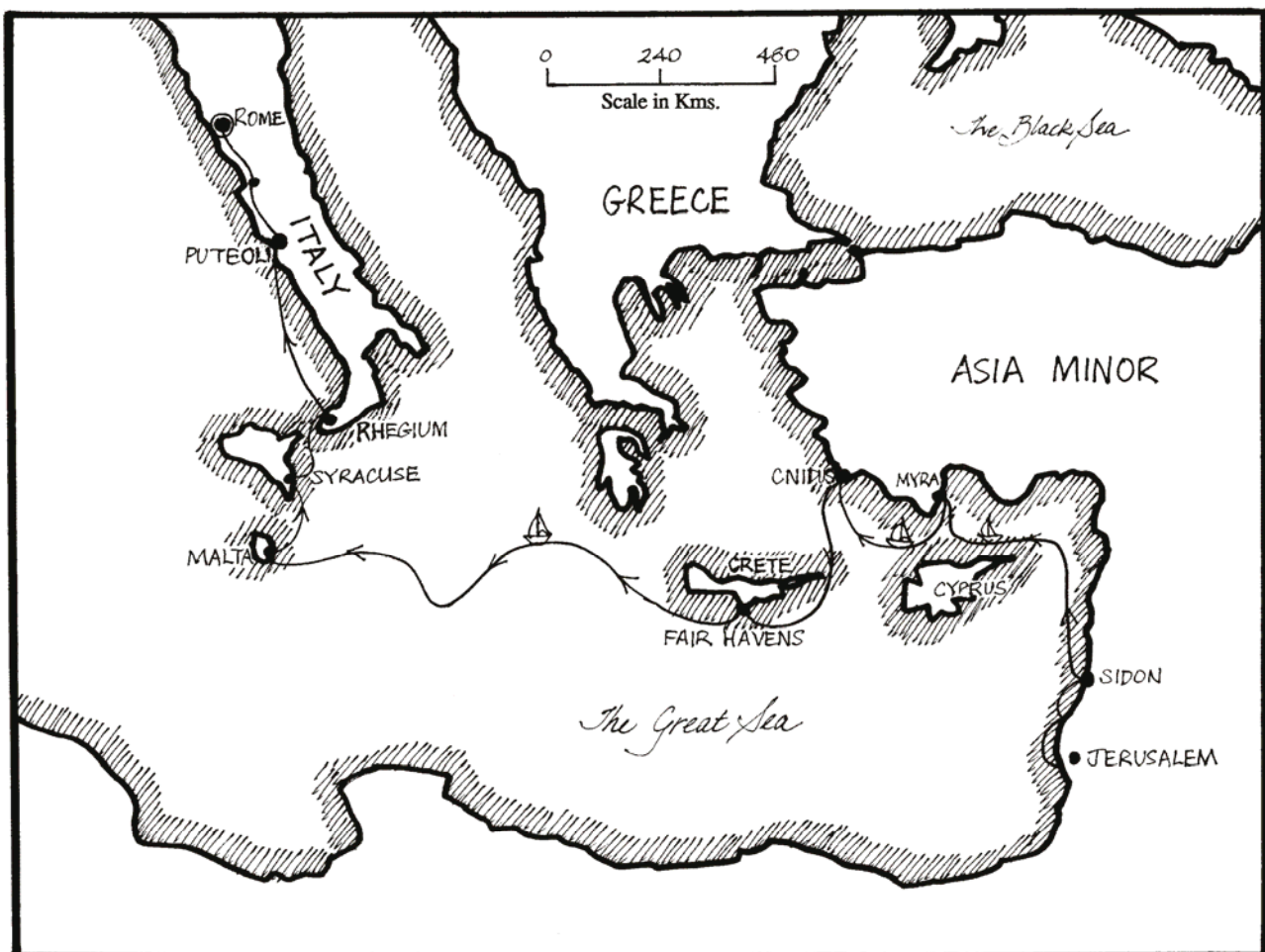


# Paul's final journey

## 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? \_\_\_\_\_



*This page is intentionally blank*

*This page is intentionally blank*



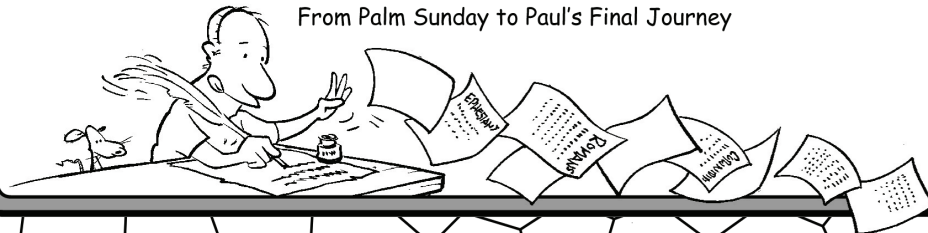
**Well Done!**

---

for completing

**SonSeekers Unit 8**

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey



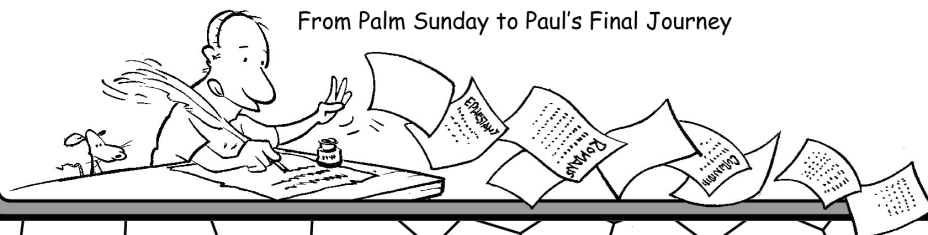
**Well Done!**

---

for completing

**SonSeekers Unit 8**

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey





# Sonseekers Curriculum

## Unit One

1. Creation 1
2. Creation 2
3. Adam and Eve
4. The fall
5. Cain and Abel
6. Noah builds an ark
7. The flood, Noah and his sons
8. The tower of Babel
9. Abram called, Abram and Lot
10. The covenant with Abraham
11. Ishmael and Isaac
12. Sodom and Gomorrah
13. The sacrifice of Isaac
14. Rebekah, Isaac's bride
15. Jacob and Esau
16. Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

## Unit Five

65. The widow's oil, a boy raised
66. Naaman
67. Famine in Samaria
68. Jonah
69. The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom)
70. Hezekiah and Sennacherib
71. Isaiah
72. Josiah
73. Jeremiah
74. The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom)
75. Daniel interprets the king's dream
76. The fiery furnace
77. The writing on the wall
78. Daniel in the lions' den
79. Esther
80. Restoration

## Unit Two

17. Jacob becomes Israel
18. Joseph, the favourite son
19. Joseph goes to Egypt
20. Joseph interprets the dreams
21. Joseph's brothers
22. Israel in Egypt
23. Israelite slaves, Moses born
24. Moses flees and returns to Egypt
25. "Let My people go"
26. The first passover, Israel delivered
27. Crossing the Red Sea
28. Manna, water from the rock
29. Sinai and the ten commandments
30. Moses and the tabernacle
31. The golden calf
32. Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

## Unit Six

81. Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John
82. The birth of Jesus
83. Jesus in the temple
84. John the Baptist
