

Class: 2's and 3's

Date: Late Winter 2002  
Early Spring

Lesson 13  
Teacher: Mary Lynn

Text: Acts 27-28

#### Introduction/review

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

#### Lesson

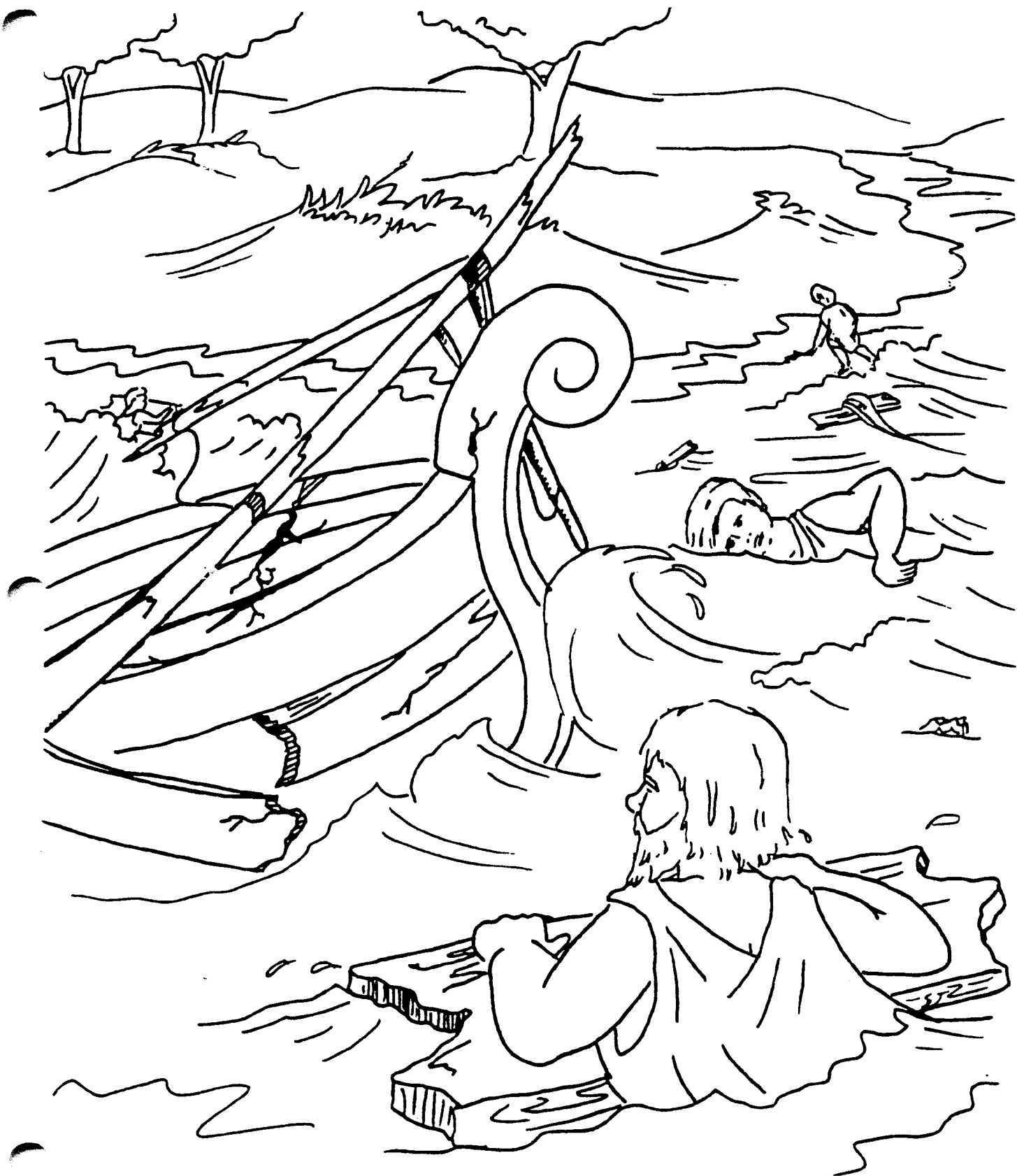
2. Using the maps and pictures in the manila "suitcase", discuss events, people, and places of all the journeys.

