

Dear Parents,

Becky and I have been preparing to teach your child lessons from the book of Acts. We are excited to begin! Below, you will find the schedule of what will be covered each week. It is our hope that you will discuss with your child what they are learning in class so that the information can be retained easier. Our focus is not so much on all the places Paul, Peter, and the other apostles went, but rather on the way God used ordinary people to do extraordinary things in order to spread the Gospel.

Please reach out if you have any questions!

Thank you,

Becky Shaffer & Rachel Malherbe

Oct. 3, 6	Ascension	Acts 1
Oct. 10, 13	Church Begins	Acts 2
Oct. 17, 20	Peter & John Heal, are Imprisoned	Acts 3-4:31
Oct. 24, 27	Ananias & Sapphira	Acts 4:32-5:16
Oct. 31-Nov. 3	Stephen	Acts 6-7
Nov. 7, 10	Philip	Acts 8
Nov. 14, 17	Conversion of Saul	Acts 9:1-31
Nov. 21, 24	Cornelius	Acts 10-11
Nov. 28 - Dec. 1	The First Journey	Acts 13-14
Dec. 5, 8	The Second Journey	Acts 15:36-18:22
Dec. 12, 15	The Third Journey	Acts 18:23-21:16
Dec. 19, 22	Paul on Trial Among the Councils	Acts 21:27-26:32
Dec. 26, 29	Voyage to Rome	Acts 27-28

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Ascension/Matthias chosen
<b>Lesson #:</b> 1	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 1

---

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

- After Jesus' resurrection, he regularly met with his disciples and followers for about 40 days
- One day he walked with them to the Mount of Olives and told his disciples they will receive the Holy Spirit and they were to be witnesses of Jesus for the rest of the world.
- He was then taken up in a cloud up to the sky until they could no longer see him
- Two men dressed in white then asked why are they looking up, He will be back one day.
- So the happy disciples returned to Jerusalem to spread the word
- Then Peter and about 120 followers decided to find a replacement for Judas
- Judas had taken the 30 pieces of silver he was paid to betray Jesus and bought some land with it. Judas died on that land.
- The men nominated Joseph and Matthias. They prayed to God to help them know what is in their hearts then they cast lots and it was Matthias who was chosen to join the 11 disciples.
- How were lots cast? Usually there was a pebble or stone with marks on it that was flipped (like a coin today), or a short stick and long stick, or arrows drawn on stones. After praying about it, they would use the "dice" to make their decision.

#### Principle: *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Spreading the gospel after Jesus ascends
- Prayed before casting lots to decide on Matthias as disciple

#### Application: *(How student can apply...)*

- How can we spread the gospel? Is the Great Commission applicable to us today?
- We need to remember to pray before making decisions in our lives

#### Activities:

- Look up Acts 1:8- read aloud as class. Talk about the meaning.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Church Begins
<b>Lesson #:</b> 2	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 2

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Repent- feel regret or remorse and turn away from sin

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

- The disciples went back to Jerusalem and sat in an upstairs room to pray and talk about Jesus.
- There were about 120 people present, full of people who had traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of the Pentecost.
- All of a sudden a great rushing sound, like a mighty wind sprung up and filled the whole house.
- Tongues of fire appeared over the heads of each one present, and the visiting Jews were amazed as each of them heard the apostles speaking in his own language, languages that the apostles had never spoken before.
- Some were confused and thought the apostles were drunk and speaking jibberish but Peter explained to them that this was spoken about by the prophet Joel when he spoke how God would pour out His Holy Spirit upon His children.
- Then he explained how they crucified Jesus, the Messiah which made the people sorry for what they did. Peter then told them to turn back to God and put their trust in Jesus, be baptized and follow Him and He will give them the Holy Spirit also.
- So many of the people listened to what Peter said and were baptized, about 3000 that day. And the church continued to grow as many signs and wonders were done through the apostles.
- The church was so close to one another that they sold their possessions to take care of those who had need. And they all spent time with each other, worshiping and eating at each other's houses.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Those people that were saved, were baptized. No one was saved that wasn't baptized
- God kept His word that He revealed hundreds of years earlier by the prophet Joel about the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- We also can only be saved after we become Christians through baptism. Talk about the steps we need to take to be baptized; Hear, believe, repent, confess then be baptized.
- God will keep His word to us also that He revealed hundreds of years earlier through the Bible. Christ will come back again and take with Him the children of God.

**Activities:**

- Play a phrase spoken in a different language the kids will not understand. Help them understand that different parts of the world speak different languages and help them realize how amazing it would be to speak a different language without having studied to learn it.
- Find a read aloud Acts 2:38-39- talk about what repentance means how we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit when we are baptized

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd grade	<b>Lesson Title: Peter &amp; John Heal Lame Man &amp; Are Imprisoned</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 3	<b>Prepared By:</b> Rachel Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 3-4:31

**Visuals / Resources:**

- laminated visuals of lame man, Peter and John, healing

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:** What/who is this new teaching all about?

The apostles are going out into the world to tell others about Jesus, and they have special abilities that God gave them that allows them to do miracles.

