



*Mount Melleray Scout Centre*

***“These that have turned the world upside down  
are come hither also.” Acts 17:6***

**Camper Name** \_\_\_\_\_



**The Life of Paul**

***Victory Youth Camp***

a Ministry of the **Bible Baptist Church**  
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“... I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan, to torment me. Three times I....”



## Schedule of Events

Time	Duration	Main Function	Support Function
<b>MONDAY – Focus verse: 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 1:15 (Paul’s Life B.C., Before Christ)</b>			
11.30am	4 hr	Arrive & Set Up Camp	
12:30pm	3 hr	Lunch & Settle In / Free Time – <u>Hot Dogs</u>	
3:30pm	1:30 hr	Team Time (Divide up into teams) and Sports	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:00pm	1:15 hr	Dinner – <u>Burgers and Chips</u>	
6:15pm	1 hr	<b>Preaching - To Turn Our World Upside Down Again</b>	<b>Barry Keating</b>
7:15pm	45 min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
8:00pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – Orientation – Getting to Know Paul</b>	<b>Craig Ledbetter</b>
9:30pm	45 min	Free Time	
9.30pm	45 min	<b>Counsellors’ Meeting (Kids doing first Devotion)</b>	
10:15pm	1:30 hr	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Young kids in bed</i>
11:45pm		Lights Out - Sleep	
<b>TUESDAY – Focus verse: 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17 (Paul’s Conversion and Calling)</b>			
7:15am	1 hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:15am	1 hr	Breakfast – <u>Cereal, Porridge, Toast</u>	
9:15am	45 min	Group Devotion – Thoroughly Converted	
10:00am	1 hr	<b>Kids Session – The Power of Music</b>	<b>Bethany O’Gorman</b>
10.00am	1 hr	<b>Teen Session – The Power of Music</b>	<b>Craig Ledbetter</b>
11:00am	45 min	Team Time	
11:45am	1 hr	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:45pm	1 hr	Lunch – <u>Soup &amp; Sandwiches</u>	
1:45pm	1:30 hr	<b>Preaching – How Jesus Saved Saul!</b>	<b>Dan Eberly</b>
3:15pm	2:15 hrs	Sports	
5:30pm	1:15 hr	Dinner – <u>Curry Chicken &amp; Chips</u>	
6:45pm	1 hr	Team Time - Memorize verses	
7:45pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – First Things First – Our Walk...</b>	<b>Craig Ledbetter</b>
9:15pm	30 min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:45pm	1 hr	<b>Preaching – Answering God’s Call</b>	<b>Andrew Day</b>
10:45pm	1:15 hr	Evening Quiet Time	<i>Young kids in bed</i>
12:00am		Lights Out - Sleep	
<b>WEDNESDAY – Focus verse: John 15:5 (Paul’s Personal Life and Training)</b>			
7:15am	1 hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:15am	1 hr	Breakfast – <u>Scrambled Eggs, Sausages, Porridge</u>	
9:15am	45 min	Group Devotion – Thoroughly Dependent	
10:00am	45 min	<b>Kids Session – What in the World was Paul Doing?</b>	<b>Jennifer Day</b>
10.00am	45 min	<b>Teen Session – What in the World was Paul Doing?</b>	<b>Stephen Finley</b>
10:45am	1 hr	Sports Time	
11:45am	45 min	Team Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:30pm	45 min	Lunch – <u>Hot Dogs, Beans and Crisps</u>	
1:15pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – Paul’s New Way of Life</b>	<b>John Mahony</b>
2:45pm	2:30 hrs	Sports	
5:15pm	1 hr	Dinner – <u>Baked Ziti &amp; Garlic Bread</u>	
6:15pm	45 min	Team Time	
7:00pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – The High Cost of Following Jesus</b>	<b>Dan Pero</b>
8:30pm	30 min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:00pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – Almost Persuaded</b>	<b>Craig Ledbetter</b>
10:30pm	1:30 hr	<b>Night Hike (Treasure Hunt) (9 and under special activity)</b>	
12:00pm	7 hrs	Lights Out - Sleep	

**THURSDAY – Focus verse: Acts 20:24 (Paul’s Ministry and Mission in Life)**

7:30am	1 hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	45 min	Breakfast – <u>Cereal &amp; Porridge</u>	
9:15am	45 min	Group Devotion – Thoroughly Convinced	
10:00am	45 min	<b>Kids Session – Paul’s Final Journeys and Goals</b>	<b>Hannah O’Gorman</b>
10:00am	45 min	<b>Teen Session – Thornology 101</b>	<b>Andrew Day</b>
10:45am	45 min	Team Time	
11:30am	1 hr	Sports Time	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:30pm	45 min	Lunch – <u>Soup &amp; Sandwiches</u>	
1:15pm	1.30 hr	<b>Preaching – We Need Each Other</b>	<b>Oriel O’Gorman</b>
2:45pm	3 hrs	Sports	
5:45pm	1 hr	Dinner – <u>BBQ Chicken, Roast Potatoes</u>	
6:45pm	2 hrs	<b>Preaching – Boldly Going... to the Uttermost!</b>	<b>Craig Ledbetter</b>
8:45pm	30 min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
9:15pm	2 hrs	<b>Bonfire - Singing and Testimonies</b>	Marshmallows
11:15pm	30 min	Evening Quiet Time (Packing-up)	<i>Young kids in bed</i>
11:45pm		Lights Out - Sleep	

**FRIDAY – Focus verse: Mark 16:15 (Our Call to Go!)**

8:00am	1 hr	Wake up & Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
9:00am	45 min	Breakfast – <u>Cereal</u>	
9:45am	45 min	Group Devotion – Thoroughly Burdened	
11:30am	1 hr	Final Meeting – <b>Who Will Go?</b>	<b>Dan Eberly</b>
12:30pm	45 min	Lunch – <u>Hotdogs</u>	
1:15pm	1 hr	Clean-up Camp and finish packing	
2:15pm		Leave to go home	

## Rules You Have to Obey While at Camp

1. The Camp Director and leaders will be obeyed at all times.
2. No one is allowed to go outside of the Camp grounds without permission from the Camp Director – period!
3. All mobiles will be turned in upon arrival at camp. Use of mobile phones will be allowed once a day and will be strictly monitored. If you are using a mobile phone inappropriately, then you risk losing it, and you will lose points for both yourself, and your team. If your parents need to contact you, they can ring the Camp Director.
4. Keep your Camper Handbook, put your name on it – don’t lose it!
5. Don’t leave your stuff lying around.
6. Keep your hands off other people’s stuff
7. Every meal, a team will be selected to wash the dishes and clean the dining hall – do your tasks without complaining – the better the attitude, the more the points!
8. No profanity will be allowed
9. No rock or worldly music will be played at all at camp – Camp Director decides
10. No *boy and girl* things going on
11. No knives – if you have one, give it to the Camp Director and he will return it later.
12. No smoking
13. No going through the windows
14. No guys going into girl’s rooms, and no girls going into the guy’s room – ever!
15. No one except adults are allowed into the Adult rooms

## Paul's Song A Glimpse of Grace



There once lived a man born of Tarsus, Saul by name  
He thought he knew the Bible, yet a killer he became  
A religious man, a Pharisee - a law-abiding Jew  
But in his heart of hearts he was... the same as me and you

Persecuting followers, of Jesus was his aim  
He scattered all the Christians; and caused them so much pain  
He even helped stone Stephen, a martyr bold and true  
Who prayed that men like Saul one day... would call on Jesus too

Chasing down the Christians, he sought them everywhere  
And into distant lands he went - how far, he didn't care!  
Even to Damascus, he hunted Christians down  
But that's when Jesus met him there... just outside of town

“Why are you fighting, and kicking Me young Saul?”  
To which Saul quickly answered, “You're alive Lord after all?”  
Then Jesus said, “Oh yes I am, And since you've now been found  
The world is waiting for someone... to turn it upside down!”

So, from, that moment, on that old dusty road  
Saul's life belonged to Jesus - and Grace overflowed  
He journeyed from Jerusalem to Antioch, to Rome  
It was his wish that every day... to-show Jesus to someone

Now this is not the end, of the story that you know  
It continues to this very day, and the Gospel must go  
into, every generation life and heart and land!  
Saul's life was just a glimpse of grace... on which I too shall stand!

## The Scripture Verses to Memorize (worth 3,000 points)

Monday <b>SIN</b>	1Timothy 1:15 <b>This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.</b>	Acts 17:6 <b>These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.</b>
	2Corinthians 5:17 <b>Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.</b>	Acts 8:4 <b>Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.</b>
Tuesday <b>CONVERTED</b>	Acts 9:6 <b>And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.</b>	Acts 13:2 <b>As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.</b>
	Colossians 3:16 <b>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.</b>	Psalms 28:7 <b>The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.</b>
	John 15:5 <b>I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.</b>	1Corinthians 9:27 <b>But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.</b>
Wednesday <b>DEPENDENT</b>	1Corinthians 9:19 <b>For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.</b>	Acts 24:14 <b>But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets.</b>
	1Corinthians 11:1 <b>Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.</b>	Philippians 4:13 <b>I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.</b>
	2Timothy 4:7,8 <b>I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.</b>	Romans 10:13 <b>For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.</b>
Thursday <b>CONVINCED</b>	2Corinthians 10:16 <b>To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.</b>	Romans 15:20 <b>Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation.</b>
	Acts 20:24 <b>But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.</b>	1Corinthians 9:22 <b>To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.</b>
		Romans 10:14 <b>How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?</b>
Friday <b>GO</b>	Mark 16:15 <b>And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.</b>	

# Bible Word Dictionary – Wise Words (2,000 pts)

*Do these on your own time and be ready to discuss these definitions during Devotion Time*

<b>SIN</b>	<b>faithful saying</b> (1Tim 1:15) _____
	<b>acceptation</b> (1Tim 1:15) _____
	<b>the world</b> (1Tim 1:15) _____
	<b>save sinners</b> (1Tim 1:15) _____
	<b>chief</b> (1Tim 1:15) _____
	<b>turned upside down</b> (Acts 17:6) _____
<b>CONVERTED</b>	<b>a new creature</b> (2Cor 5:17) _____
	<b>passed away</b> (2Cor 5:17) _____
	<b>become new</b> (2Cor 5:17) _____
	<b>scattered abroad</b> (Acts 8:4) _____
	<b>preaching the word</b> (Acts 8:4) _____
	<b>trembling</b> (Acts 9:6) _____
	<b>astonished</b> (Acts 9:6) _____
	<b>Lord</b> (Acts 9:6) _____
	<b>what wilt thou have me to do?</b> (Acts 9:6) _____
	<b>ministered</b> (Acts 13:2) _____
	<b>the Holy Ghost</b> (Acts 13:2) _____
	<b>work</b> (Acts 13:2) _____
	<b>called them</b> (Acts 13:2) _____
	<b>the word of Christ</b> (Col 3:16) _____
<b>psalms</b> (Col 3:16) _____	
<b>hymns</b> (Col 3:16) _____	
<b>spiritual songs</b> (Col 3:16) _____	
<b>greatly rejoiceth</b> (Psa 28:7) _____	
<b>with my song will I praise him</b> (Psa 28:7) _____	
<b>DEPENDENT</b>	<b>abideth in me</b> (Jn 15:5) _____
	<b>fruit</b> (Jn 15:5) _____
	<b>without me</b> (Jn 15:5) _____
	<b>I keep under my body</b> (1Cor 9:27) _____
	<b>bring it into subjection</b> (1Cor 9:27) _____
	<b>a castaway</b> (1Cor 9:27) _____
	<b>free from all men</b> (1Cor 9:19) _____
	<b>I made myself servant unto all</b> (1Cor 9:19) _____
	<b>that I might gain the more</b> (1Cor 9:19) _____
	<b>heresy</b> (Acts 24:14) _____
	<b>believing</b> (Acts 24:14) _____
	<b>followers of me</b> (1Cor 11:1) _____
	<b>through Christ</b> (Phil 4:13) _____
<b>strengtheneth</b> (Phil 4:13) _____	

<b>CONVINCED</b>	<b>fought a good fight</b> (2Tim 4:7,8) _____
	_____
	<b>finished my course</b> (2Tim 4:7,8) _____
	<b>kept the faith</b> (2Tim 4:7,8) _____
	<b>a crown of righteousness</b> (2Tim 4:7,8) _____
	_____
	<b>love his appearing</b> (2Tim 4:7,8) _____
	_____
	<b>whosoever</b> (Rom 10:13) _____
	<b>call upon</b> (Rom 10:13) _____
	<b>saved</b> (Rom 10:13) _____
	<b>strived</b> (Rom 15:20) _____
	<b>the gospel</b> (2Cor 10:16) _____
	<b>regions beyond you</b> (2Cor 10:16) _____
	<b>by all means</b> (1Cor 9:22) _____
<b>finish my course</b> (Acts 20:24) _____	
<b>testify</b> (Acts 20:24) _____	
<b>call</b> (Rom 10:14) _____	
<b>believed</b> (Rom 10:14) _____	
<b>heard</b> (Rom 10:14) _____	
<b>a preacher</b> (Rom 10:14) _____	
<b>BURDENED</b>	<b>he</b> (Mk 16:15) _____
	<b>them</b> (Mk 16:15) _____
	<b>Go</b> (Mk 16:15) _____
	<b>all the world</b> (Mk 16:15) _____
	<b>to every creature</b> (Mk 16:15) _____

