

Class: 2's and 3's

Date: Late Winter 2002
Early Spring

Lesson 9
Teacher: Mary Lynn

Text: Acts 13-14

Introduction/review

1. Our Spiritual Heritage (see explanation under intro/review, lesson1)

Lesson

2. Amplified Bible Curriculum suggests making each child a poster to be used throughout Paul's journeys. Instructions on how to make this are on pg 271. This lesson we reviewed Saul/Paul reminding them who he was (they remember Saul and the light and also the song Saul Saul). The poster can be used to discuss Paul's first journey emphasizing who went with him and saying over and over that he was preaching the gospel. Whenever there were cases of Paul being persecuted over his teaching I tried to bring those out in the lesson. Also, I briefly tried to name the places visited on each journey at the time we're studying them.

Visual Aids/Songs

Saul, Saul (song used to review who Paul was) Glenda Schales book, God Had a Plan found in library.

Suggested take-homes and visuals

Amplified Bible Curriculum suggests making the poster for use throughout the study.

Favorite Bible Stories-Grades 3 and 4, pg 48 has a good map of the first journeys that can be adapted for an activity with this age group.

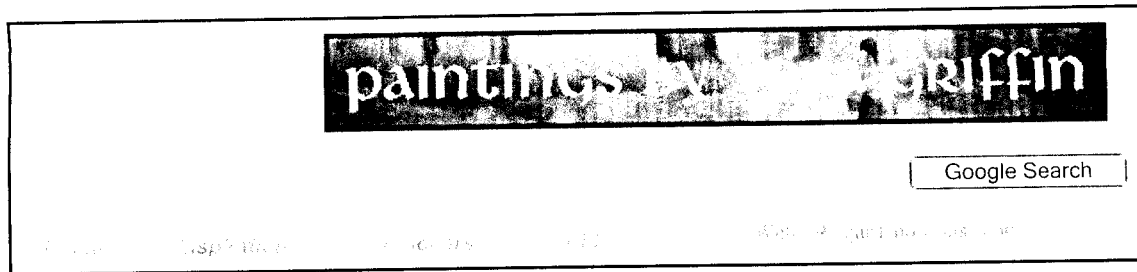
Song: Paul Was A Soldier, Glenda Schales book, God Had A Plan

258. PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY (ACTS 12:25-13:52)



"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." **ACTS 13:2**

"So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus." **ACTS 13:4**



Paul's First Missionary Journey

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 Work a
Jigsaw Puzzle

 Song: Paul
and Barnabas

Barnabas and Paul were teachers in the church at Antioch (ANT e ock). One day during a worship service the Holy Spirit revealed His special plans for the two men. The church fasted and prayed and sent them on their way.

They sailed to the island of Cyprus (SIE prus). They crossed over the island and came to the town of Paphos (PAY fus). An interesting thing happened in that town.

There was a false prophet named Bar-Jesus (bar JE zus). He was a sorcerer who practiced magic and tricked the people. His master, a government official named Sergius Paulus (SUR jus PAUL us) wanted

to learn from Paul and Barnabas. But Bar-Jesus, also known as Elymas (EL imas), didn't want his master to hear their message. He started speaking against them.

Paul called Elymas the "son of the devil and the enemy of everything that was right". He told him that he was going to become blind and not be able to see the light of the sun. Immediately everything became dark to him. He couldn't see a thing! He started trying to find someone to lead him by the hand.

When the official saw what had happened, he believed the words of Paul and Barnabas. He was amazed at the story of Jesus.

The two preachers continued to travel. There were no cars, trains, or buses. They either walked or rode on animals. They traveled miles and miles, and many people believed their teaching and became followers of Jesus. They suffered countless hardships and persecutions, but they considered these things to be trivial compared to the joy and promised reward of obeying the Lord and following the directions of the Holy Spirit. They no longer lived for themselves, but for God.



What does this story
mean to me?

Elymus opposed Paul and suffered because of it. Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me".

Maybe we need to think twice before saying unkind things about people who are trying to do good. If they are trying to serve the Lord by helping others, let us refrain from criticizing their efforts. Each one of us has a full time job taking care of our own life.



Memory Verse

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

Paul Becomes a Missionary

MEMORY VERSE: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

SCRIPTURES: Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3; 14:1-28

AIM: We can be missionaries for Jesus

THE BIBLE IN LIVING SOUND: Volume 7, Tape 67, Story 399



S8-9
S13
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Jesus asked His disciples to preach the gospel to all the world. When He said this, He was not just speaking about the Jews. Jesus wants everyone to know about His love. Even though Jesus wanted those in Jerusalem to know about Him, He also wanted people in other cities to learn about His love too. One city which gladly received the news of Jesus' love was the town of Antioch.

When the Christians in Jerusalem heard about the wonderful work that was being accomplished in Antioch, they sent Barnabas to see if he could help the believers there. Eagerly Barnabas set out on his journey for he was always a ready disciple for Jesus. When he arrived in Antioch, he was very pleased that so many knew about Jesus. While there, he brought many more to the Lord. But there was a lot of work for Barnabas to do in Antioch, so much in fact, that he went in search of his friend Paul.

Paul, who had once been a persecutor of Christians, had been converted. He was now ready to go with Barnabas and do all he could to help in the Lord's work. He became one of God's most influential apostles. The two men, after returning to Antioch, preached there for a year bringing many people to the Lord.

It was in Antioch where Paul and Barnabas received God's call to become missionaries to the Gentile World. God was setting these two men apart for a special work. It wasn't with reluctance that they took up their work, but with gladness, always eager to do whatever the Lord asked of them.

As missionaries, Paul, who had once been called Saul, along with Barnabas traveled to many places. In the town of Lystra where Paul and Barnabas preached the

Word of God, Paul found a crippled man with extraordinary faith in God. Knowing that this man had faith to be healed, Paul called out to the man with words of authority, "Stand up on your feet!" At Paul's words, the man jumped up, able to walk.

The people who witnessed this event were amazed at what God had done through Paul. They had never seen anything like that happen before, and in their excitement they mistook the apostles for gods. They shouted, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" Bringing wreaths and bulls, the priests planned to offer sacrifices to the men.

Naturally the apostles did not want that to happen. Unlike the people, the apostles understood that it was the power of God that had brought about the miracle.

"We're not gods," Paul and Barnabas admonished. "We're men like yourselves. We came to tell you about the living God."

At last, the people were restrained. The noise died down and the priests went back to the Temple. Then some travelers from Antioch arrived, spreading lies about Paul. They turned the people against the apostles. Soon the crowd became an angry mob.

"Stone them!" they yelled, and they picked up big rocks and threw them at Paul until he fell to the ground.

Thinking he was dead, the people dragged Paul outside the city and left him there.

But God had not forsaken His faithful follower. Paul was still alive. Getting up, he thanked God for saving his life and continued his missionary work. Paul would not be stopped by stones. He was a true missionary for Jesus!

You too can be a missionary for Jesus.

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