Our current location: Jerusalem

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- Peter and John are the main people in this lesson.
- As they enter the temple, they are stopped by a **lame** (someone who is physically disabled, usually in the foot or leg causing them to be unable to walk) man who asks for **alms** (charity). This man had been lame his whole life (more than 40 years Acts 4:22).

Instead of giving silver or gold, Peter healed him in the name of Jesus Christ.

His response: to leap and praise God! This also caused others to notice the change in him. Remember, they know him as the man that has been lame his whole life!

This really confused some people and many were amazed, so Peter began to tell any who were listening about Jesus, the one who the prophets had prophesied about and that they killed.

The priests and temple guards came hurrying to them because they did not like what Peter and John were saying.

- Peter and John were put in jail, but many who heard them believed.
- The next day, Annas and Caiaphas (remember these names? They were the priests involved in Jesus' death) and others in the council brought out Peter and John from their cell and began to question them. "By what power, or in what name, have you done this?" (4:7) Peter began speaking to the group about Jesus, and boldly points out that they are the ones who handed Him over to die. After hearing everything, they were speechless.
- Acts 4:12 Amazing verse! Read this and discuss.
- The Council wanted them to stop speaking about Jesus. What should we do if someone tells us to stop speaking about Jesus?
- They replied, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard." (4:19-20)
- They huddled together to discuss what they should do, and decided to release them from jail.
- Peter and John went to their friends and told them all about it, and they praised God! And their praise wasn't necessarily because God kept Peter and John safe, but it was because they had been given the opportunity to talk to people about Jesus.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- We praise and thank God for our physical healing (the lame man) and also when we have opportunities to talk to others about Jesus (Peter and John and their companions).
- We don't obey those who tell us to stop talking about Jesus.
- Through Jesus we have salvation

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- We need to be people who praise and thank God daily, even throughout the day. Discuss things to be thankful for, reasons for praising God from day to day.
- We need to read about Jesus and study His character so we can be like Him and also so we can understand what He did for us and how He saved us.
- Say specific prayers of thankfulness

**Activities:**

- Memory Verse Fill-In-The-Blank for Acts 4:12
- Peter and John Help a Man...Draw the Scenes in the Frames
- Various scenes from this lesson are good for the students to act out.

**Songs:**

**Other:**

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> <b>Ananias and Sapphira</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 4	<b>Prepared By:</b> R. Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 4:32-5:16

**Visuals / Resources:** Laminated images of Blue Ringed Octopus, Poison Dart Frog, and Platypus (included)

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:**

- By whose name are we saved? (Acts 4:12)
- Why were people praising God?
- Current Location: Jerusalem

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- New names: Barnabas, Ananias, Sapphira
- All the believers were of “one heart and soul” 4:32. What does that mean? What do you think it looked like?
- No one among them was in need. They shared what they had, they sold their possessions and even property in order to help someone who had a need (introduce Barnabas).
- We see in these few verses the love the brethren had for one another and for their head, Christ.
- Introduce Ananias and Sapphira as husband and wife who owned property and sold some. Ananias brought the money and laid it at Peter’s feet, but Peter accused him of lying and Ananias fell down dead.
- Three hours later, the same thing happened to Sapphira.
- What did they do wrong? This husband and wife duo lied. They sold land but lied about the price they sold it for so it sounded like they were giving the entire amount to the apostles. Why would someone do this? Maybe they wanted to be known for how much they gave. Maybe they wanted praise or popularity.
- Discuss situations where they are tempted to lie.
- We know lying is wrong and this judgement showed everyone else how seriously God takes lying.
- Acts 5:11 “great fear came over the whole church” They learned not to do the same thing! Do you ever see someone get in trouble and you decide you will not do that same thing?
- The church is young and the apostles, namely Peter, made sure the rest of the believers knew that lying was not acceptable.
- God knows our heart and He sees the bad and the good.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Believers are a family and we help one another
- There are consequences to sin

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- When we see someone in need, we should be willing to help, even if it means giving up something of our own.
- Don't lie! You might be tempted to make yourself look good (points, grades, awards, etc.) but lying about it is wrong.

**Activities:**

- The children may feel that at this age there aren't ways to help those in need. They can't decide to sell property. Discuss ways they can give at this age. Examples: someone's home catches fire and their things are destroyed. What can the students do? Give some of their clothes, toys, help mom or dad make a meal and take it over, if they have some money saved go to the store and get some things they need (sheets, clothes, etc.)
- Satan is known as the Deceiver. Sin can look good, even beautiful, at times, but it is deceptive. Use images of three deceptive animals to teach this Ananias and Sapphira object lesson. Pictures of cute, or beautiful, animals that are deadly (I used the **Blue Ring Octopus**, **Poison Dart Frog**, and the **Platypus**.)

**Hold up the frog image. Ask:**

- What makes this animal special? Allow for answers; have them discuss description, movement, food, location...whatever they might know about this type of frog. Ask if anyone knows what this frog is called. This is a poison dart frog. One frog has enough poison to kill 10 to 20 men. In fact, tribal peoples in the rain forest used to use poison dart frogs on their spears.