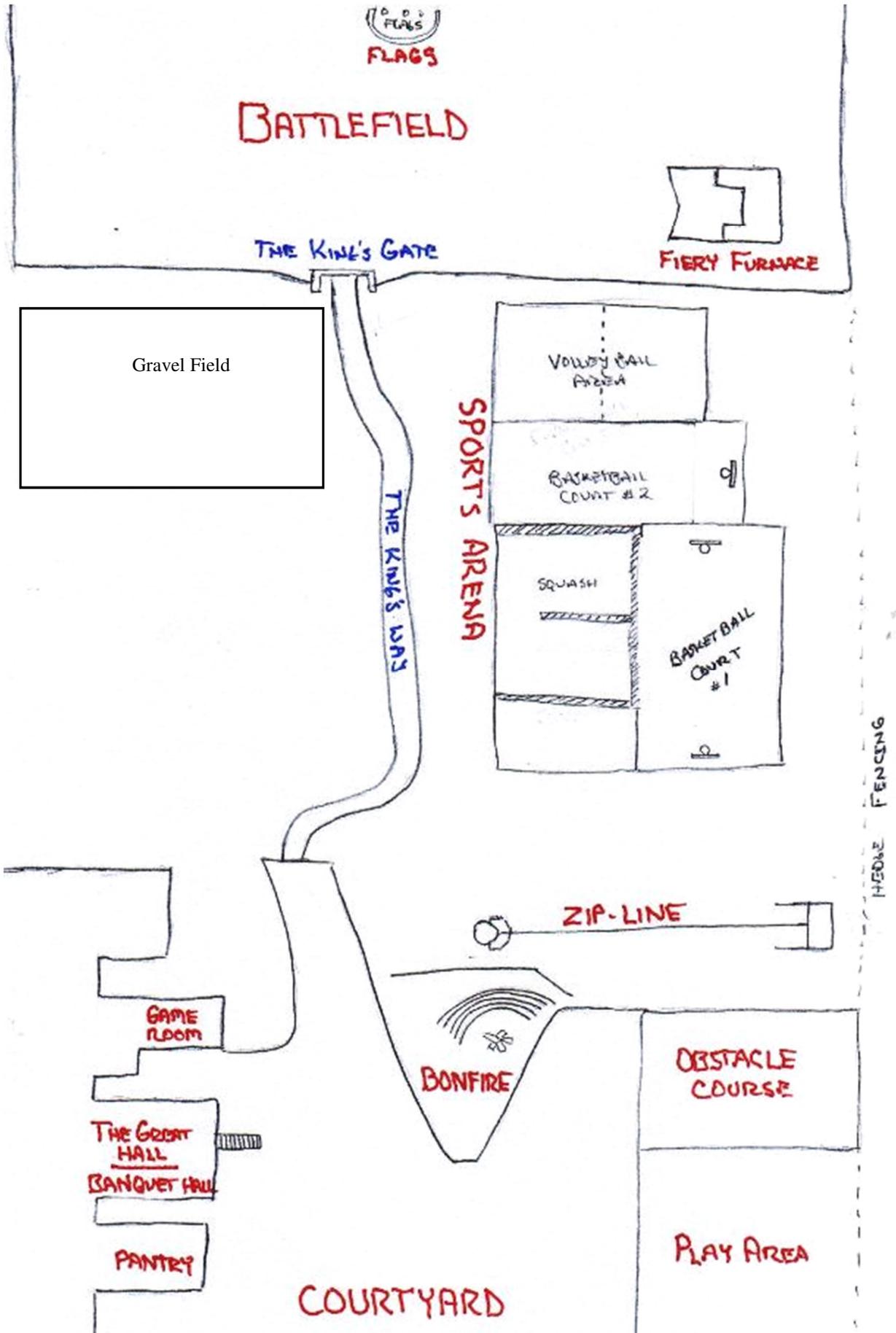


# Camp Room Layout Map

## Mt Mellera

- Common areas
- Staff only
- Unused rooms
- Girls' dorms
- Boys' dorms
- Family rooms





# MY TEAM

## Notes on YOUR Camp Team

**TEAM NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TEAM LEADERS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### TEAM CHEER

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## How to Earn Points

### Getting Points (Be sure to have your handbook signed and dated by a counsellor when points have been given)

- Every Scripture verse you memorize, you get 100 points!
- If you memorize all the 6 key verses you get 1,000 Extra points!
- If you memorize ALL the verses, you will get 3,000 extra points on top of them!
- The first full team present and seated for Chapel gets 500 points! Every time!
- Every Team Cheer, or Skit will get points for that team based on how good they are!
- Clean Bunks will result in 100 points being given to the person.
- A completed Bible Word Dictionary will result in 2,000 points for that person.
- Every Sermon or lesson that you take a full page of notes on will get you 500 pts.
- Every Devotion Page completed will get 500 points.
- Every time the Camp Director sees a person with great zeal, they will get 500 pts.
- The Map Questionnaire completed will get 500 points.

### Losing Points – unless stated, breaking any of these rules has a limit of three warnings

- Every time someone on your team has a bad attitude, breaks a rule, or gets into a fight, they will lose 1,000 points.
- Every bed must be made and every room cleaned before breakfast – or else each person who leaves a messy bunk will lose 100 points.
- Arguing with a camp leader/counsellor will cost you 500 points.
- No one ever goes out of the camp unless they are given permission by the Camp Director. If you leave camp grounds without permission, you will be sent home.
- No boy is ever allowed in a girl's room, and no girl is ever allowed in a boy's room. If you disobey this rule, you may be sent home.
- No one is allowed to mess with the windows in the rooms, or with the thermostats. Do not touch the fire alarms!
- Everyone must obey their team leader and the camp counsellors at all times.
- Anyone caught messing with the fire alarms will be sent home!!!!
- Anyone caught doing intentional damage to the camp will have to pay for it, and may be sent home.
- Anyone going out of their room after curfew, or before 6am **will be sent home.**
- Anyone with more than three warnings will be sent home.



## Meet Saul of Tarsus, a.k.a. Paul the Apostle!

### Meet Saul of Tarsus!

Saul was born in a large trade city named **Tarsus**, of Cilicia, in Asia Minor ([Acts 21:39](#); [Acts 22:3](#)). He was a Jew, a descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He was born sometime just after the time of the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ. His father was a Roman citizen, and his citizenship was passed down to Saul. After his primary years of school, Saul attended a trade school where he learned the trade of making tents. Upon completion of this, and as a teenager, he was sent to **Jerusalem** to attend the private religious Jewish school of a very famous teacher named Gamaliel ([Acts 22:3](#)). Here he was taught: how to read the Old Testament, all the Laws of God, logic, philosophy, speech, and debate. He had to memorize just about every verse from Genesis to Deuteronomy. He excelled in his education. Probably was first in his class!



### Saul Became a Top Pharisee!

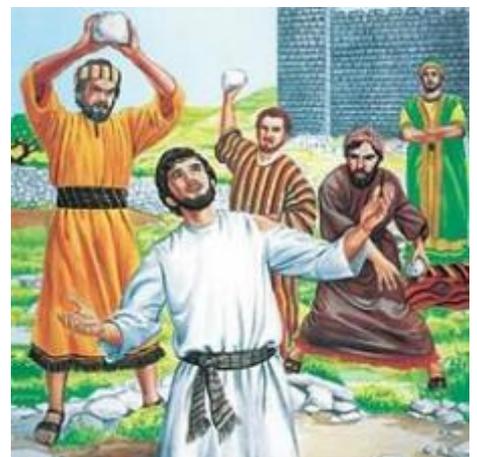
When Saul became a man, at 30 years of age, he became a Pharisee. That meant that he was qualified to teach the Law of God, and had the responsibility of keeping every Jew obedient to those laws.

Because Jesus was NOT a Pharisee, and yet was teaching the Law, and so many people were following Jesus' teachings instead of the Pharisee's, Saul became furious against Jesus and ALL His followers. He wanted the Jews to all just do things the way he and the other Pharisees thought they should do things.

It was at this same time that John the Baptist was executed, and then just two years later, Jesus was publicly crucified. Things were finally changing, and Saul thought everything would go back to the way they were before John the Baptist and Jesus had shown up. Then came the Day of Pentecost – where the fearful and hiding disciples of Jesus came out and openly preached a resurrected Messiah, Jesus Christ, and calling for all the Jews to repent and be born again! That really made Saul angry.

### Saul Begins Persecuting Believers ([Acts 7:58](#); [8:1](#))

When one of the disciples of Jesus, named Stephen, was caught preaching that Jesus was the promised Son of God, the Pharisees pushed him outside the city limits. He tried to explain what the Bible said about Jesus, and how they had crucified the only Saviour of the World! When they heard this, the crowd exploded with anger and started throwing rocks at Stephen to try and kill him! Behind the crowd stood Saul of Tarsus, holding the coats of those men throwing stones and cheering them on as Stephen died!



But something that Stephen said affected Saul. The Holy Spirit began convicting Saul about his need for a Saviour. Instead of turning towards Jesus Christ by that prick from the Holy Spirit, he instead became a fierce persecutor of the church ([Acts 8:1-3](#); [Acts 22:4](#); [Acts 26:11](#); [Galatians 1:13,23](#); [1 Corinthians 15:9](#); [Philippians](#)

3:6; 1 Timothy 1:13). How did Saul persecute believers? He did everything in his power to stop this new teaching and so he put believers in prison, and tried to stop them from following Jesus. If they refused to deny Jesus as the Messiah, he would testify against them so they would be put to death. Saul would even go door to door searching for these Jesus followers. And so, because of Saul, people lived in total fear of being caught and punished! No one was safe. Both men and women were sought after.

Then, after some time wreaking havoc upon the believers of Jesus at **Jerusalem**, Saul heard that people way up in **Damascus** were believing that Jesus was alive from the dead, and that He was the Saviour. His fears of this movement spreading to other Jewish communities was happening, and so he decided to travel to **Damascus** to start to punish all the Jewish followers of Jesus Christ that were there!

### Saul Gets Saved! (~35 AD) (Acts 9:1-19; Acts 22:6-16; Acts 26:12-18)

After getting permission from the high priest in **Jerusalem**, Saul left for **Damascus**, with a small army of men alongside him. As they neared **Damascus**, a light from the sky suddenly shined all over Paul, and a booming voice spoke directly to him... **“Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me?”** Saul recognised that voice. It terrified him to think that maybe, just maybe he had been wrong about Jesus, and that Jesus really WAS alive, and really WAS the Messiah who had come to save the world! Maybe everything that Saul believed was wrong. With a quivering voice, he asked the voice, **“Who art thou, Lord?”** The voice responded back, **“I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”** What Saul feared was true. He had been completely wrong about Jesus, and what he heard being preached from Stephen was the truth. Instead of fighting back against the pricking of the Holy Spirit, Saul yielded and while trembling all he could say back was, **“Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?”**



In the meantime, everyone that had come with Saul had also been knocked to the ground and saw the light, but they did not hear the voice, only a sound of thunder. Jesus told Saul to go on into **Damascus** and to wait there until he is told what to do next. When he got up from the ground, he opened his eyes and he could not see anymore. He was blind! The men who were with him took his hand and led him into the city of **Damascus**, and Saul went to house belonging to a man named Judas, and there, he just sat, and waited, and prayed. He was so anxious that he couldn't even eat or drink for three days.

In the meantime, Jesus spoke to a disciple of Jesus named Ananias. He told Ananias to go to where Saul was at and to put his hand upon him. Ananias knew who Saul was, and his reputation of what he had done in Jerusalem and the authority whereby he was sent to **Damascus**. Jesus then reassured Ananias that Saul would not harm him and that He had chosen Saul to serve Him. Ananias obeyed and found Saul right where Jesus said he would be, and he put his hand upon Saul's arm, and told him that Jesus had sent him to personally encourage him, and to give him back his eyesight, and baptise him as a believer now!

Immediately, Saul could see again as if scales seemed to fall off of his eyes, and Saul was immediately baptised by Ananias!

He spent a short time in **Damascus**, trying very hard to convince the believers there that he was now also a believer, and to convince the Jews that Jesus was really alive! But, the unbelieving Jews now turned against Saul, and tried to kill him! So, the born-again believers quickly devised a plan to save Saul's life, by carefully hiding him in a basket, and letting it down from the top of the city wall, so that he could escape.



### **Saul Struggles to Be Accepted (~39 AD)** **(Galatians 1:17; Acts 9:19-30; 2Cor 11:32-33)**

Saul couldn't go back to **Jerusalem** – every one of his friends and family would never understand what he now believed. They too would kill him, or at least try to! So, Saul headed east into **the desert of Arabia**, into the very same area where God had given Moses the Law and the Ten Commandments. There, in the desert, alone, he remained for three years (**Galatians 1:17**). While in the desert, God taught Saul and he relearned everything all over again that he thought he knew about God, the Messiah, the Law, and about himself. It was there that Jesus taught Saul how to be a Christian and when Jesus made Saul an Apostle, equal with all the other 11 apostles! Those three years alone turned out to be good for Saul!

After the time in **Arabia**, Saul briefly stopped by in **Damascus**, and then bravely travelled down to **Jerusalem** (**Acts 9:26-30; Galatians 1:18**). In **Jerusalem**, the born-again believers were still afraid of him, and unsure whether he truly was a believer now. But, a man named Barnabas believed that Saul was truly saved, and became one of Saul's best friends that he ever had!

However, Saul's time in **Jerusalem** was short because he had so many enemies now of the Jews, who were all now trying very hard to capture and kill him! In their eyes, Saul had become a traitor and had to be eliminated! This discouraged Saul very much. What should he do? No matter how hard he tried to show the unbelieving Jews that Jesus really was the Messiah, the Saviour of all men, they only got angrier and hated him even more.