\*\*\*I made one of these for all the students to take home.

#### Visual Aids/Songs

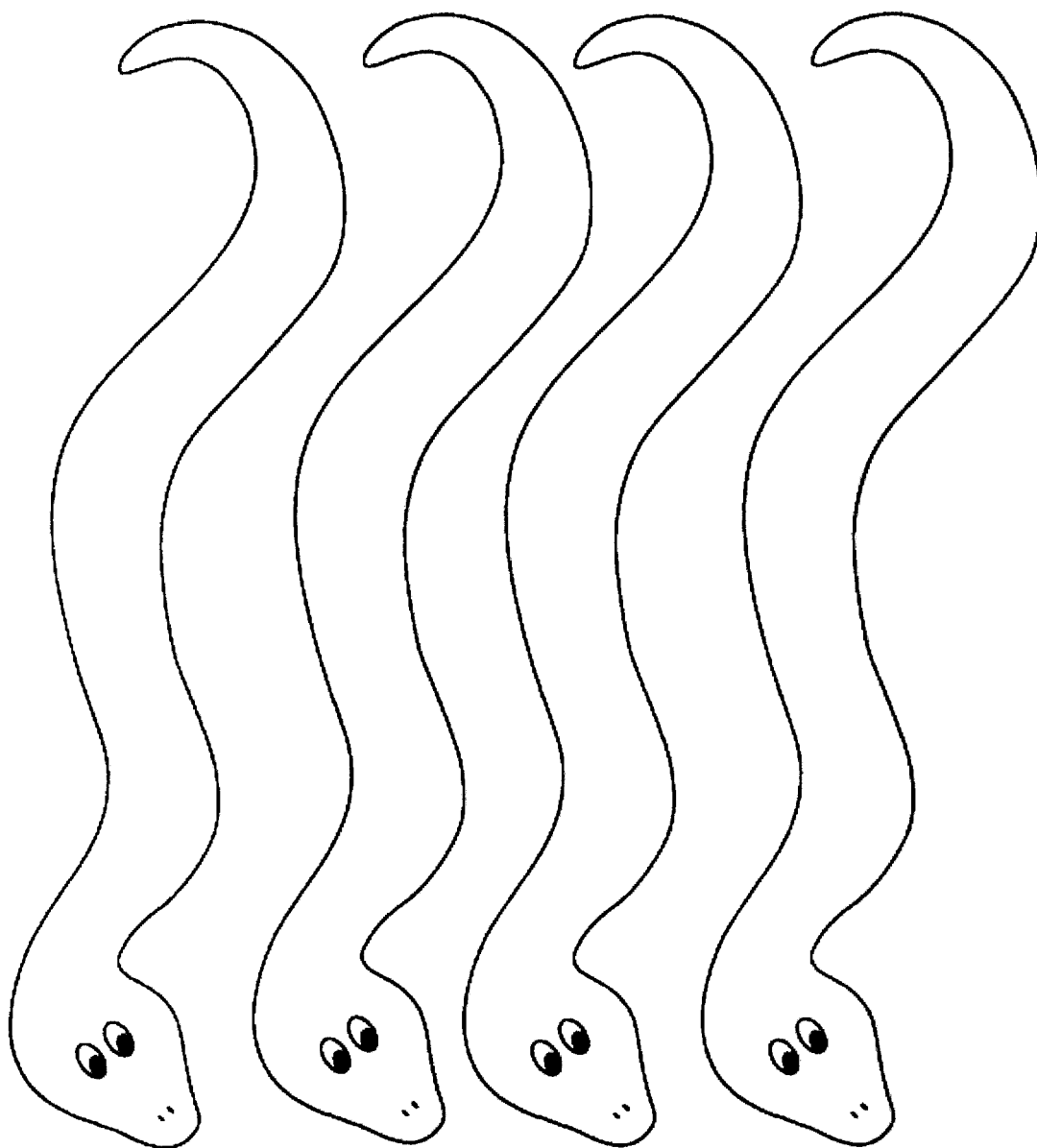
Instead of the "suitcase", ABEKA flashcards could be used for review.