**Hold up the octopus image. Ask:**

- What makes this animal special? Allow for answers; have them discuss description, movement, food, location...whatever they might know about this type of octopus. Ask if anyone knows the name of this octopus. This is a blue ring octopus. They are small and beautiful, but they have enough poison to kill a man.

**Hold up the platypus image. Ask:**

- What makes this animal special? Allow for answers; have them discuss description, movement, food, location...whatever they might know about the platypus. Be sure to discuss how cute and fuzzy they are. Then explain that the platypus has poisonous ankle spurs, and while they will not kill a man, they sure can hurt a person.

These animals are deceptive. The frog is shiny and beautiful. So is the octopus. And the platypus looks so fun and fuzzy! They don't look dangerous, but they are. Sin can be that way. It looks good, even beautiful, but it can be deadly. The wages of sin is death. Understand that there are choices and situations that might seem harmless at first, but if you will educate yourself about those things, you will realize that you should run from them.



- Give each student a 3 1/2 x 5 index card. With white crayon, have each student write their name on their card. Color over it with marker and it will show up. God sees our hearts even when others can't. Can do the same thing with a good deed and a lie.
- Ananias and Sapphira Multiple Choice Worksheet

**Songs:**

**Other:**

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Stephen
<b>Lesson #:</b> 5	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 6-7

---

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Repent- feel regret or remorse and turn away from sin
- Martyr- a person who is killed because of their religious beliefs
- Benevolence- an act of kindness or generous gift
- Deacon- servant for God

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

- When Jesus went back to heaven, only the disciples and a few people had chosen to believe; however after the Holy Spirit had come, there were many people who became Christians.
- Everyone was welcome and anyone in need was looked after, especially the widows in the group.
- However, so much of the apostles time was spent caring for the widows that they didn't have the time to pray and teach like God wanted them to
- So they chose 7 men who were full of the Holy Spirit and were wise to look after the benevolence
- One of the men they chose was Stephen along with 6 others. The 7 new deacons got to work and the apostles could focus on spreading the gospel to more people.
- Stephen taught and performed many miracles in the name of Jesus
- Jews from another area did not believe Jesus had risen from the dead and argued with Stephen but the Holy Spirit gave Stephen wise answers for them.
- These Jews were so angry that they secretly persuaded other men to make false claims about Stephen and that he was speaking blasphemous words against Moses and God.
- Stephen was then taken before the leaders of the Sanhedrin. There were more false accusations said about Stephen.
- The Jewish leaders saw that his face was like the face of an angel and Stephen explained how the Jews had refused to listen to Moses and the prophets and that they had killed Jesus.
- He then was taken and the leaders took off their coats and put them at the feet of a man named Saul and they started hurling stones at him.
- Stephen knelt down and prayed to God to receive his spirit and not to hold this sin against these men. Then he died.

- Stephen was the first Christian to be martyred.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Stephen was chosen to watch over certain Christians and help teach the Gospel
- Even though Stephen was scared, he still taught the truth
- Stephen forgave and asked for God to forgive the people who were killing him

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- Stephen and the other disciples were serving. We have men in our congregation that have the job to serve, they are called deacons. Who are our deacons?
- There may be times when it is hard to stand up for what was right, you may even be scared to do it, but we must believe that God will help us and give us strength.
- We also need to be willing to forgive others when they hurt us, whether they hurt our feelings or physically hurt us. And pray for them, that they might change their ways and come to know God.

**Activities:**

- Find a read aloud 7:59-60, discuss praying to God on behalf of others.
- Print out pictures of the deacons of the congregation and share with the class what their jobs are.

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Philip
<b>Lesson #:</b> 6	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 8

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Repent- feel regret or remorse and turn away from sin
- Martyr- a person who is killed because of their religious beliefs
- Benevolence- an act of kindness or generous gift
- Deacon- servant for God
- Confession- admitting one is guilty of sin
- Persecute- to treat someone badly, injure them because of their religious beliefs

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

- After Stephen was stoned and put to death, Saul, who supervised the stoning, started going from house to house persecuting the Christians. So many Christians scattered away from Jerusalem and went throughout the surrounding land.
- Those who scattered told people about Jesus wherever they went.
- One of those Christians was named Philip. Crowds gathered to hear what he had to say.
- Lame men were walking, people were being saved from their evil spirits.
- Simon, a sorcerer, heard what Philip had to say and also believed. He turned away from his sorcery and was baptized. He followed Philip wherever he went and was amazed by the miracles he saw.
- Peter and John traveled to Samaria to pray for the new believers and place their hands on them to receive the Holy Spirit.
- Simon saw the power of the Holy Spirit and offered money to Peter so that he could have the power to give the Holy Spirit to others.
- Peter rebuked him, telling him he cannot buy the power of God and he needs to repent as his heart is full of bitterness and disobedience.
- Simon then asked Peter to pray for him, that God will forgive his selfish heart. He wanted to be right with God.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Simon had a desire to serve; Once he was corrected by Philip he changed his ways, he repented.  
Simon had a soft heart
- The Ethiopian had a desire to learn. He was reading the law and he was not afraid to ask for help understanding
- The Ethiopian wanted to be baptized immediately. He understood the importance of that step in his salvation.