So, in the end, Saul was encouraged by the believers in **Jerusalem** to go back to his home to **Tarsus** for his own safety (**Acts 9:30; Galatians 1:21**). He would end up staying in **Tarsus** for eight long years.

### **Saul Gets Busy in a Ministry in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30)**

While Saul was in Tarsus, a new church had been started in a city called **Antioch**, and it was such an exciting place where both Jews and Gentiles (anyone not a Jew) were getting saved, and wanting to grow in their faith! The Christians in **Jerusalem** sent Barnabas to **Antioch** to check on the new believers there to make sure they were truly born again, and sincere in their faith in Jesus Christ. When he arrived in **Antioch**, he met all the believers, and he was so delighted with what he found! They were hungry for learning the Bible, and Barnabas knew he needed help teaching them, so he got the idea to go and find his good friend, Saul, and bring him back to **Antioch** to help him teach them how to be Bible believers, strong in faith! So, Barnabas went to **Tarsus** and sought for Saul, finding him, and returned to **Antioch** with Saul. **After a year with both Barnabas and Saul pastoring and teaching this new church, the believers in Antioch were called CHRISTIANS (people like Christ) for the first time in history!** And it has stuck with us ever since! At first, it was not a nice thing to call the believers

– it was a mocking name. The people who were getting saved were not Jews anymore, so, followers of Jesus were glad to be called Christians.

As people were getting saved in **Antioch**, prophets came from **Jerusalem** to warn the people of **Antioch** of a famine that would happen. Soon, down in **Jerusalem**, the crops started to die, and a famine began and made it very hard to find food and bread. People, and especially believers there were starving. As soon as Barnabas and Saul heard about the famine from the prophets, they, and all the Christians in **Antioch** gave as much money as they could and took it personally to the believers in **Jerusalem** so that they could buy food and not starve

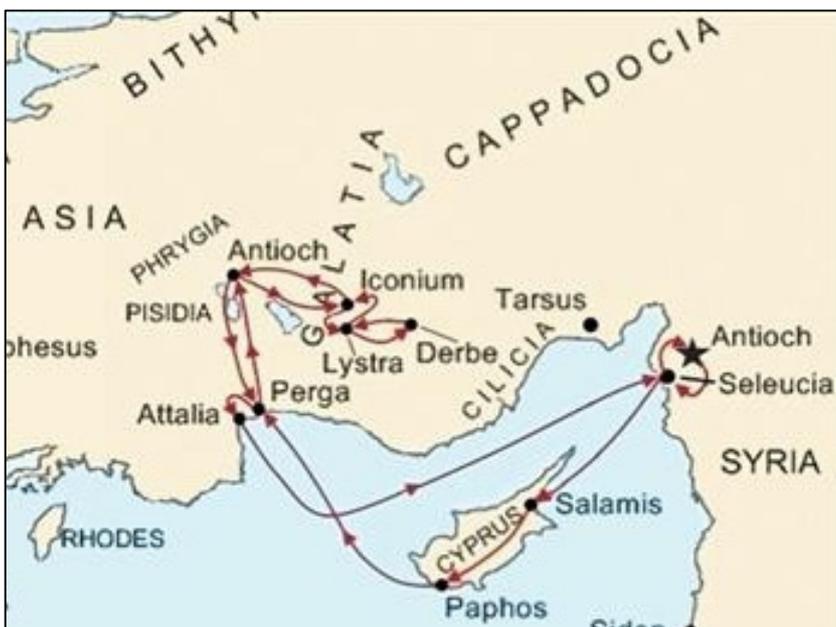
After they delivered the gift of money to the Christians in **Jerusalem**, Barnabas and Saul returned to **Antioch** with Barnabas' sister's son named John Mark (**Acts 12:25**). John Mark wanted to serve the Lord, and Barnabas wanted to help him serve the Lord!

## Saul Begins the First Missionary Journey into Nearby Nations (44-51 AD) (Acts 13 & 14)

While Saul and Barnabas, along with several other faithful men were busy teaching the Bible, and serving the Lord in the church in Antioch, the Holy Spirit spoke to the people of the church that two men should be sent out as missionaries to start more churches. Those two men were Barnabas and Saul! As soon as they all prayed and fasted for them, they sent these two men on their way to do the impossible: to go by faith, and preach and teach the Bible to lost men and women everywhere, helping them understand and believe the Gospel, and then starting churches with those new believers! They decided to bring John Mark with them.

They started their journey from **Antioch** westward, to **Seleucia**, then to the island of **Cyprus**, where Barnabas was from (**Acts 4:36**). When they landed on **Cyprus**, they arrived to **Salamis** and then went to **Paphos**. Here, they encountered Satanic attacks from a sorcerer against their preaching and witnessing to the deputy of the city. Paul cursed this sorcerer with blindness, and the deputy of the city became a Christian. This encounter was scary for John Mark. He had never seen anything like that before! **It is from this time that Saul began to use his Latin or Roman name, PAUL (Acts 13:9) for the rest of his life!**

From **Paphos** they went to Asia Minor to a city called **Perga** of **Pamphylia**. As soon as they landed onto the mainland, John Mark decided to depart for home due to discouragement and fear.



Barnabas and Paul decided to travel north to a different city called **Antioch of Pisidia**. When they arrived into that **Antioch**, they went to the synagogues (Jewish place of worship and teaching) and were given the opportunity to teach the scriptures to the Jews. Paul preached the Gospel and that Jesus fulfilled the scriptures as the Messiah, and that He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven. The Jews didn't know what to think, but when they left, some Gentiles who became Jews were in attendance and

heard the preaching and wanted to know how they could be saved from their sin and asked them to preach again the next sabbath. Many of the Jews wanted to hear more as well, and were eager for the next sabbath to come. When that next Saturday came, nearly the entire city came to hear Paul and Barnabas! But, sadly, when the Jews saw the multitudes, they became jealous and began to speak against Paul. Well, Paul and Barnabas didn't stop preaching! Instead, they became even more courageous and told the Jews that because they wouldn't listen, they'll tell the Word of God to the Gentiles!

When the Jews heard that, they were very upset, but the Gentiles were so happy to hear that God would forgive them and that they could be saved. Many Gentiles were saved that day and so Paul and Barnabas began teaching them the Bible and people began getting saved all throughout the region.

The Jews were not happy that the Gentiles were getting saved, and so they stirred up the devout Jewish women, as well as the leaders of the city against Paul and Barnabas. They expelled them out of the city and so they then went east to **Iconium**. They were so happy that some people had become Christians and rejoiced that God used them to reach those in the city.

When they arrived to **Iconium** and began preaching the Gospel, multitudes were saved. But, again some of the Jews turned many of the unbelievers against them, and forced them to leave the city or be stoned. So, Barnabas and Saul fled southeast to the towns **Lystra** and **Derbe**, and preached the gospel there.

Things went a little too well in **Lystra**, because an impotent man who could not walk was healed by Paul. Because of this miracle, Paul and Barnabas were mistaken for Greek gods by most of the people, instead of as just preachers! Paul and Barnabas barely convinced the people not to sacrifice animals to them.

Amazingly though, unbelieving Jews from **Antioch** and **Iconium** followed Paul and Barnabas and turned those same people against Barnabas and Saul, and ended up stoning Paul to death. Well, at least they THOUGHT they had killed him! But, Paul recovered and without any fear, went back into **Lystra** again! From **Lystra**, they went to **Derbe**, always preaching the gospel.

But there, they decided to go back the way they came, and visit all the churches and Christians that they had preached to and started, to try and strengthen the disciples and appoint elders (Pastors or leaders) in every church. So, they went back to **Lystra**, **Iconium**, and then to **Antioch of Pisidia**. They then went back to **Perga** and **Attalia**, and hired a boat then to **Antioch of Syria** where they gladly reported to the church there all that God had done during their first Missionary Journey and how God had opened the door for the Gentiles to be saved!

### **Paul Helps the Jerusalem Council with The Gentiles (Acts 15:1-35)**

Meanwhile, in **Jerusalem**, a big debate was raging among the Christians over whether Gentiles were really saved, and whether they all had to first become Jews before they could become Christians! So, Paul and Barnabas quickly travelled to **Jerusalem** to tell them all that God had done amongst the Gentiles (**Galatians 2:1**). With Peter's testimony and their testimony, and some study of the Scriptures, it helped everyone better understand that salvation



was open to all, no matter their race or sinfulness, and it was by faith alone and not having to become a Jew first!

The apostles decided that some guidelines should be established for how Gentile Christians should now live their lives. They agreed that the new Gentile Christians should not eat meat offered in worship to idols, to commit sexual sins, to eat things that had been strangled to death, and to not eat blood.

Upon the conclusion of this meeting, the leaders in **Jerusalem** sent chosen men to travel with Paul and Barnabas back to **Antioch**, one of them being Silas.

### Paul begins His Second Missionary Journey (51-54 AD) (Acts 15 – 18)

Having returned to **Antioch of Syria**, they went right back to teaching and preaching the Bible to the Christians there (**Galatians 2:11-14**)! But, Paul was concerned about the Christians and churches they had started in their last trip. They also both knew there was so much more missionary work to do, and so many more places to go and preach the Gospel to. So, as they prepared to leave,



Barnabas wanted to bring his nephew, John Mark, with them again, but Paul was still upset that John Mark left them last time and did not want to take him along.

Sadly, Barnabas and Paul had a big argument over John Mark, and the two friends decided to split up and each take whomever they felt best for the ministry. Barnabas took John Mark and sailed to **Cyprus**. Paul took a young man named Silas, and went North, going through **Syria** and **Cilicia** strengthening all the churches. They then went to **Derbe** and **Lystra** where they met another young man named Timothy. Timothy joined Paul and Silas and would soon become another one of Paul's best friends in the ministry, and even like a son to him. (**1Cor 4:17**; **Philippians 2:22**; **1Timothy 1:2**; **2Timothy 2:1**).

From **Derbe** and **Lystra**, this group of three spiritual *Musketeers* travelled north-westward, but surprisingly was blocked twice by the Holy Spirit from going deeper into **Asia Minor** (modern Turkey). So, Paul and his men continued West and arrived at a city on the coast of the **Aegean Sea** called **Troas** and waited for direction of where to go next. It was here that Paul met Luke the Doctor. While waiting upon the Lord for direction, God gave Paul a vision of a **Macedonian** man begging him to come across the **Aegean Sea** and to help him by preaching the Gospel! That call from across the sea so excited Paul, and all the men with him, that they immediately sailed for **Macedonia** to



preach the Gospel to them in **Europe!** Luke decided to join Paul's group and would travel with Paul for most of the rest of his journeys.

### Trouble in Philippi (Acts 16:12-40)

They landed first in **Neapolis**, and then journeyed to a city called **Philippi**. **Philippi** was a major city in that part of **Macedonia**. Paul didn't know what to expect when he arrived. Would people be at the gate waiting for Paul to arrive to preach the Gospel to them? When they arrived, there were no crowds waiting for them. There were no people begging Paul to tell them how to be saved. No one paid any attention to them.



After a few days, they went out to the river and found some women who met there to pray to God. Paul began to witness and preach to them. Attending was a woman named **Lydia**. She was a very wealthy woman, who sold dyes of the colour purple so that clothes could be coloured fancy colours. Well, she heard Paul preach, and got saved, and baptized right away! She was originally from a city thousands of miles away called **Thyatira**, yet God brought her there to **Philippi** to be able to hear the Gospel. Not only did she get

saved, but her family and those of her home also were saved! She was so grateful of the message that Paul and his company brought to her that she desired them to stay with her and to teach her more.

But, after a few days as Paul and his company went to go pray, a demon-possessed woman who could tell the future began to harass them. This woman followed them around for several days. Finally, Paul being grieved, he commanded the evil spirit to leave and it left the woman. Her life now was completely changed. She no longer could bring money to her employers by fortune telling. She had been such a good money maker for the wealthy men of **Philippi**, and now she had lost that ability!

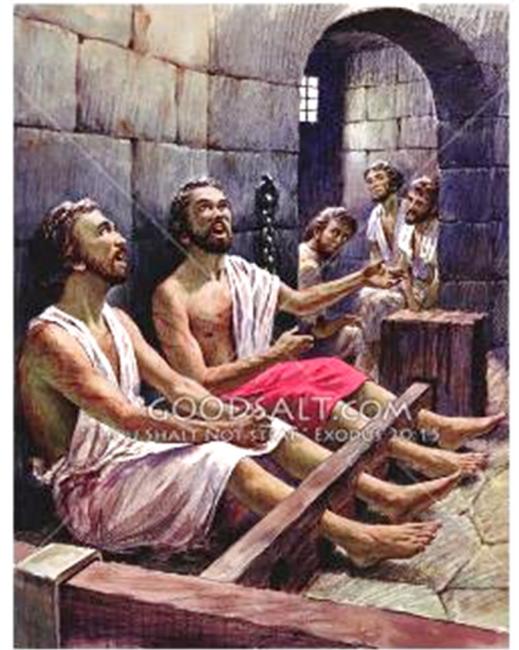
Well, that upset all of her employers, so they captured Paul and Silas in the marketplace and brought them before the judges. They falsely accused them of causing trouble in the city and causing people to rebel against **Rome**. The judges gave them no chance to defend themselves and ordered Paul and Silas to be whipped and thrown into prison. In their jail cell, the jailor locked their feet fast in place so they couldn't even walk. He enjoyed being cruel to his prisoners!