Songs: Any song used in the previous 12 lessons to reinforce points in the review discussion.



"While on the way to Rome, a great storm arose, and Paul and the other prisoners were commanded to jump overboard and swim to land."

Acts 27:13-28:16



© Carolyn Warvel

[www.daniellesplace.com](http://www.daniellesplace.com)

# Paul's Courage in a Storm

**MEMORY VERSE:** "The angel of the Lord encampeth about them that fear Him." Psalms 34:7

**SCRIPTURES:** Acts 27, 28

**AIM:** To teach that when we are in danger God will help us if we ask Him.

**THE BIBLE IN LIVING SOUND:** Volume 8, Tape 74, Stories 441-444



Remove all figures except boat, add storm waves 182.

S2  
S6  
24  
32  
48  
50  
79  
83  
91  
168  
185  
264  
266



Paul had appealed to Caesar. As a Roman citizen, he had the right to have his case heard in Rome by the emperor himself.

So Paul was turned over to Julius, a Roman centurion. Two of his friends, Luke, the physician, and Aristarchus, a believer from Thessalonica, were allowed to go with him.

As there was no ship sailing directly from Caesarea to Rome, Paul, with some other prisoners, were put on board a vessel bound for ports along the coast of Asia. When this ship had gone as far as Myra, all the prisoners were transferred to another ship going to Italy.

At first the sea was calm, but when the wind changed the captain had difficulty getting the ship into port. It was autumn, and during the rough winter storms ships used to be moored in a safe haven.

"Don't sail any further," Paul advised. "I know that we shall face disaster if we go on with the voyage."

But instead the centurion took the advice of the captain who was unwilling to stay where they were for the winter. They set sail but before long a violent wind rushed down upon them. It howled and shrieked and the ship tossed up and down on the fearsome waves.

The situation became desperate. The captain ordered cargo to be thrown overboard to lighten the ship. For many days neither sun nor stars appeared and the storm continued to rage until they gave up all hope of being saved. Then Paul stood up to address them. "Men, if you'd taken my advice not to leave Crete, we wouldn't be in this trouble now. Even so, don't be afraid. An angel of God came to me last night and told me that not one of us will be lost."

The storm lasted two whole weeks and the sea was

still boisterous when, about midnight, the sailors on watch believed that they were near some land. Fearing that the ship would be dashed on the rocks, the sailors lowered the anchors and prayed for daylight.

Paul said, "You have not had a proper meal for days. If you want to survive, get yourself some food." Then he gave thanks to God and they all had something to eat.

When daylight came, they found they were in a bay, and as they tried to run the ship aground on shore it hit a sandbank out from the shore. The bow got stuck and the stern was soon shattered by the force of the waves.

"We'd better kill all the prisoners in case they swim ashore and escape," decided the soldiers on board, but the officer in charge would not allow this. He wanted particularly to save Paul.

"No," he said. "Everyone who can swim must jump overboard and head for shore. The rest can follow, holding to planks or other broken pieces of the ship."

There were two hundred seventy-six people on the ship and everyone was saved as the angel had promised Paul.

The people of the island received the shipwrecked men kindly and made a fire on the beach as they were wet and cold. Paul gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, but a deadly snake crawled out and fastened on his hand.

"He'll die now," everyone whispered.

They kept staring at Paul, expecting *him to drop dead* from the snake bite. But he just shook off the snake and continued as if nothing had happened. So the people changed their minds about Paul and decided that he must be a god.

Near the shore was the estate of the governor of the

island, Publius. He welcomed them and entertained them hospitably. His father happened to be sick in bed of a fever. Paul went to see him and after praying, laid his hands on Publius' father and cured him. When the news spread, the other sick people on the island came and were healed also.

Soon everyone was learning about Jesus. Months later, when Paul sailed for Rome, he left behind many

new Christians. God had protected Paul from certain death. And Paul continued to witness of Jesus' love to people he would never have met had it not been for the shipwreck. Sometimes we don't understand why seemingly bad things happen. But God can make good come out of any situation. We should trust God just as Paul did.