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- It's sometimes hard to be corrected, we always want to be the one that's right but we need to have soft hearts and a willingness to repent and change our ways
- We need to have a desire to learn, allow others to teach us new concepts or ideas. And we need to be willing to ask for help.
- We must not let things get in the way of our obedience to God. We must obey immediately. Possibly tie into obedience immediately to parents, teachers, coaches, etc.

**Activities:**

- Find a read aloud 8:36-37; talk about the Ethiopian's confession

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> <b>Conversion of Saul</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 7	<b>Prepared By:</b> R. Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 9:1-31

---

**Visuals / Resources:**

- dough and baked biscuit

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:**

- We heard the name Saul in our last lesson (Ch. 8). Who was he and what was he doing?

Location: Jerusalem >>>Damascus >>> Jerusalem >>>Tarsus

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- Saul, still determined to gather up these christians and send them to prisons or death, was on his way to Damascus.
- All of the sudden he was surrounded by a bright light and a voice spoke to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” Who do you think might talk to him like that?
- Saul found out it was Jesus and he was instructed to go to Damascus; however, he couldn’t see anything and needed to be led there by some companions.
- Ananias, a believer in Damascus, had a **vision** (God spoke to him in something like a dream); describe.
- How do you think Ananias felt about getting Saul?
- God has a plan for Saul, and Ananias obeyed.
- When Ananias found Saul, he laid his hands on him and he regained his sight; then he was baptized! Saul had been **converted!** This means he changed his ways. He was no longer going to be the guy persecuting Christians. Instead he was going to TEACH about Jesus and FOLLOW Him!
- He stayed in Damascus for several days and were telling people in the **synagogue** (a place where Jews met to worship and learn) that Jesus was the son of God. This caused a lot of people to wonder what was going on because they knew him to be someone who *opposed* Jesus and His followers.
- Saul kept teaching the truth and the Jews plotted to get rid of him. Some people heard of this plan and helped Saul escape. They put him in a basket and lowered him down from the wall at night.
- Saul went to Jerusalem and tried to gather with the **disciples** (followers of Christ), but many were afraid of him. Why would people be afraid of Saul?
- Barnabas (remember him from chapter 4?) he took Saul and went straight to the apostles in Jerusalem. How do you think Saul was feeling? Possibly: “*What will they do to me? What will they think of me? Will they believe me?*” Talk about this: Barnabas’s actions showed kindness, forgiveness, and grace. We don’t keep bringing up the things that people have done that are wrong or hurtful. When someone changes, we need to be happy for that change and have a new relationship with them.
- In Jerusalem, Saul told the **apostles** (witnesses of Jesus) all about the conversion (the light, the voice, his baptism, his *preaching* about Jesus in Damascus). He was a changed man!

- He tried to stay in Jerusalem for awhile teaching about Jesus, but several kept trying to kill him, so the *brethren* took him Caesarea and then to Tarsus. If the brethren are trying to keep him safe, what does that say about their feelings toward him? How have things changed?
- Read verse 31: why is the **church** (the group of believers) enjoying peace when people are angry at Christians? Talk about how we take comfort in the Lord, in knowing that we are doing the right thing even if others think it's silly. They were probably very encouraged to see how God's word had changed even a man like Saul. They realize they are a part of something that is life changing and they are excited.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Do what God says, even if it is hard or doesn't make sense (Ananias's obedience)
- Admit wrong and do what is right
- Show kindness, forgiveness and grace towards anyone who says sorry/repents (Barnabas's actions towards Saul)
- Even when things are hard, we need to be joyful in the Lord and get our peace from following Him and doing what is right

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- We need to obey our parents even when they tell us to do something and we don't want to (chores, spend time with siblings, give up their toy for someone else to play with, etc.)
- Saul had to admit what he had been doing was wrong. He was sorry for his actions and wanted to be a different person. When we realize we are doing something wrong, we need to be willing to change.
- When a friend or a brother or sister says they are sorry, you need to smile, play together, be kind, and not remind them of how they may have hurt you or your feelings.
- Sometimes doing the right thing is hard (giving up a toy, letting someone else go first, letting someone have the last cookie), but be glad knowing that God is happy about your good choices.

**Activities:**

- In talking about conversion and changing, use simple math problems as an easy example. What if they were saying that  $4+5=8$ ? Is that right? What if you thought it was for several days and even put it on a test? Does that make it right? No! What is  $4+5$ ? 9! So when you learn that you are wrong, even in the simplest of things, you need to admit it and change. You need to no longer say that  $4+5=8$  and instead understand and believe that  $4+5=9$ .
- **Object Lesson:** Bring in a small ball of dough and a prepared biscuit. Holding up the dough, have the students describe its look, texture, even smell. It's "dough-y", can be shaped, wet/moist, etc. Then show them the biscuit and talk about the differences. They have different colors, the biscuit can't be molded into another shape, different smells, solid, etc. Use this as an example of transformation. The dough went through the baking process: heated for about 12 minute in a hot oven. Chemical reactions took place and look at the difference! Use this as an example of how Saul changed - he no longer had the same motives...at all. And apply to our lives as well when we learn we need to change a behavior, thought, etc.