So, instead of huge crowds waiting for Paul and Silas to preach the Gospel to them, they were now in jail, bruised and bloody from being whipped. God's vision of the **Macedonian** man never mentioned anything about persecution and pain. It would have been very easy to just give up and quit. Did

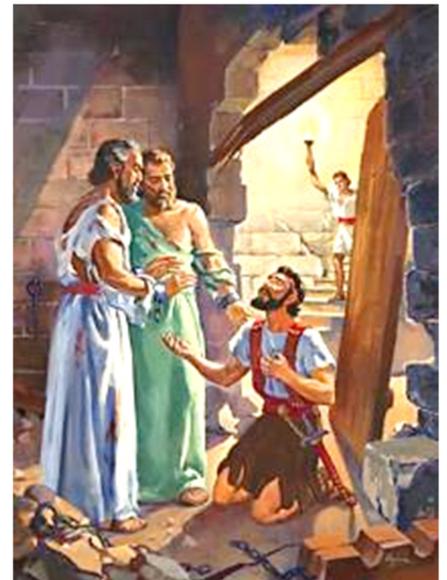
that happen though? No, even though everything that happened was not what they were expecting, they began to praise God anyway.

At midnight, Paul and Silas began to pray and sang praises to God. The other prisoners and the jailor heard them and probably thought, “Who are those loonies in the other cell?” Well, something amazing happened next. Suddenly there was a great earthquake that shook the foundation of the prison. All of the doors opened up on their own accord and all of the bands (handcuffs and stocks) opened and fell off. The jailor was asleep when this happened and woke up with a start! All the doors were open and the prisoners must have escaped! He was going to be in big trouble and probably would be killed for letting the prisoners escape. So, he drew out his sword and was just about to kill himself when he heard Paul cry out from his jail cell that everyone was still there and to not hurt himself. The other prisoners were terrified to leave their cells. They also knew it was because of what they had been hearing from Paul and Silas.



The jailor was so astonished. He called for a light and quickly came into the cell with Paul and Silas. Knowing that what happened was because of them, he was trembling and fell down before them. He had heard them praising their God and their God must be the only true God to be able to deliver them like that. He brought them out of their cell and asked them the greatest question ever asked by men, “**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**”. Paul gave him the Gospel (“**Just believe on the Lord Jesus Christ**”) and the jailor was born-again. Paul even promised that the jailors family could also be saved too if they would believe.

Well, God transformed that jailor. He brought them back to his house. The jailor, who was so used to being cruel to his captives, then washed the wounds of Paul and Silas, tended to



them, and even prepared them some food. The jailor’s family knew something had changed him so much from what he used to be like, and he asked Paul and Silas to preach to his family. Seeing the change in the jailor and when they heard the Gospel, they also all were saved. Then, all those who were saved were then baptized, all in the middle of the night!

The jailor brought them back to the prison and when the morning came, the judges sent soldiers to the jailor and told him to let Paul and Silas go. When Paul heard it, he was upset. Knowing Roman law and being Roman citizens, they had been beaten and treated illegally. Roman citizenship was a great honour in those days and it came with many legal rights and privileges. Paul was upset that they sought to send them

away privately after making an unjust open demonstration upon them. Paul refused to go until these judges came themselves and led them out.

When the magistrates (judges) heard that Paul and Silas were also Roman citizens, they were terrified by what they did and knew they could get into severe trouble with the Roman authorities if Paul and Silas chose to report them. So, they went to the prison and brought them out and asked them to leave the city. Paul and Silas went to the house of Lydia, strengthened those who became Christians, and then they left with Timothy. Luke stayed behind and would re-join them later.

## To Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens! (Acts 17)

Paul and his company continued east until they came to **Thessalonica** and found there a synagogue of the Jews. For three sabbaths, Paul preached to them out of the scriptures about Jesus being the Messiah and the rest of the Gospel. Many became Christians, but the Jews who did not believe became jealous and hired some wicked men and had them set the city in an uproar against the so-called Christians. They found some believers, a man named Jason, and surrounded his house and took him and those who were inside. Paul and his company wasn't there, so they took those who were to the rulers of the city, crying out, ***“These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.”***

The rulers were troubled when they heard this news, but they let Jason and those with him go. Knowing the city was in an uproar against Paul, the brethren sent them away by night to a city to the west called **Berea**.

When they went to the synagogue in **Berea**, the reception surprised him when he preached to them about Christ. They diligently searched the scriptures of what Paul was preaching about and many of them believed and were saved. They knew that Paul was preaching the truth from God's Word!

Sadly, the devil always tries to stop people getting saved. When the Jews in **Thessalonica** heard about Paul preaching at **Berea** and people were getting saved, they came to **Berea** and stirred up the people against Paul and his company. The new Christians sent Paul away for his safety, but Silas and Timothy stayed in **Berea**.



Paul arrived in **Athens** and sent for Silas and Timothy. While Paul was in **Athens**, his spirit was grieved by the idolatry he saw there. They had statues of gods everywhere. While he waited for his companions to arrive, he went out soul winning in the synagogues and then every day in the markets. The Greeks thought they were intelligent and knew everything

about life. Some philosophers thought Paul was just a babbler because he preached about this new God, Jesus, and His resurrection. These philosophers were curious to hear more about this Jesus person, and so they brought Paul to **Mar's Hill** and asked him to tell them more. Paul jumped at this chance to preach to them and told them right away they were too superstitious. They had gods for everything, and even had an altar to **“The Unknown God”**. Paul used that to teach them about God the Father and Jesus Christ. When Paul finished preaching, some mocked, and others said, *“We will hear thee again of this matter.”* But, some also believed and were saved, including Dionysius and a woman named Damaris.

## The Corinthian Church Is Started (Acts 18:1-18)

Paul decided to leave **Athens** and then went to **Corinth**. While there, he met a Jewish couple named Aquila and Priscilla. They were tent makers just like Paul was and so he stayed with them. They became Christians and while Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy, he kept on soul winning and preaching in the synagogues in **Corinth**.

When Silas and Timothy arrived into **Corinth**, Paul preached to a large group of Jews and they opposed what Paul was preaching. Paul then declared that he would then preach to the Gentiles. Paul, Silas, and Timothy would end up staying in Corinth for 18 months. **It would be during this time that Paul would write 1 & 2 Thessalonians (52-53 AD)**. Many people were saved while in **Corinth** and a great church started. Jesus even spoke to Paul in the night in a vision to not be afraid to speak and that Paul would be protected.

During this time, the Jews tried to stop Paul and even captured him and brought him before one of the rulers. Before Paul could say anything, the ruler told them that he wouldn't listen to them in regard to their religious laws. He dismissed them from before him. The Greeks, upset by how the Jews treated Paul, took a man named Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the Jewish synagogue (who would later get saved), and beat him before the ruler, Gallio, which displeased him greatly. Paul after this would then travel back to **Asia** by ship to **Ephesus**, and brought Aquila, Priscilla, Silas, and Timothy with him.

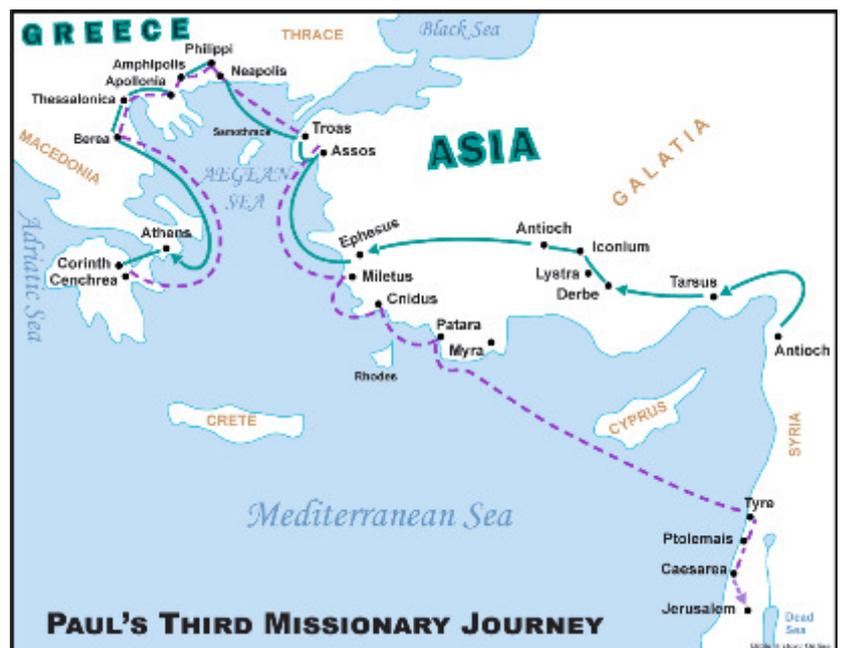
## Paul Returns To Jerusalem & Antioch (Acts 18:19-23)

Upon landing in **Ephesus**, Paul left the group and went to one of the synagogues. They wanted him to stay and teach them more, but Paul was not able to. He had made a vow to God to go to **Jerusalem** to keep the feast of the Passover. He promised he would return and left **Ephesus** for **Caesarea** and then arrived in **Jerusalem** for the feast. Having seen the church there, he then went back to **Antioch**, reporting to his home church.

## The Third Missionary Journey (54-58 AD) (Acts 19-21)

After nearly a year in **Antioch**, Paul then travelled up to the churches he started in his first journey with Barnabas before returning to **Ephesus**. When Paul arrived in **Ephesus**, he found twelve people there who had been interested in God after he had left. They had not been properly taught about salvation, and so Paul taught them about Christ and the Holy Spirit. Paul stayed for about three months and preached in the synagogues. Paul stayed in **Ephesus** for nearly three years, starting the church and witnessing to all people.

Paul and the Christians there made such an impact that everyone who lived in that part of **Asia** had heard the Gospel, both Jews and Gentiles!



People were getting saved and began to fear God, in so much that they brought all of their wicked, evil, and demonic books of witchcraft and burned them. **There were so many that were burned that they were valued at 50,000 pieces of silver, a very great price!**

Not everyone was happy about people being saved. In fact, a silver smith named Demetrius was quite upset. He spent his life creating idols of the goddess Diana and made a fortune from them. Now with people getting saved and no longer worshipping Diana, his business was hurting. So, he gathered the other crafters and told them that if Paul is not stopped, their craft would cease and Diana would be despised by the world as a goddess. This angered the other crafters against Paul and were full of wrath, and caused an uproar in the city. The Christians kept Paul from going near the riot. The town clerk of the city finally was able to calm the riot, and most of the people didn't even know what had just happened.

Paul took the riot as his cue for it being time to leave **Ephesus** and to go on to **Macedonia** and **Greece**. **During this journey, Paul wrote four Books of the New Testament: the Letter to the Galatian Christians (c. 55 AD), 1 Corinthians (57 AD), 2 Corinthians, and the Letter to the Romans while in Corinth (58 AD)**. Paul was in **Greece** for about three months and desired to travel back by ship to **Syria** (Asia Minor), but the Jews were waiting for him to capture him. So, Paul instead went back up over land to Philippi in **Macedonia**. It was here that Luke rejoined Paul and went with him to **Troas**.

### **Returning To Jerusalem (Acts 20:6-21:14)**

Paul wanted to go back to Jerusalem and then to Rome. It was so much on his mind that it became his focus and to get back there. After staying for only a week, he made plans to leave the next day. That night, everyone gathered to hear Paul preach. He preached all the way until midnight! This would be the last time he would see the Christians in **Troas**, so he had a lot to teach them before he continued his journey. A young man was sitting in the window of one of the upper rooms of the building they were at and he fell asleep! Worse than that, he fell out of the window onto the ground outside! This caused such a great startle and stopped Paul's preaching. Everyone went outside and found the young man, Eutychus, dead. But, Paul quickly went to his knees and fell upon and embraced the young man and brought him back to life, proving that he was indeed an apostle of Jesus Christ. Everyone then went back into the building, had a meal, and then continued preaching until the morning. Afterwards, Paul sent on ahead of him Luke to **Assos**, and after they departed by ship, Paul left on foot with some of his company to meet up with Luke at **Assos**.

Paul was determined to get to **Jerusalem** as soon as possible. He wanted to be there for Pentecost. When he met back up with Luke, they sailed from **Mitylene** to **Chios**, **Samos**, **Trogyllium**, and **Miletus**. From this small island called **Miletus**, near **Ephesus**, Paul sent for the pastors and leaders of the church in **Ephesus**. Paul had a feeling this was going to be his last time seeing them. He knew that something was going to happen in **Jerusalem** and that he would be captured, but he still wanted to go anyway. He gave them encouragement, warning, and prayed with them. Everyone was saddened this was going to be their last time to ever see Paul there again. They accompanied him back to the ship and said their final farewells.

After many days of traveling, they finally arrived in **Syria**, and to a city called **Tyre**. The ship had to unload its cargo, so while there, they found other Christians and dwelt there for a week. These Christians also warned Paul not to go to **Jerusalem**. Seeing Paul would not change his mind, after the week ended, they escorted him out of the city with their families as well and prayed with him. Paul and his company returned to the ship and from **Tyre** sailed to

Ptolemais. From Ptolemais, they left to go to Caesarea and came to the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the first deacons (Read more about Philip in [Acts 6:5; 8:5-40](#)).



While Paul was staying with Philip, a prophet named Agabus, the same who prophesied before about the famine in Jerusalem, arrived at Philip's house. When he saw Paul, he took Paul's belt and bound his own hands and feet with it, saying that whoever's belt this was would be bound and captured and would be delivered into the hands of the Gentiles. The Holy Spirit was warning Paul not to go to Jerusalem and that if he did, he would be captured.