85. Jesus baptised and tempted
86. The call of the disciples
87. Water turned to wine
88. The temple cleansed, Nicodemus
89. The woman at the well
90. Healing of the paralysed man
91. The house built on the rock
92. Jesus stills the storm
93. The feeding of the 5000
94. The centurion's servant
95. Forgiveness in Simon's house
96. The sower and the seed

## Unit Three

33. Aaron's rod
34. Moses hits the rock
35. The bronze serpent
36. Balaam and his ass
37. Joshua and Rahab
38. Crossing the Jordan, Jericho
39. The sin of Achan
40. The sun stands still
41. Gideon's fleece
42. Gideon and his army
43. Samson
44. Samson and Delilah
45. Ruth, Naomi and Boaz
46. Hannah
47. Samuel hears God speak
48. Eli, Hophni and Phinehas

## Unit Seven

97. Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus
98. Jesus walks on the water
99. Miracles of healing
100. The transfiguration
101. A boy is healed
102. The unmerciful servant
103. A man born blind
104. The good Samaritan
105. Prayer
106. The raising of Lazarus
107. The lost sheep, coin and son
108. Attitudes of a servant
109. The marriage of the king's son
110. The ten lepers
111. The ten virgins
112. The talents

## Unit Four

49. Saul chosen
50. Saul and the Amalekites
51. David chosen
52. David and Goliath
53. David and Jonathan
54. David and Saul
55. David crowned
56. David and the ark
57. Absalom
58. Solomon becomes king
59. Solomon's temple
60. Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam
61. Elijah and the widow
62. Elijah on Mount Carmel
63. Good King Jehoshaphat
64. Elisha and the double portion

## Unit Eight

113. Palm Sunday
114. The last supper and Gethsemane
115. The crucifixion
116. The resurrection
117. Peter restored
118. The risen Christ and His ascension
119. The day of Pentecost
120. Peter and John
121. Peter and the Gentiles
122. Stephen
123. Philip
124. Paul's conversion
125. Paul's first missionary journey
126. Paul's second and third missionary journeys
127. Paul's capture and imprisonment
128. Paul's final journey