- Talk about situations they may find themselves in and have them answer how they would respond (this goes with doing the right thing even when it seems hard).
- Go over the vocabulary words that are in bold.
- Circle the Right Answer worksheet - in class, take home, or as welcome activity on Wednesday.
- Saul Sees the Light Worksheet

**Songs:**

**Other:**

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*



<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd	<b>Lesson Title: Cornelius</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 8	<b>Prepared By:</b> R. Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 10-11:1-18

---

**Visuals / Resources:**

- Pictures of Roman Centurion (included)
- Foods that are clean and unclean (included)

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:**

- Go over the part of the Old Law dealing with clean and unclean animals: Lev. 11:13-23.
- Go over the difference between Jew and Gentile.
- Main characters: Peter and Cornelius
- Location: Caesarea

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- Cornelius was a Gentile, but not just any Gentile. He was a **centurion** (in charge of 100 men) of the **Italian cohort** (an ancient Roman military group). He was also described as **devout** (religious commitment). He actually believed in Jehovah God, not other “gods”.
- Cornelius had a vision; describe
- Peter had a vision; describe
- Cornelius sends men to ask Peter to come
- Peter arrives at Cornelius’ house; explain their conversation and what Peter is realizing (10:34-35)
- Make the connection between unclean animals no longer being unclean and the good news spreading to the Gentiles also, not just Jews.
- Peter taught them who Jesus is and the people wanted to be baptized. Even though Cornelius was a God-fearing man, he still needed to be baptized to have his sins forgiven and to be part of the church
- Many apostles and other believers began hearing about Gentiles also being able to receive salvation, and when Peter came back to Jerusalem they had a lot of questions for him. This didn’t make everyone happy because they thought it was something special only for the Jews.
- Peter told everyone what happened and about his vision.
- Their response! Acts 11:18 They glorified God!

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Salvation is for everyone, not just the Jews
- Baptism is necessary for salvation
- We need to glorify God when we hear of people obeying the gospel and becoming Christians

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- We need to make sure we don't look at people around us and decide who should know about Jesus and who shouldn't. Jesus died for EVERYONE, and everyone deserves a chance to hear about Jesus. Maybe some of you will decide to go to far away places to tell people about Jesus, but even if you don't, we still need to tell people around us about Him.
- Even though Cornelius was a devout man, he still needed to be baptized. Baptism is a very serious decision and something you need to talk over with your parents when you get older and start thinking about it.
- Let's be so excited when we know of or hear of someone who has become a Christian!

**Activities:**

- Using Legos and toy animals, demonstrate Peter's vision and the animals on the sheet
- "Peter Taught the Gospel" bible verse worksheet
- Circle the right answer "Cornelius" worksheet

**Songs:**

**Other:**

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> First Journey
<b>Lesson #:</b> 9	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 13-14

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Repent- feel regret or remorse and turn away from sin
- Martyr- a person who is killed because of their religious beliefs
- Benevolence- an act of kindness or generous gift
- Deacon- servant for God
- Confession- admitting one is guilty of sin
- Persecute- to treat someone badly, injure them because of their religious beliefs
- Missionary- One sent to do a religious work in a territory or region

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

*\* First Journey took about 2 years*

- Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark sail from Cyprus and head toward Perga.
- When they landed in Perga, John Mark decided to leave Paul and Barnabas and return to Jerusalem
- Once Paul and Barnabas reached Antioch, they were asked to speak words of encouragement in the synagogue.
- After that they were asked to speak again the next week and huge crowds gathered to hear Paul speak. Paul told them that the Jews were rejecting their teaching about Jesus so they wanted to spread the word to the Gentiles. Many Gentiles believed and were baptized.
- Some Jews began to feel jealous with all the attention the apostles were getting. So they began to gather people together to run the apostles out of their city.
- So Paul and Barnabas shook the dust off their feet and continued to travel to many places as Missionaries.
- One place they came to was called Lystra and they found a crippled man there with extraordinary faith. Paul called out to him and told him to get on his feet. The man was able to jump up and walk.
- People that saw this miracle were amazed and mistook the apostles for gods, but Paul corrected them and told him they were men just like themselves and that the miracle came from God.

- Then some travelers came from Antioch and started spreading lies about Paul and a mob formed and they stoned him almost to death and dragged him outside of the city thinking he was dead.
- But soon Paul got up, thanked God for saving him and continued to other cities proclaiming the name of God to those who would listen and believe.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Paul and Barnabas continued to teach about Jesus even when the Jews were rejecting their words.
- They continued to teach and preach when they were being rejected and plotted against.
- Paul continued to thank God even after almost being killed by stoning.

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- When we teach others about God, not everyone is going to accept God's word. But we need to continue to reach others- as many as we can!
- We might get hurt, maybe someone calls us names or maybe they pick on us or beat us up, but that can't stop our jobs as missionaries for God. We must continue to preach and teach the good news.
- We need to remember that God is always in control even when our lives look or feel awful. And we need to remember to thank Him for what we do have.

**Activities:**

- Find a read aloud 13:46-49; Explain how the Gospel is meant for all- even the Gentiles. The Jews did not like that, they wanted to be the special people of God.