Everyone in the house begged Paul not to go to Jerusalem, but Paul would not listen and was intent to go no matter what would happen to him. He had served God faithfully and would finish whatever course would be before him, even if it meant his death in Jerusalem. Seeing he would not be persuaded, they resigned the issue and would pray for him regardless as to what would happen to him.

### Paul is Arrested in Jerusalem! ([Acts 21:15 – 22:23](#))

Paul, his companions, and certain of the disciples of Caesarea arrived into Jerusalem before the Jewish celebration of the Day of Pentecost. The Christians in Jerusalem were excited to see Paul, and Paul met with the pastor of the church there, James, Jesus' step-brother, and some of the leaders of the church. None of the apostles were in Jerusalem at the time, but were out around the world preaching the Gospel. These leaders were so encouraged by what the Lord was doing around the world and truly rejoiced hearing Paul's report.

James informed Paul that there had been several thousand Jews who had been saved and were zealous of the Old Testament covenant and way of doing things. They had heard rumours that Paul was telling everyone he spoke to that they had to forsake following everything Moses taught them. Now, of course this was not true. Paul had been preaching from the Old Testament that Jesus was the fulfilment of the Law of Moses, but that the Law and the Jew's traditions could not save anyone, only Jesus can. So, James wanted to put the issue to rest and to show these Jews that Paul was not against the Law of Moses. He asked Paul to purify himself and take four Jewish men who had made a Jewish vow to God and to go to the temple, showing the Jews that he was not against the Law.

Paul did not want to cause division amongst the brethren and knew that this was a Jewish custom not being imposed upon the Gentile believers. He agreed to go along with James's plan.

The next day, Paul entered the temple with the men. Everything was going just fine until some Jewish men from the cities of Asia who hated Paul saw him. They were outraged to see Paul at the temple in Jerusalem. They caused problems before for Paul and stirred up people against him, and now they did the same with the Jews who were at the temple. They falsely accused Paul of teaching against the Law and for bringing Gentiles into the temple. They had seen some of Paul's companions in the city and assumed Paul brought them into the temple. Everyone in the temple was outraged that Paul would do this and instead of giving Paul a chance to respond to the accusations, took him out of the temple and began to beat him, trying to kill him!

But, thankfully, the chief captain of the Roman garrison near the temple was alerted to the uproar and arrived in time to saved Paul's life. He stopped the crowd, and instead put Paul

into chains and arrested him, inquiring who he was. Everyone began shouting one thing or another and the captain could not understand, so he had his soldiers pick Paul up upon their shoulders and carry him into the garrison. The Jews still wanted to kill Paul, and for his protection is why they carried him.

As they went up the steps into the garrison, Paul asked the captain if he could speak with him. The captain asked if Paul could speak Greek and if he was an Egyptian who had caused a riot not too long ago. Paul told him he was a Jew from Tarsus and asked if he could speak to the people. Trusting Paul being who he said he was, he allowed Paul to speak to the people.



Paul, being given this opportunity once more to preach the Gospel to the Jews, preached to them in the Hebrew language. As Paul began speaking in Hebrew, they all stopped and were silent as they listened. Paul gave his testimony of who he was before as a Jew and what happened on the way to Damascus up until he came to Jerusalem after he became a Christian.

The Jews listened intently to his testimony until he mentioned Jesus telling Paul that He wanted him to go to the Gentiles. They did not believe non-Jews had any right to their God! They began to riot again and so the captain rushed him into the castle.

This day definitely did not go as Paul hoped it would, and as he was led away into the barracks, the captain commanded that Paul be tortured and whipped to find out if he was telling the truth. As they began to bind him, Paul asked a centurion soldier nearby if it was legal to whip a Roman that had not been condemned by a judge. This surprised the centurion, for Roman citizenship was a valuable thing and not easily awarded. He did not expect this Jewish man before him to be a Roman. Knowing the severity of punishing a Roman citizen illegally, the centurion ran to the captain and informed him to not proceed with the punishment because of Paul's citizenship. The captain returned to Paul and asked how Paul became a citizen. The captain had paid a great amount of money to get his citizenship, and Paul told him that he was born a Roman. The captain upon hearing this immediately stopped the examination and was afraid because he had bound Paul illegally.

### Paul Tried Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 22:24-23:35)

The captain wasn't sure what to do with Paul. So, he freed Paul from his chains and had Paul remain in the garrison as the captain invited the chief priests and those on the Jewish counsel to appear before him to find out what the problem was all about that caused the uproar the day before.

As Paul went before the Jews, as he began to defend himself, the high priest Ananias commanded that Paul be slapped on the mouth. After he was hit, Paul was quite displeased and pronounced judgment upon him for acting contrary to the Law. Paul soon perceived that those standing before him were of differing religious parties, the Pharisee's and Sadducees. Growing up as a Pharisee, Paul knew well the differences of what they believed and so in his defence, he declared he was a Pharisee



and that he was before them over a matter of the resurrection of the dead (Jesus). Hearing that Paul was a Pharisee, the Pharisee's immediately defended Paul and soon a great uproar was happening among all those Jews who were there to condemn Paul. Fearing for Paul's life yet again, the chief priest ordered his soldiers to remove Paul and bring him to the garrison again. During the night, Jesus appeared beside Paul and told him he had done well and to be encouraged, for he had testified of Jesus and that Paul would also testify about Jesus at Rome, the capital of the entire Roman Empire.

The Jews were not happy Paul had escaped their hand once again. So, some of them made a vow that they would not eat or drink until they killed Paul. There were more than 40 Jewish men who made this vow. Paul was in great danger now! These men meant business! They went before the counsel and told them of their vow, and they both began to plan how they could eliminate Paul once and for all!

Somehow, Paul's nephew, his sister's son, heard the plot and immediately went to the garrison and told Paul. Believing his nephew to be telling the truth, he asked a centurion to bring his nephew to the captain. When the captain saw the young man, he asked what news he brought. When the young man told him the plot by the Jews, it alarmed him and knew he had to do something to protect Paul. He told the young man not to tell anyone else and let him depart from him.

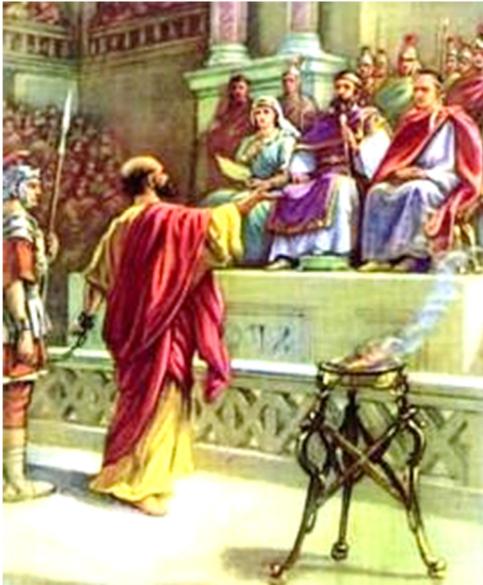
The captain knew this was a big problem. This could cause a lot of problems if the Jews assassinated Paul. There would be rioting and many more potential issues between the Christians and the Jews if the Jews were successful. Desperate to save Paul, he commanded two of his centurions to prepare an escort of 200 soldiers, 200 spearmen, and 70 horsemen to take Paul to Caesarea during the night. He decided to send Paul to Felix, the Roman governor of the region. So, with writing a letter, he sent Paul to Felix. When Paul eventually arrived in **Caesarea**, Felix decided to hear his case and sent for the Jews to come, meanwhile, keeping Paul in a place in Herod's judgment hall.

### **Paul On Trial Before Felix (Acts 24) (58-60 AD)**

After five days, Ananias the high priest came with the elders from **Jerusalem**, as well as a Roman orator (someone accustomed to Roman law), Tertullus, who spoke against Paul to Felix. Tertullus tried his best to make Paul look like a troublemaker and lawbreaker. He even accused the captain of the garrison as acting dishonourable. The Jews with him also tried to make Paul look like an evil doer.

Felix, listening to them all, understanding the Jewish faith, then gave Paul a chance to speak. Paul defended himself and told the truth of what had happened, and preached the Gospel to Felix. After hearing Paul's defence, Felix deferred judgment until the captain of the garrison could testify of what happened. Knowing that Paul would not try to escape, he commanded a centurion to be with Paul, and gave Paul freedom to have his companions come to him and to not be shut up in prison.

After a period of time, Felix came to Paul with his wife, Drusilla. She was a Jew. Felix wanted to hear more about his faith in Jesus Christ and the resurrection of the dead, and he wanted his wife to hear it too! As Paul reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and the future judgment to come of mankind, Felix trembled, being under conviction of the Holy Spirit. Instead of turning towards God and getting saved, Felix ended the session with Paul and that he would call for him again at a convenient season.



Sadly, Felix knew Paul was an innocent man, but desired a bribe of money to release Paul. He called him often and spoke with Paul, but Paul never offered any money. For two years this kept on happening. Felix was replaced by another governor, named Porcius Festus. Festus wanted to please the Jews, so he decided to keep Paul bound.

### Paul On Trial Before Festus & King Agrippa (Acts 25 & 26)

Festus wanted to keep the peace in his territory, and he knew that if he appeased the Jews, it would be easier. Shortly after becoming governor, he went down to **Jerusalem**. While there, the high priest and the chief of the Jews accused Paul and desired favour against him. They even asked Festus to send Paul back to **Jerusalem**, looking for a way to kill him before he would ever arrive. But, Festus told them that Paul would stay in **Caesarea**, and for the Jews to come there instead.

The Jews were not happy to hear that, but they submitted. When the Jews arrived, Paul was brought in and they once again issued their complaints, which they could not prove. Paul defended himself, but Festus still wanted to please the Jews, so he asked Paul if he would go to Jerusalem and be judged there. Paul, knowing that he was in the current higher court of the land than the one in Jerusalem, refused to go. He knew he was innocent of committing any Jewish religion crimes. Paul perceiving that Festus really wasn't going to help him then appealed to Caesar, meaning to go to the highest Roman court possible and out of Festus's control. Festus took counsel with some other officials and declared that Paul's case would then go to Rome.

Later, King Agrippa, the son of King Herod Agrippa (the king who had John the Baptist and the Apostle James killed), and his sister came to visit Festus. After several days visit, Festus brought up the case of Paul. Agrippa was very interested to hear more about what Paul had to say about Jesus and the resurrection from the dead, so they scheduled another hearing of Paul's defence the next day.

When it came for Paul to testify, King Agrippa arrived with his sister, Bernice with great splendour and ceremony. The chief captains and principle men of the city also were in attendance, as well as Festus. Before allowing Paul to testify, Festus declared to Agrippa that Paul had appealed to Caesar, but he did not know what to write to the judges as to why Paul was being sent and if Agrippa could help him decide. Festus did not think it was right to send a prisoner to trial without knowing the crimes he was accused of.

Agrippa, eager to hear what Paul had to say, gave him permission to speak his defence. Paul, familiar with who Agrippa was and knowing that Agrippa was an expert with the Jewish religion and customs, was happy to have the chance to defend himself. Paul then gave his testimony of who he was, his salvation on the road to Damascus, his ministry, and preached the Gospel. Satan always tries to stop people from getting saved, and as Paul was preaching about Jesus Christ, Festus cried out with a loud voice that Paul was crazy. Paul responded that he was not crazy and that the king knew about what Paul was talking about, because

Christianity had started spreading all throughout his kingdom. Paul even then asked if Agrippa believed the Old Testament prophets, because he knew that he did.

But, sadly, King Agrippa then said some of the saddest words ever heard and written. He told Paul, **“Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”** Agrippa shrugged off the conviction of the Holy Spirit and did not get saved. Agrippa then got up, followed by Festus and Bernice, and those sitting with him and left the chamber where Paul was. They all decided that Paul did not deserve to be imprisoned and should be set free, but they could not do anything about it because of Paul appealing to go to Rome.

### Paul Begins His Journey to Rome (Acts 27:1-12)

Soon after, Paul was delivered to a ship that was going to Rome. Festus delivered Paul and certain other prisoners to a Roman centurion by the name of Julius. They soon departed on their way. The next day they arrived at Sidon and Julius gave Paul favour and allowed him to go see his friends there, with Luke joining the voyage. Luke had been separated from Paul when Paul was captured in Jerusalem.



They then sailed to Myra, finding another ship to Italy. When they left, the wind died down and the ship was making very slow progress, so they went by the island of Crete and landed at the city of Lasea. So much time had been spent traveling to the island and preparing to leave again that Paul advised Julius to not continue the journey until it was safer to sail on the Mediterranean Sea. He had a feeling that if they continued the journey, it would be very dangerous and could end up losing

the ship and the people on board to the storms on the Sea.

Well, Julius did not believe Paul. How would he know such a thing anyway? Instead, he believed the master and owner of the ship and because the port that they were at was not accommodating for the winter months to stay in, they decided to set sail and risk the journey.

### Caught in a Storm! (Acts 27:13-44)

The wind seemed great and so they set sail for Italy, but the wind was deceptive. As they passed by Crete and out into the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, a gigantic storm came upon them, called Euroclydon. Their ship was caught in the storm and the sailors could do nothing but let the storm do what it wanted with the ship. Everyone knew that their lives were at great risk and did everything possible to keep the ship afloat. They cast off the excess cargo and everything that was not needed. The storm was raging so bad for many days that many had begun to give up hope of surviving.

But, after being below deck and away from the crew, Paul appeared to the captain, Julius, and crew and declared to them they should have listened to him. He then encouraged them all that they would survive and that God would spare the lives of everyone on board, but the ship would be lost. He revealed to them that an angel came from God and was with him and spoke to him that Paul would arrive to Rome and all those with him. The angel also revealed that they would be cast upon a certain island. For two more weeks, the storm raged around them, and soon land began to be revealed. The storm was pushing them to the land at a fast pace. Fearing to be crushed upon the rocks, they threw out four anchors to slow them down. Everyone still thought they were doomed and began to try to flee from the ship. Some

began to drop the lifeboats to escape, but Paul told Julius that unless they stay with the ship, they all would die. So, the soldiers cut off all the ropes to the lifeboats. Now, no one could leave the ship.

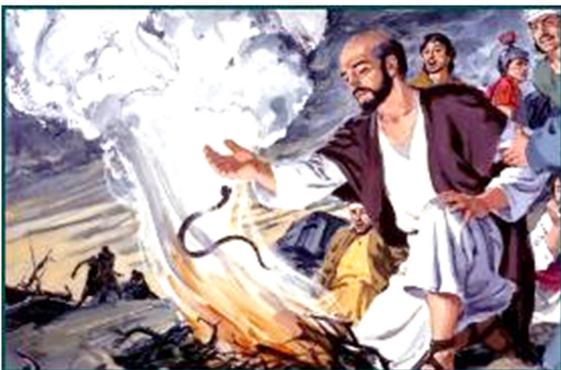
The next day came and Paul told everyone to eat, as it has been two weeks that they have been able to have a proper meal and many had been without food for that long. Paul knew they would need the strength of the food to get to shore. Paul then assured them that every one of them would survive and that not even a hair would fall from their head. Paul then took break, prayed over and blessed it, and began to eat. The men were encouraged by Paul and so they also began to eat, and on the ship, were **276 people**. When they had finished eating, they cast out food into the Sea.

The men now prepared themselves for landing, encouraged by the words of Paul and of his God that they would survive. They lifted the anchors and let the storm drive the ship. The ship came upon a part near the island where two seas met and the ship was run aground. The soldiers were afraid the prisoners would escape and thought to start killing them, but Julius stopped them, willing to save Paul. Instead he commanded to jump off the ship and swim to the land. Everyone obeyed and they all survived, making it to shore, safe from the storm.



### Shipwrecked! (Acts 28:1-10)

When they all arrived to land, they were freezing cold and weak. Thankfully, the island was inhabited by a friendly tribe of people who made fires and prepared food for everyone. As Paul was gathering sticks and placing them on the fire, a viper rose up out of the pile and bit Paul. The barbarians were shocked to see this deadly, poisonous snake latched onto Paul and thought for sure Paul must be a criminal and God was punishing him for his sins.



Imagine their shock when Paul just shook the snake off and no harm came to him. The snake bite didn't swell and no harm came from it. They've seen people fall dead from lesser bites than what Paul had happen to him. They instead thought then that Paul must be a god!

For the next three days, the shipwrecked men stayed with the barbarians of **Malta**. One of the chief men of the tribe had a deathly ill father, and so Paul in gratitude of their kindness, laid his hands upon the man and healed him. Soon, others with various diseases and ailments came to Paul to be healed, proving again he was an apostle. Paul healed every one of them.

### The Journey Ended... Or was it? (Acts 28:11-31)

For three more months, they stayed with the barbarians until it was safe to sail, finally heading Paul's advice. The barbarians supplied everyone for the journey and hired a ship who had come to winter at the island. From **Malta**, they landed in **Syracuse** on the Italian island of **Sicily**, and then travelled to **Rhegium** and to **Puteoli**, where they found Christians there and stayed with them for one week before heading to **Rome**.

When Paul arrived, Christians came from all around to see and meet him. This encouraged Paul so very much. Julius delivered all the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was allowed to have a house, but had a soldier keep watch on him.

After three days, Paul then contacted the chief Jews of **Rome** and asked them to meet him. When they arrived, Paul explained while he was there and what had happened in **Jerusalem**. Much to Paul's surprise, the Jews had heard nothing about what had happened in **Jerusalem** and **Caesarea** the last three years. They had heard about this group of believers called Christians, and desired to know more about them and what they believed. So, they asked Paul and Paul was more than happy to preach to them the Gospel. Many came to listen to him and he preached from morning until evening from the Old Testament scriptures, revealing all that they said about Jesus and how Jesus fulfilled them in every way. Some trusted Jesus Christ as their Saviour that day, and some did not. They began to dispute among themselves about what Paul meant and so Paul continued to preach to them from Isaiah and that God had sent salvation to all men. When they heard that, they soon departed from Paul to reason among themselves and to think about all that they had heard. Paul would then stay in Rome for another two full years in a rented home and received everyone who would come to him and who wanted to know more about Jesus Christ with no restrictions upon him. Many people were saved and God was glorified.

### Paul's Final Ministry and Legacy (63-66 AD)

The Book of Acts reveals most of the life of Paul, but it concludes after he arrived in **Rome**. From his other epistles and history, we learn that Paul did not stay in **Rome** the entire time after arriving there. Paul continued to serve God with his life.

**While in Rome, Paul wrote the book of Hebrews, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, and Philippians.** Paul would eventually be released by the Roman authorities and possibly travelled as far west as **Spain**. **Paul would then write 1 Timothy after his release from house arrest (c. 62-64 AD)**

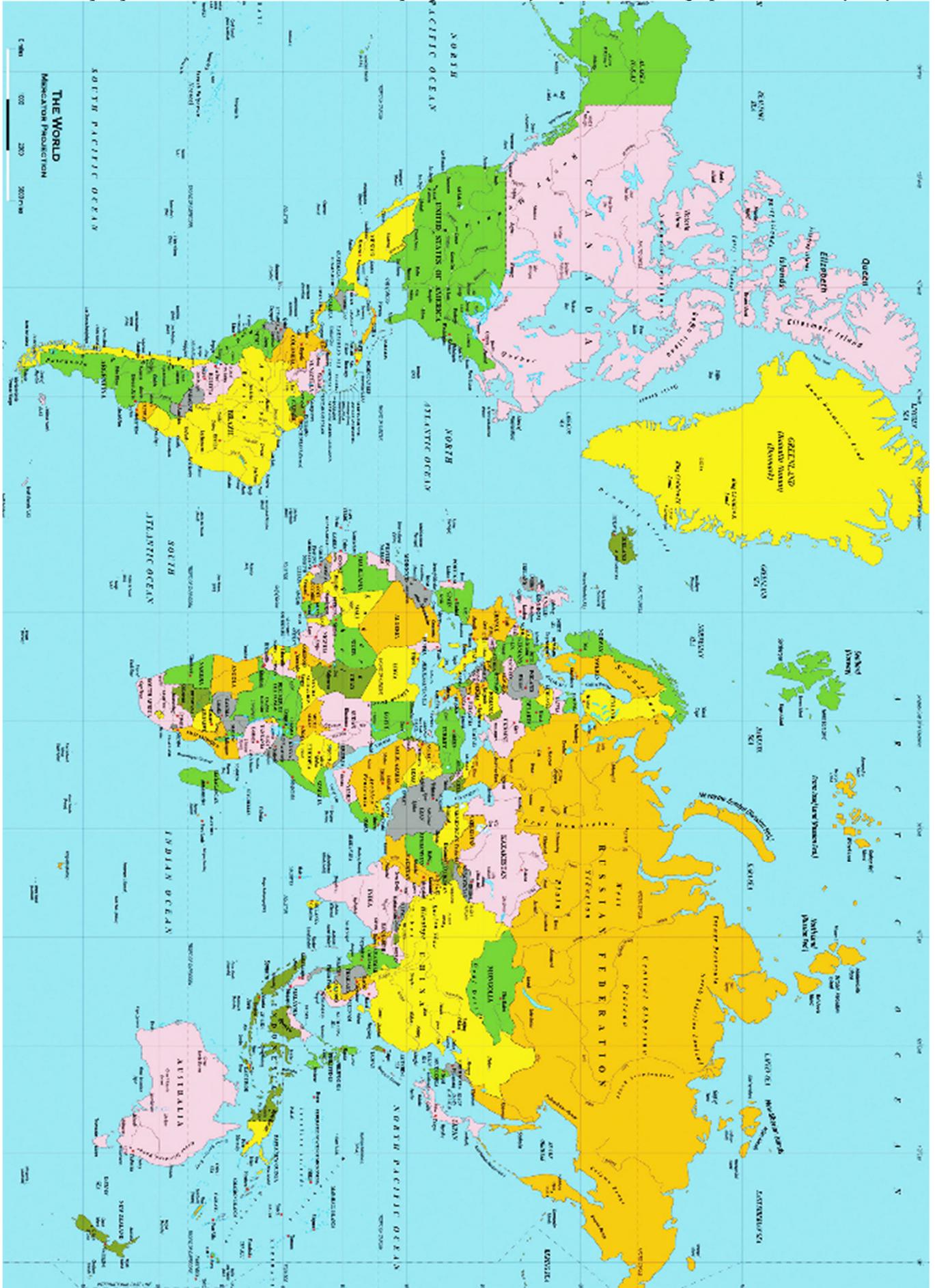
Sadly though, a great persecution rose up against Christians by the Roman Emperor, Nero. He enjoyed torturing and killing any Christian he could find. It was during this time that several of the 12 apostles were martyred, including Peter and Andrew. Nero was an evil man and purposely set fire to **Rome** in order to blame the Christians and to see them killed. This was the Great Fire in **Rome** in about 63 AD. Paul would soon be imprisoned once again and would be there until he would be martyred. **Before being killed by Nero in 66 AD, Paul wrote Titus (c. 62-64 AD) and 2 Timothy (c. 64-66 AD) as he prepared for his execution.**

**What a life! The life of Paul truly was one of adventure and dependency upon God. If only some of us could live more like Paul did... The world would definitely be turned upside down AGAIN! Paul was submitted to the Holy Spirit and allowed God to use him in a great and mighty way. Would you like to do something for the Lord? Ask God to use you, and let Him direct your steps, and you will be amazed at where God takes you and the plan He has for your life!**



# A World in Need of the Gospel!

7.45 Billion people, 380,000 towns & cities, 106 people die every minute, an average person lives only 68 years



## Map Questions (500 Points)

See the previous page to find the answers to the following questions...

How many people are there in the world today? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people die every minute? \_\_\_\_\_

How many towns and cities are in the world today? \_\_\_\_\_

### Circle the following places on the map

1. Circle where YOU live on the World map
2. Circle where the **land of Israel** is
3. Find **Australia** and circle it
4. Find **Argentina** and circle it
5. Find **South Africa** and circle it
6. Circle the **Philippines**
7. Circle the thin and long country of **Chile**
8. Find **China** and circle it
9. Circle **India**
10. Circle **Alaska**



Draw a line from where you live to all of the following places that you have circled. Use the paper ruler you got with your Handbook. Find out about how many kilometres would you have to walk to reach...

To the **north tip of Africa**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

To the **Philippines**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

To **Australia**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

To the bottom of **Chile**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

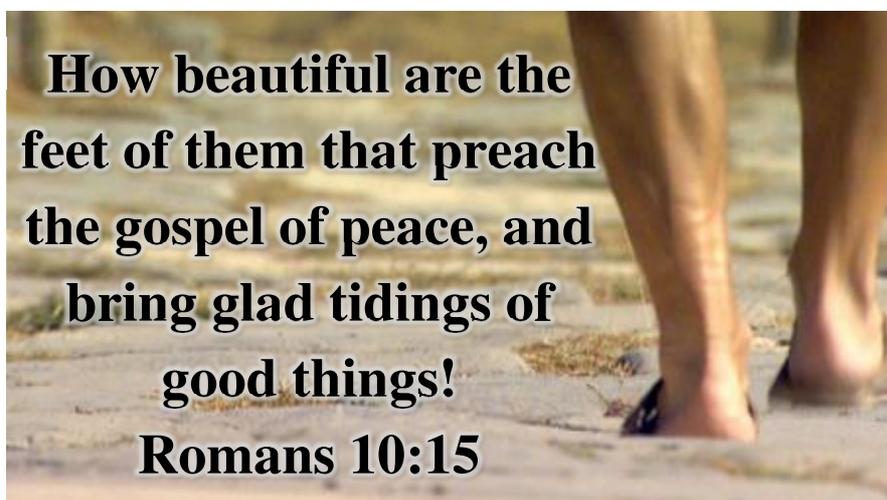
To **South Africa**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

To **Alaska**? \_\_\_\_\_ km

So, if you could walk 5 kilometres an hour, and travelled 10 hours a day, you would travel how many kilometres in a day? \_\_\_\_\_

If you could walk that many kilometres in a day, how many days would it take you to walk to South Africa? \_\_\_\_\_ days!

Just how FAR would YOU go to tell someone about God's forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_



## Let's take a look at just how LOST our world is

With all the religions, and all the education, and all the money, and all the modern freedoms, crime continues to soar! Men have not gotten better with time or technology. Take a look at the statistics below of just how many bad things are happening in our world TODAY!