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st-3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> Second Journey
<b>Lesson #:</b> 10	<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 15:36-18:22

---

### Visuals / Worksheets:

#### Review:

- The author is Luke, the physician. He is very detailed with dates and descriptions.
- Acts is written about men and women who wanted to teach about the gospel to the world.
- Name the disciples- Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (son of James), Matthias

#### Vocab:

- Ascension- The act of rising to an important position or a higher level
- Commission (The Great Commission)- an instruction, command or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Repent- feel regret or remorse and turn away from sin
- Martyr- a person who is killed because of their religious beliefs
- Benevolence- an act of kindness or generous gift
- Deacon- servant for God
- Confession- admitting one is guilty of sin
- Persecute- to treat someone badly, injure them because of their religious beliefs
- Missionary- One sent to do a religious work in a territory or region

#### Lesson Facts: *(Main points to cover...)*

- Paul and Barnabas had taught the gospel to many different people in many different places so they thought it would be a good idea to go back and visit those cities again and see how the new Christians were doing.
- Barnabas wanted to take John Mark, but Paul was reluctant because John Mark had abandoned them on a previous trip so Barnabas and Paul separated and Barnabas took John Mark with him to Cyprus while Paul took Silas to Syria
- John Mark proved to be a valuable and trustworthy servant of God. Much later, Paul would speak of him as a "fellow worker and a comfort."
- Once Paul and Silas came to a town called Lystra (where Paul was stoned and left for dead on a previous trip), they were welcomed by Timothy and his mother and grandmother who became Christians on Paul's previous trip.
- Timothy loved Jesus very much so Paul decided to bring Timothy with him on his missionary journeys, and that proved to be a good decision as Timothy was an eager worker for God.
- As the men stayed with Lydia in Philippi, they encountered a woman with an evil spirit who would make fun of them everyday when they went to pray. After so many days, Paul thought it would not be good for the evil spirit to continue as people might start believing what this woman was

saying so he ordered the evil spirit to come out of her. The lady had been used by other men to make money. People would pay to hear the evil spirit speak in her so when she didn't have that anymore, the men wouldn't make their riches anymore. That made them angry and they created a mob to beat Paul and Silas and threw them in prison.

- They were taken to the innermost room of the prison and put into stocks. At midnight Paul and Silas began to pray and sing hymns to God. Suddenly a great earthquake shook the foundations of the prison and everyone's chains fell off. It was a perfect time for them to escape, but they didn't and they let the jailer know everyone was accounted for.
- The jailer was so thankful that they had not escaped that he asked them what he must do to be saved (he must have been listening to the prayers and songs too). They told him he needed to believe and be baptized and that same hour after the jailer took them to his house and washed their scars on their backs and fed them, then he and his household were baptized.
- Paul, Silas and Timothy then traveled to Thessalonica and then to Berea where the people studied the Bible everyday. Silas and Timothy stayed in Berea to continue the work, then Paul went to Athens where they worshiped many idols and gods. Then he came to Corinth.
- In Corinth they met a Jewish couple, Priscilla and Aquila who were tent makers which is what Paul also did. Paul lived and worked with them and every Sabbath he went to the synagogue to teach the Jews. But after a while the Jews opposed him so Paul left and went to teach the Gentiles.
- Many of the Gentiles believed and were baptized. God spoke to Paul in a dream and told him He was with him and would protect him so Paul stayed there for a year and a half. After that, he sailed for Ephesus and took Priscilla and Aquila with him.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Barnabas was willing to give John Mark a second chance to be a missionary of the gospel. Maybe he was young the first time he tried and the trip became too difficult for him at the time, but as he got older he matured and he ended up being a valuable servant of God.
- Even as Paul and Silas were in prison, they trusted in the Lord to take care of them. They continued to teach and preach even when others were trying to stop them. And they didn't take advantage of God, when they had a chance to escape the prison they stayed and continued to preach and teach.
- Paul believed the gospel was for ALL, even the Gentiles. His teaching the Gentiles was a very unpopular idea to most of the people, but he stood strong and did as he was commanded by God.

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- We need to be willing to give others second chances when they show interest in doing better for the Lord. Sometimes just being the good example for them to follow will help them to grow in their faith and love for God.
- The Lord will take care of us even when things look very bad and it doesn't seem to look like they have a chance to get better. It had to be hard to be in the dark prison stuck with shackles, unable to move. But they kept praying to God and singing, so much so that others heard and were taught. They never gave up hope.
- We need to be willing to teach others about the gospel, not just our friends and family but other people we aren't close to...maybe even some people who have not shown us kindness in the past. God loves them as much as he does us and He expects us to be the light to shine the gospel to them.

**Activities:**

- Find a read aloud Acts 17:11-12 and talk about how we need to search the scriptures daily and have a ready heart to hear what God has to say.

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> <b>The Third Journey</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 11	<b>Prepared By:</b> R. Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 18:23-21:16

---

**Visuals / Resources:**

- Pictures from internet or a book about Ancient Ephesus

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:** Facts about Second Journey, review who Priscilla and Aquila were

**Location:** Ephesus, Caesarea

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

- Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos - describe the story
- It's great that he was excited to tell people about Jesus, but he didn't have everything correct. Read verse 26 - what impression do you get of how they corrected him? Did they embarrass him? Did they make him feel like he was an awful person? Did they talk to him like they were know-it-alls? When a person is speaking something in error, we need to correct, but gently and humbly. And notice Apollos's reaction to correction. Did he yell at them? Did he decide to just quit? When we are corrected, we need to be thankful that someone cares enough to put us back on the right path.
- When he wanted to preach somewhere else, the brethren encouraged him to go and wrote letters telling the people to welcome him.
- Paul goes to Ephesus and stays there for 2 years
- While in Ephesus, God was performing many miracles using Paul's hands (19:11). God uses us for His purposes.
- Many people who practiced magic realized that was wrong. They realized God is the only one with all power, so they knew they needed to get rid of their magic books. They made a huge burn pile and threw all those magic books in - it was worth 50,000 pieces of silver! Remember how Paul reacted when he learned he was doing something wrong? Do you remember the word we used? **Repent**. He completely changed his ways. These people did the same thing. They realized they were believing in something false and changed their ways - in a big way!
- Ephesus is a large, important port city, and in it there are a lot of craftsmen who make idols. It is also where the temple of their goddess Artemis was. Do you think Paul is preaching against idols? He is! How do you think the craftsmen felt about this? They were angry because it was their job and the way they made their living. They wanted Paul gone because he was telling people in Ephesus and other areas that "gods made with hands are no gods at all." (v26) Demetrius was one of those craftsmen and he started stirring the people up. Eventually this big city was thrown into confusion and the mob grabbed two of Paul's companions, Gaius and Aristarchus. The disciples wouldn't let Paul go near this awful mob. The town clerk, an Ephesian, got everyone's attention and told the crowd that these men aren't



robbing the temple so they need to take the men to court. He's basically telling them they need to calm down, follow the rules, and don't get the city in an uproar.

- (Optional) Eutychus and Paul's power to raise people from the dead.
- Paul travels to other places for awhile, then comes back to Ephesus. Remember, he lived there for several years and is very close to the believers there. He goes to say goodbye because he is going to Jerusalem and knows will not see them again. They wept together, prayed on the beach together, and they walked with him to his ship. This is a good picture of the love of God's family.
- They arrived at Caesarea and stayed with Philip. While there a man named Agabus, a prophet, came and bound his hands and feet. Read verse 11-14. Paul knew what needed to be done, even though he was probably going to die. He knew the Romans aren't nice and the prisons aren't fun, but he's doing what God needs him to do, not what he wants. He needed to keep defending the gospel to the people in power in Jerusalem and eventually in Rome. What an amazing attitude! He was ready even to die for the sake of Jesus.
- Paul leaves for Jerusalem.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Correcting someone in error
- How to respond to correction
- Speak out against sin, even when the sin is popular
- The closeness of God's family
- Defending the gospel no matter what

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- When someone is teaching something that is wrong, we need to correct them, yet with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15)
- When someone (parents, teachers) corrects us for doing something wrong, don't argue or get angry, which is a feeling we sometimes get when we are corrected. We need to learn from the correction.
- Idols are wrong, just like all sin. In this case, so many of the people had an idol of some form in their home and in temples that they visited, so it was a very popular practice. Even when a sin is very popular, we should still stay away from it and not be ashamed to speak against it. So if you're at a friend's house and everyone is watching a movie, but you know the movie isn't a very nice movie, you can walk away. If you're at school and some of the kids are talking even after the teacher said to be quiet, you still need to be quiet.
- As part of God's family, we encourage one another, we rejoice with one another, and we are sad for one another. When someone tells you something exciting that happened to them, be happy for them! When someone tells you something that is sad, be a good friend and say something helpful and pray for them.
- We need to follow Jesus and the truth even if people say we can't or make fun of us.

**Activities:**

- Look for pictures of ancient Ephesus showing how big and important it was. It was a port city, so very busy. It shows that Paul is seemingly doing something impossible by speaking out against idols.
- Paul to Jerusalem Worksheet
- 3.11 Multiple Choice

**Songs:****Other:**

*Note to teachers – please leave this master copy in file folder & add info as it becomes available.*

<b>Quarter #:</b> 3	<b>Class Age:</b> 1st - 3rd	<b>Lesson Title:</b> <b>Paul On Trial Among the Councils</b>
<b>Lesson #:</b> 12	<b>Prepared By:</b> R. Malherbe	<b>Lesson Scripture:</b> Acts 21:27-26:32

**Visuals / Resources:**

- A picture of a courtroom in our country

**Welcome Activity:**

**Prayer:**

**Review:** After Paul left Ephesus and Caesarea, where did he go? (Jerusalem)

**Lesson Facts:** *(Main points to cover...)*

There are a lot of trials in this section. Before discussing, ask them what they know about courtrooms in our country and how trials are held. Show them some pictures of courtrooms, and explain courtrooms are a place where people tell their side. People usually take turns talking. Typically there is a process and an order to things. In our country, people are supposed to be considered innocent until proven guilty. We'll see in these instances, there isn't much order or justice.