**The following numbers are from 2014...**

- Worldwide, there were **281,250 Murders**, with Brazil having 57,091!
- For comparison, 100 years ago, crime was *nothing* compared to now. Even 25 years ago, in Ireland, there was only 1 murder a year. But today it is 1 a week, and sometimes, 1 a day!
- Worldwide, **1.95 million cars are stolen** every year! In the USA alone, 686,803 were stolen, in just one year! That's 1,882 a day!
- There were **5.12 million homes and buildings broken into** by thieves in 2014, with 1.7 million homes and buildings broken into in the USA alone! That's 4,657 homes burgled every day!
- **2.15 million people were physically attacked** worldwide, with the USA having 731,000 people physically attacked!
- The total number of **kidnappings** worldwide was estimated at **23,173**, with Germany having 5,011 people kidnapped.
- The total number of **women raped** worldwide is estimated at **240,588** with the USA having 118,027 women raped! That's 659 every day in America!
- **2.15 million people were robbed** worldwide in 2014, with Argentina having 483,929 people personally robbed!
- There are between **40 million to 50 million babies aborted** every year worldwide, which means 110,000 unborn babies are murdered every day!
- 142 million people were killed in wars over the last 100 years!
- **One million people committed suicide** last year. That's one every 40 seconds!
- Less than half of all married people stay married till death.
- Less and less people even get married – they just live together until they get tired of each other.
- Fewer and fewer couples are having any children at all.
- Men now get “married” to other men, and women to women – this is called homosexuality, and is a wicked sin.
- By the age of 18, children will have seen **16,000 simulated murders** and **200,000 acts of violence** on television, on YouTube and in the movies!
- Our world, our generation is messed up bad! And that is why it is in trouble with God.

A shipwrecked sailor had spent several years on a deserted island. Then one morning he was thrilled to see a ship offshore coming towards him. When the boat landed on the beach, the officer in charge handed the marooned sailor a bundle of newspapers and told him, *"There are with the captain's compliments. He said for you to read through these newspapers first, and then let us know if you STILL want to be rescued."*





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



CAESAREA  
 PHILIPPI  
 QUESTION  
 JOHN  
 ELIJAH  
 JEREMIAH  
 PETER  
 CHRIST  
 JONAH  
 ROCK  
 CHURCH  
 GATES  
 KEYS



*Acts 17:6*

*These that have turned the world upside down  
 are come hither also.*

# Monday Evening Preaching Notes #1

## To Turn OUR World Upside Down

Barry Keating

Acts 17:6

Sermon Notes



## Monday Evening Preaching Notes #2

### Getting to Know Paul

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

(1Timothy 1:11-17)



What was Paul like *Before* he met Christ, and *After* Conversion?

#### A. BEFORE Conversion (1Tim 1:12,13; Acts 26:9-11), Paul was...

1. Blindly \_\_\_\_\_ (Philp 3:4-6)
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ - Persecutor of the Church of God (1Cor 15:9)
4. And an \_\_\_\_\_
5. But then something wonderful happened to Paul! On a road, just outside Damascus... He was saved from his sinfulness – converted – born again!

#### B. \_\_\_\_\_ Changed Everything (1Tim 1:15,16)

1. Paul now understood what it meant to be a SINNER
2. Paul saw himself as the “\_\_\_\_\_”
3. But now Paul had a past that was in the past (Romans 6:17-19)
4. What Changed Paul from a Killer, to a Preacher? It is simple:
  - a. He had been forced to accept he had been so \_\_\_\_\_ – that’s repentance
  - b. He then threw himself on the mercy of the very One he had hated and blasphemed, and cursed, and tried to blot out!
5. And supernaturally, Paul was changed

#### C. All Because of the Power of The \_\_\_\_\_ (1:11)

#### D. His Whole Life Was \_\_\_\_\_ (1:12-15)

#### E. What Paul Became (1Tim 1:12)

1. Not perfect - but \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and a better man
2. He was now a \_\_\_\_\_ creature – Conversion does something to you – makes you a whole new person on the inside (2Cor 5:17)
3. He no longer was powerless against his old nature – old habits
4. He became \_\_\_\_\_ – able to live free from the sins that had ruled his life before

### II. Conclusion (2Cor 6:2)

### III. What we all need to look for throughout this week...

- A. Not perfection!
- B. But \_\_\_\_\_ in his life – the ways he lived, and worked, and prayed, and worshipped, and preached, and learned, and grew, and changed into the greatest Christian who has ever lived!
- C. Let’s keep our eyes on Paul this week, so that we can become more like Jesus! (1Cor 11:1)

## Monday Evening Devotions

### Saul Discovered He Was a Sinner

#### *Are You a Sinner?*



Let's see. Which one of the following is actually a sin?

Smoking,  Hating,  Lying,  Drinking,  
 Looking at pictures of naked people,  Abortion,  Arguing,  Worrying,  
 Boasting,  Disrespectfulness,  Cursing,  Stealing,  Envy,  Lusting,  
 Gambling,  Complaining,  Idolatry,  Loving money,  Murder,  
 Missing God's will for your life,  Laziness,  Mocking,  Cutting,  Unbelief,  
 Being ashamed of Jesus,  Casting spells,  Not praying,  Racism...

**Of course ALL of those are sins!**

But the big question is, **How many of them do you have to do before YOU are a sinner?**

Saul of Tarsus was a religious teacher who believed he was NOT a sinner like so many other people, but believed he was a good man. He never thought he was really bad on the inside. That is until someone convinced him in Acts 9 he was totally wrong. Who was that? \_\_\_\_\_

It was only THEN, when Saul was convinced of how wrong he had been, that Saul could become right with God, and receive the gift of forgiveness from all his sins. So, until YOU are convinced of your personal sinfulness, in your own heart and life, you can never know what it means to be saved and cleansed from your sin.

Christ came specifically to die for what kind of people? (1 Timothy 1:15) \_\_\_\_\_.

What kind of a person are YOU on the inside? Perfect, Good, Okay, Not so good, or sinner?

Did you know that after Jesus came, God sent Someone to convince us of just how sinful we all are, so that we would want Jesus Christ to save us from the punishment of all our sins – who was that Person? (John 16:7,8) \_\_\_\_\_

Has he convinced you yet that YOU are a sinner? Yes, No

As long as you think that you really don't need to get forgiven, you cannot be saved.

According to Romans 3:10-12, 23, how many are righteous (holy and do right)? \_\_\_\_\_. How many in all the world have sinned? \_\_\_\_\_.

Does anyone measure up to God's glorious perfection? Yes / No

Test yourself...

- Have you ever told a lie; even once in your life? Yes / No
- Have you ever taken anything from anyone that wasn't yours? Yes / No
- Have you ever disobeyed your parents? Yes / No
- Have you ever said God's name in vain (like it was nothing)? Yes / No

If you circled yes to any, then you are a lying, thieving, parent dishonouring blasphemer! Wow!

**But you don't have to die that way!**

If you ARE a sinner, then you needed Jesus to die your place so that you can be forgiven and live forever. Hebrews 9:27 says, "*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the \_\_\_\_\_.*" That judgment is coming on all your sins! It is called the wrath of God.

So, take a moment right now and pray, and ask God to speak just to you through the preaching this week, so that you can examine your own heart! What you hear this week could change your eternity! Pray now!

## Tuesday Morning Devotions

# Saul Became Thoroughly Converted

Did you know that at one time the great Apostle Paul *hated* the name of Jesus and hated everything about Him? Instead, he loved \_\_\_\_\_ the churches (Acts 8:1). What do you think that means? \_\_\_\_\_

Even though he was a very devout religious leader, he did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God, and the Messiah. So, when anyone stood up and preached that people needed to repent of their sins, and follow Jesus, he wanted to KILL them. As a matter of fact, Saul was so happy to see a great Christian named \_\_\_\_\_ literally stoned to death (Acts 7:58-60; 8:1)!

But then everything changed! Saul changed from being an *enemy* and *persecutor* of Christians and of the name of Jesus Christ, to becoming one of the greatest missionaries and disciples of Christ of all time! How? How could someone so hateful, so dark, so evil, become so different?

It all began with Stephen. Remember that Saul heard all of Acts chapter 7 when Stephen preached about Jesus being wrongfully murdered on the cross by RELIGIOUS people who were supposed to be GOOD, and supposed to BELIEVE the Bible! Stephen's preaching pricked his heart (cut it deeply) and the Holy Spirit began to make him realize just how guilty he was of rejecting Jesus! Then, as Saul viciously attacked and persecuted everyone who believed in Jesus, he heard over and over those dying Christians tell him that HE needed to believe on Jesus himself, and be born again!

When Saul decided to go and search for and punish Christians in a foreign city named \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 9:2,1), the best thing ever happened to Saul. On the way, \_\_\_\_\_ spoke right to Saul! (Read Acts 9:1-18).

Jesus asked Saul why he was persecuting who? \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus told him that he was kicking and fighting JESUS and not just Christians.

Saul was shocked! Could this voice and bright light really be the \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus who he had seen DIE on the cross, could Jesus really be ALIVE (Acts 9:5)?

Jesus was proving to Saul that yes, He had been crucified, and buried, but that He was now very much ALIVE, and was in heaven as God! There was no more arguments in Saul's heart. Only surrender. He knew he was guilty of so many sins now. He knew he should be punished.

So Saul said the only thing he could say back: "\_\_\_\_\_, what wilt thou have \_\_\_ to \_\_\_?" Wow! Who had been in charge of Saul's life before that moment? Think about it. Was Saul in charge of his own life and thoughts, or who else might have been driving him to hate Jesus and Christians? Who else would have been behind Saul, pushing him to do such evil? \_\_\_\_\_ (John 8:44). But who did Saul put in charge of his life now? \_\_\_\_\_.

Have you ever had a time when God quietly spoke to you about *your* sin and that *you* were on the road to Hell? Do you understand that Jesus was crucified for *YOUR* sin. When Saul met Jesus, he discovered that he had been wrong about everything he did. EVERYTHING! So, his whole life changed the day he surrendered to Jesus Christ – not just a few things, but everything changed.

Has there been any change in your life since you've been saved? Yes, No

Think about what is different in your life since getting saved. What would you say it is like being around you now that you are saved? Do you still do the same bad things? Do you still like to watch the same bad things? Write something that has changed \_\_\_\_\_

What punishment does God say our sin will bring on US (Romans 6:23)? \_\_\_\_\_

What does God offer to sinners so that we can be forgiven (John 3:16,17)? \_\_\_\_\_

## Tuesday Morning Lesson Notes

### The Power of Music

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

#### A. Music has power

#### B. Words have power – life and death are in the tongue

#### C. The Music War - Music will always be a struggle

#### D. So, What is Christian Music, and Why should you care?

1. The \_\_\_\_\_
2. Emphasizing the \_\_\_\_\_
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ - that fits the voice and the words being sung
4. Things to check your music for:
  - a. A heavy \_\_\_\_\_ instead of a melody
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ words
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ Innuendos
  - d. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the singer/songwriter (Mt 7:16-20). You won't get good fruit from a wicked songwriter
  - e. Who is attracted to the music you like?
  - f. Is your music a \_\_\_\_\_ of worldly drum beats and physical focus, with some "Jesus" words added?

#### E. What Music is Doing to You Right Now

1. Either bringing you \_\_\_\_\_ to God and helping you fight temptation...
2. Or making you more like \_\_\_\_\_
3. A perfect example is a \_\_\_\_\_
4. Wrong music will hurt your \_\_\_\_\_, then your \_\_\_\_\_, and lastly your \_\_\_\_\_!

#### F. Conclusion – What to do now!

1. Purge your library (Acts 19:19)
2. Decide to be cautious about your music
3. Go get good Christian Music!
4. Focus on worshipping the Lord, instead of just enjoying the music!

#### G. Where and How to get good Christian Music

## Tuesday Afternoon Preaching Notes

### How Jesus Saved Paul

Dan Eberly

#### Sermon Notes



## Tuesday Evening Preaching Notes #1

### First Things First – Our Walk With God

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

Galatians 1:11-24

*I think most if not all of God's great men and women of the Bible were great because of the "alone time" they spent with God*

#### I. Saul of Tarsus was \_\_\_\_\_ to Be Alone for a While (Gal 1:13-19)

A. \_\_\_\_\_ made sure that Saul had Time Alone with Him (Gal 1:16-18)

1. Let's define *alone*...

2. It was THERE that Jesus did the best work on Saul of Tarsus.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ with Saul

b. \_\_\_\_\_ him

c. Taught him TWO great things

1) How to really \_\_\_\_\_!

2) How to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus for everything he needed!

3. The Bible calls this time spent, \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 6:6)

B. Because of that with Jesus, Saul was Not the Same Man (Gal 1:18-23)

C. Best of all, God was \_\_\_\_\_ in his life (Gal 1:24) "*And they glorified God in me.*"

#### II. Making Time to Be Alone – How to Do It Well

A. Make a \_\_\_\_\_

B. Make a \_\_\_\_\_

C. Personally walk away from ungodliness and worldly lusts in your \_\_\_\_\_

D. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ so much ("Be still", Ps 46:10)

E. Read pages and pages of the \_\_\_\_\_

F. Allow yourself to be the ONLY person God is talking to and seeking to change

G. Decide to \_\_\_\_\_ whatever you have read in your Bible

H. Slowly ponder the \_\_\_\_\_ you are sitting at the feet of

I. Pray through a \_\_\_\_\_ – of people's names, of needs

J. \_\_\_\_\_ and wrestle all you need to

K. Stay awhile – \_\_\_\_\_

L. \_\_\_\_\_ Him

M. Bless and pray for \_\_\_\_\_ – intercede, pray for the needs of everyone you know

N. Then, Leave the \_\_\_\_\_, whatever you were when you started, all right there.

O. Have a regular BIG event in your year where you get away and focus all your attention on Jesus (like YOUTH CAMP, and MEN'S Camp)

#### III. Conclusion

A. You will enjoy real time alone with God – more than you think!

B. Make sure your time alone with God is not just a once off

C. *Make THIS week, and every week from now on, a week of secret prayer*

## Tuesday Evening Preaching Notes #2

### Answering God's Call

Andrew Day

Sermon Notes



## Wednesday Morning Devotions

### Thoroughly Dependent

Philippians 4:13; John 15:5

**What do you think it means to be a Christian?** Well, it doesn't mean you are perfect, or even have to strive to be perfect. Instead, it means to be completely dependent upon the abilities and power of \_\_\_\_\_ (Philippians 4:13)!

Saul was very well educated, very able to make quick decisions, and teach the precise details of the Laws of God from the Bible. He was very good at making all the money he needed, and he depended upon no one but himself for all his adult life.

But from the moment that he became a born again believer in Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus, he \_\_\_\_\_ everything that he ever had (Philippians 3:4-8). Saul learned to not expect anything from anyone anymore – but instead, he had to learn to pray and ask God for everything he needed, and to wait for God to supply everything he needed. He had to learn to do absolutely everything only with the strengths and abilities that Jesus would give him! He discovered that without \_\_\_\_\_ he could do “\_\_\_\_\_” (John 15:5). From that day of his salvation, Saul became thoroughly addicted/dependent upon a regular time of prayer with Jesus. That is what made Saul a great Christian!

Do you depend upon your legs? Of course you do! You expect that when you try and stand up, they will lift your whole body up and then carry you wherever you need to go.

Do you depend upon your eyes? Can you imagine what it would be like to not be able to see where you are walking?

Do you depend upon your parents? What if tomorrow, they were gone? That would be terrible! And then who would buy food, and heating oil, and who would hold you when you are afraid?

All of those things are good to depend upon. But all of them will fail us at some time in our lives. So, who can we depend upon that will always be there for us, and who will never let us down (Hebrews 13:5)? \_\_\_\_\_ . See what the Lord Jesus help you with:

- In 2Timothy 4:17, Paul says Jesus was with him and \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- In Psalm 18:2, David describes the Lord as “my \_\_\_\_\_, and my \_\_\_\_\_; my God, my \_\_\_\_\_, in whom I will \_\_\_\_\_; my buckler, and the horn of my \_\_\_\_\_, and my high tower.”
- David also trusts in the Lord as his “\_\_\_\_\_” (Psalm 23:1).
- In Hebrews 13:6, Paul says “The Lord is my \_\_\_\_\_, and I will not \_\_\_\_\_.”

The only way to really learn to depend upon the Lord Jesus like Paul and David did, is by spending time talking with Jesus, casting all your “\_\_\_\_\_” upon Him (1Peter 5:7). What was Paul's time with the Lord Jesus Christ like?

Paul “\_\_\_\_\_” his knees when praying (Ephesians 3:14). Humbled himself.

Paul spent a lot of time asking God to help others in THEIR needs

Paul just spent time fellowshiping with and loving the Lord Jesus with all his heart

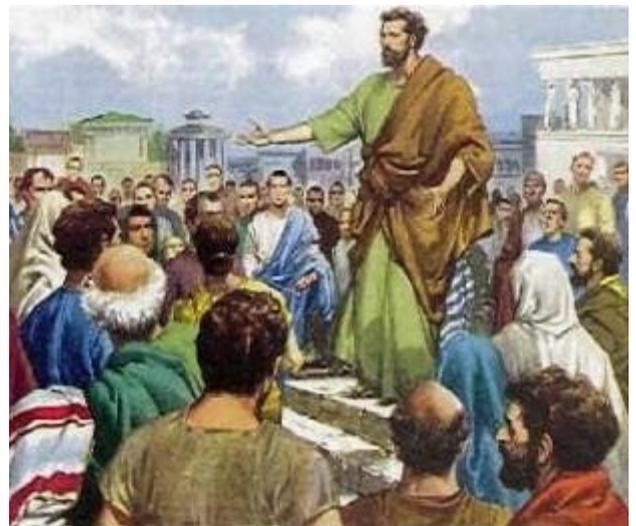
Paul constantly thanked Jesus for everything he was going through – the good times and the bad times – never really complained about anything

Paul asked God to save his enemies instead of punish them

Paul just listened to Jesus speak from the words of the Bible as he faithfully read in them every day

Could YOU start to have a time with Jesus every early morning, and every evening just before bed? **Would you start right now and just pray with Jesus for a while?** Yes, No. You will come away much stronger, restful, and better able for whatever the devil throws at you!

**Wednesday Morning Lesson Notes**  
**What in the World Was Paul Doing?**  
Stephen Finley / Jennifer Day



## Wednesday Afternoon Preaching Notes

### Paul's New Way of Living

John Mahony

Sermon Notes



## Wednesday Evening Preaching Notes #1

### The High Cost of Following Jesus

Pastor Dan Pero

Acts 26:9-12

#### Sermon Notes



## Wednesday Evening Preaching Notes #2

### Agrippa was Almost WHAT?

Pastor Craig Ledbetter

#### I. Introduction

- A. Your friends probably constantly push you and try to persuade you to do lots of things
- B. But this week is all about persuading all of us to do some extraordinary things!
- C. Don't be *almost* persuaded - But completely, and fanatically persuaded

#### II. Background (Acts 26:28,29) -

Paul cries out with all his heart, I wish you were all \_\_\_\_\_ !

- A. Living the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ you can live (26:22)
- B. Really \_\_\_\_\_ – excited
- C. So persuaded that he was right in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's will
- D. Convinced that no effort / \_\_\_\_\_ was too much, when done for the Lord

#### III. Message – five things Agrippa was ALMOST convinced about (Acts 26:10-29)

- A. I wish everybody in this room was just like me - \_\_\_\_\_ (26:10-15)
- B. Secondly, I wish everyone in this room was \_\_\_\_\_ (26:16-19) – Bible Word
- C. I wish everyone in this room was \_\_\_\_\_ (26:19,20; 9:6)
- D. He then yearned that everyone in this room was \_\_\_\_\_ (26:21-23)
- E. I Wish everyone in this room was \_\_\_\_\_ (26:24-27) Persevering, long-suffering, burdened (1Cor 4:2) – the only way to be folks! God deliver us from wimpy, pitiful attempts at living for the Lord Jesus Christ!

#### IV. Conclusion

- A. Agrippa \_\_\_\_\_ got it – almost became one of us – a true fanatic
- B. And oh how Paul's heart broke at that one word - \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Agrippa \_\_\_\_\_ surrendered, but walked away, *and went to hell*
- D. Ladies and gentlemen, there is nothing better than being a sold-out, born-again, sin-hating, blood-bought, Bible-believing, soul-winning, sinner saved by God's grace, and serving by the very same grace!

## Thursday Morning Devotions

### Thoroughly Convinced

**Is the Bible true? Is it right? Is it right about everything? Yes, No, Don't Know**

In Acts chapter 26, Paul has just been brought out of prison to be questioned by a king named \_\_\_\_\_ (26:1,2). Instead of Paul trying to get free from prison, Paul tried very hard to get this king free from his sin!

Why would Paul do that? You see, Paul was not just convinced the Bible was true, but he was so sure that what the Bible said was right about everyone being sinners, and that everyone is in trouble with God, that he was willing to suffer anything (even staying in prison) just to get lost people saved from their sins!

So here was the great Apostle Paul, a prisoner, in chains, standing in front of a courtroom full of people, speaking directly to king Agrippa, and telling him about how wicked and how lost he had been, and that Jesus changed his life, completely! But instead of believing the Gospel, king Agrippa said that he was ALMOST \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 26:28) that what Paul was saying was right, and that he ALMOST wanted to become a \_\_\_\_\_. Wow! That hesitation to just simply believe the Bible, cost him his soul! Where do you think Agrippa is right now because of that decision? \_\_\_\_\_

Agrippa's words really saddened Paul, but Agrippa had decided to not be convinced by the Bible. So Paul pressed on. There were so many more people to tell the wonderful story of Jesus, and His death on the cross! So he travelled from town to town, and crossed the ocean seas. And he did it because souls everywhere were worth going to, and preaching to!

In 2 Corinthians 11:24-27 Paul describes just some of what he had endured, *"Of the Jews five times received I forty \_\_\_\_\_ save one. Thrice was I \_\_\_\_\_ with rods, once was I \_\_\_\_\_, thrice I suffered \_\_\_\_\_, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In \_\_\_\_\_ often, in perils of waters, in perils of \_\_\_\_\_, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness."*

What would drive someone to ever want to endure any of that? The answer is that Paul believed the Bible is God's word, and is completely true. He believed that Jesus is the only Saviour of all men, and that Jesus would one day return to judge this world, just as He had promised.

A Christian must be thoroughly convinced – that the Bible is right, that the world is very lost and away from God, that Jesus is coming back very soon, that hell is real and horrible, and that no one should be allowed to go there without a Christian trying to get them to turn to God. So, God has given us many things to convince us of all the above:

He gave us His own words, in the Bible to tell us what to believe and know for sure!

He gave us all His promises – and He cannot lie (Rom 4:21; Titus 1:2).

He gave us His own \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:32).

He gave us His \_\_\_\_\_ in our hearts (John 14:26; Gal 4:6).

So, open your eyes. Do you see a world that is obviously lost and without God? If that doesn't convince you it needs to hear the Gospel and be saved, then nothing else will!

## Thursday Morning Lesson Notes

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**Andrew Day / Hannah O’Gorman**

# Thursday Afternoon Preaching Notes

## We Need Each Other

Pastor Oriel O’Gorman

### Sermon Notes



# Thursday Evening Preaching Notes

## Boldly Going

Pastor Craig Ledbetter



## Friday Morning Devotions

### Thoroughly Burdened... for the Lost!

#### What Would It Take to Get ME to Go and Win Souls?

Romans 10:13-15

**How can I get you “thoroughly burdened” about how much this world needs to get saved?** This week you have learned about Paul’s conversion to Christ, seen his dependence upon God, and learned how he became so convinced that everyone was lost without Jesus. This morning, let’s explore Paul’s concern for a lost world. It does not make sense to only know the whole world “\_\_\_\_\_” (1John 5:19) and yet not care to do anything about it!

Paul’s greatest desire, and concern was that his own people, the Jews, would be \_\_\_\_\_ from the coming wrath of God (Romans 10:1; 1Corinthians 9:22). His family and nation were already were religious, and even zealous about God, but they were not born again! He KNEW that there is a judgment day against all ungodliness (Heb 9:27; 2Thes 1:7-9). But that knowledge became more! It became a concern for people, and that concern became a worry, and that worry became a heavy burden on Paul’s heart for people’s souls everywhere! And that burden caused Paul to get up and GO! To give his testimony about how Jesus saved HIM. To endure so many hardships and problems, and disappointments! He did everything for souls, because he had a burden for them.

How could you and I get a burden for souls, and become willing do whatever it takes so that THEY might be saved?

**1. The first thing you have to do is ask God for a burden for the lost.** Ask God to help get you worried about just how much people are in trouble with God! There are SOULS all around you – eternal, never dying souls, made in the image of God, but sinners, who are lost, and under the wrath of God. Ask God to open your eyes, and see beyond the fashions and skin colour and wealth or poverty! And to see that they are headed for hell unless you start to care!

**2. Then Pray for those around you** (by name) that you know are lost (Rom 10:1) – If you begin to pray for the lost, you can’t help but want to see their heart changed towards God.

**3. Next, Realize people are Ignorant (unknowing) of God’s righteousness** (10:3,4) As Christian’s, we know Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. But so many don’t know this simple truth! Unless YOU tell them!

**4. Next, Open your \_\_\_\_\_** (10:8) – say something! Don’t ever be \_\_\_\_\_ (10:11) of telling people from the Bible that they \_\_\_\_\_ be born again (John 3:7). That they must repent of their sinfulness and believe that Jesus died and was buried and rose again just for them! That keeping the law will do them no good at all (Rom 10:4).

**5. Make it clear that salvation happens only if a person BELIEVES with all their heart that Jesus saves sinners from hell,** and washes away their sins. Salvation is something that happens only in their \_\_\_\_\_ (10:9,10).

**6. You need to firmly believe that ANYONE can be saved** (10:11-13). The best word in Romans 10:13 is “\_\_\_\_\_” because it includes everyone!

Final thought. How will anyone hear about Jesus without YOU being burdened enough to go up to them and tell them about Him? (Rom 10:14,15) According to Romans 10:17, people cannot believe until they hear what? “faith cometh by... the \_\_\_\_\_” What the world needs is not just more Christians (that is great), but more Christians who tell the gospel. We will not see people saved till they hear the good news that Jesus saves.

So, ALWAYS be soul conscious! One of the greatest needs in soul winning is for the Christian to be soul conscious at all times. Be burdened about the shop owner – the classmate next to you – your neighbour – your school teacher – and on and on... Everywhere there are people who need Jesus Christ. Will YOU care to tell them how to be saved?

## Friday Morning Preaching Notes

### Who Will Go?

Dan Eberly

Why Should the Heathen be Allowed to Die?

Who Will Go? Who Will BE the Next Paul?

Who Will take Paul's Place – fill his SHOES? (Romans 10:15)



### Sermon Notes



# ***Victory Youth Camp***

**Bible Baptist Church of Ballincollig**

*Meeting at the Westgate Foundation*

*Main Road, Ballincollig (West End)*

**Sundays at 10.30am and again at 6pm**

*Wednesday Evening Open Bible Study, and Prayer Meeting at 7pm*

Post: **Unit B, Enterprise Business Park, Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork**

Tel: **021-4871234** Email: [biblebc@gmail.com](mailto:biblebc@gmail.com) Web: [www.biblebc.com](http://www.biblebc.com)