Chapter 21:27 Paul begins a series of trials in front of various audiences, Roman and Jewish.

- This section begins with Paul in Jerusalem and someone shouts, "This is the man that preaches...against our people and the Law...(21:28). A crowd of people rushed at him and dragged him out of the Temple and the city was all in confusion.
- A Roman commander took him to the barracks
- The crowds were still shouting, so the commander gave Paul permission to speak to the Jews (safely this time).

Chapter 22

- Paul gives his defense. This means he defends what he believes in: he's being accused and he's giving his side. (Give example of how they have had to give their side of the story before) He's going to give his defense over and over.
- He begins with telling them how he used to persecute Christians. Then he tells about the vision he had (ask the students to tell about that event). Then he told about his baptism and how he went about preaching to the Gentiles, and this made them so mad! They were Jews and they believed they were still God's only chosen people.
- He went back to the barracks but the Roman commander still wanted to know why the Jews were so angry, so he invited the chief priests and the Council to come and brought Paul into the room. The chief priests and Council would have been the leader of the Jews and the ones who should have known the Law. They're also the same men who had Jesus killed and put Peter and John in prison in chapter 3.

### Chapter 23

- Paul defended himself again, but this time the people in the room started arguing with each other! The Roman commander feared for Paul's life, so he took him back to the barracks. That night, Paul had a vision from God: "Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also." What does this mean? Paul won't die in Jerusalem. That he will still give his defense in Rome.
- Then there was a plot to kill him, so some Roman soldiers snuck him out at night and took him to Caesarea to a man named Felix, a Roman governor. (Note how God protected Paul!)
- Felix told Paul he could have a hearing, but first, the people who are accusing him of doing something wrong needed to come. They came in 5 days.

### Chapter 24

- His accusers (High Priest, elders) got up and accused Paul of being "a real pest" and someone who "stirs up dissension among all the Jews" (24:5).
- Paul gave his defense that he never caused riots. Then he told about how he's always tried to do the right thing.
- Felix wasn't very concerned about the accusers' testimony, and he told Paul just to back to the barracks and wait for Lysias (another commander) to come. While Paul waited in jail, he was allowed to have visitors! Another example of God taking care of Paul!
- After two years, Festus became governor.

### Chapter 25

- As soon as Festus became governor, those Jews came running to him to tell him all about how bad Paul was. They are acting like tattling children! So he invited them to go to Caesarea with him to see Paul.
- Same thing happened - the accused him of things that they could not prove and he defended himself against all the accusations. How would you feel if you were Paul? How might you want to respond?
- But Festus, being a new governor, wants to keep everybody happy, especially this big group of Jews, so he asks Paul if he's willing to go to Jerusalem to be put on trial. Paul says he hasn't done anything wrong and says, "I appeal to Caesar." Talk about Caesar (Nero at this time).
- King Agrippa goes to visit Festus and Festus told him the situation. It's quite puzzling to these leaders that a group of people can be so angry at a man that continues to be calm, faithful, and consistent in his beliefs. Agrippa is curious and wants to hear Paul.
- With quite an entrance, King Agrippa and his wife and Festus come into a room to listen to Paul.

### Chapter 26

- Festus basically tells Agrippa that he can't find any fault with Paul, but wants this new audience to listen.
- Paul defends his beliefs again.
- They huddled up afterwards and couldn't find anything that he did wrong, but since Paul had asked to see Caesar, they had to send him.

**Principle:** *(Concept / Key truth to be gained...)*

- Be ready to give a defense (1 Peter 3:15)
- Don't repay evil for evil (Romans 12:17)
- God is with us

**Application:** *(How student can apply...)*

- When people ask us why we believe what we do, we need to be ready to tell them about Jesus. We need to be like Paul and be calm, respectful, and brave.
- When people are being really mean to us, it's tempting to want to yell or hurt them in some way. We can't do to people what we think they deserve.
- Even when something seems so hard and hopeless (Paul was beaten, threatened, and in prison), God is still with us and we need to continue to pray to Him and follow Him.

**Activities:**

- **Have the students practice giving a defense with a variety of questions.**
  - "Can you come to my birthday party Sunday at 10:00 AM?"
  - "We have a game on Wednesday at 7:30 PM."
  - "Don't forget, our piano recital is this Sunday at 5:00PM."
  - "Can you come out and play?" (It's Wednesday evening at 6:00 and time to get ready for Bible class)
  - "Why won't you share your homework answers with me?"
  - "Just tell your mom you're coming to my house, but then we'll ride our bikes to the park and not tell them." (This is showing we aren't to deceive our parents)
  - "That kid keeps teasing you. Why don't you just go over and push him back?"
  - "That girl is weird. Why are being so friendly to her?"
- **Talk about other people in the Bible who showed courage like Paul.**
  - Noah, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Daniel, Esther, Abigail....
- **Strong and Courageous Memory Work Activity**
- **Paul Before Agrippa circle the correct answer**
- **Paul Goes Before Felix circle the correct answer**

**Songs:** "Be Strong and Courageous"

**Other:**