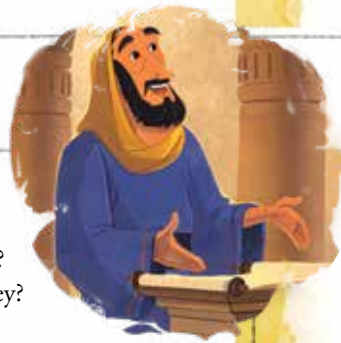


Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who obeyed the Law perfectly?
- How are we saved?
- Why should we obey God?

The Jerusalem Council

Acts 15

STORY POINT: SALVATION COMES ONLY THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS.

Paul and Barnabas had been sharing the gospel with many people—including Gentiles. But some people in the church began to teach that the Gentiles could not be saved unless they first followed some of the same rules the Jews followed.

Paul and Barnabas disagreed, and the church leaders decided to meet in Jerusalem to talk. After a long discussion, Peter stood up and said to the group, “Brothers, God chose me to tell the good news to the Gentiles. They heard the good news, and they believed. God accepted them and gave them the Holy Spirit, just as He did for us.

“We believe that the Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same way—by the grace of the Lord Jesus.

“I think we should not cause trouble for the Gentiles who have trusted in Jesus. Instead, let’s write them a letter telling them the things they should not do.”

So the church leaders wrote a letter to the Gentile believers. The leaders chose Judas and Silas to go to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas to deliver the letter. Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch where they taught believers and told other people the good news about Jesus.

Christ Connection: The church leaders met in Jerusalem to answer a tough question: Can a person be saved by faith alone or is something more needed? The early church agreed that because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, He alone is all we need to be saved.



FOLD

Council Conundrum

Circle every fourth word in the paragraph. Read the circled words in order to reveal the answer to an important question: Can a person be saved by faith alone, or is something more needed?

Judges runs above Salvation through Acts with comes before in Joel only from falls Genesis through every Paul jumps faith for Peter travels in around scroll Exodus Jesus.

Nothing More, Nothing Less

Circle the true statements about what is needed for salvation and cross out the statements that are false. Find and read the Scripture references in your Bible to check your answers.

I am saved by trusting in Jesus.

(Acts 16:31)

Jesus is the only sacrifice needed to pay for my sins.

(Hebrews 10:12)

I have to be a good person to be saved.

(Acts 2:37-38)

I have to obey all of God's laws and then I will be saved.

(Romans 4:13)

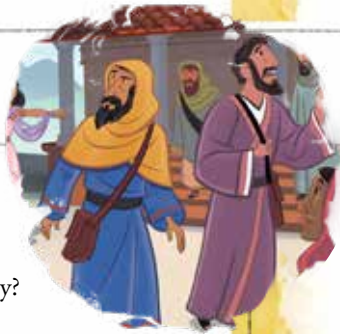
I am saved by faith alone.

(Romans 10:13)

If I've ever done anything wrong, I can't be saved.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

Journal Page



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do you think Paul and Silas worshiped God while they were in prison?
- How can we worship God in hard times?
- Why doesn't God need anything from people?

Paul's Second Journey

Acts 15-18

STORY POINT: PAUL AND SILAS PLANTED NEW CHURCHES.

One night, God told Paul in a vision to go to Macedonia to share the gospel there. A servant girl had a spirit in her that allowed her to predict the future. The girl followed Paul and Silas, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God!" Finally, Paul turned and said to the spirit in her, "By the power of Jesus, I command you to come out!" And the spirit came out right away.

Now the girl's owners were upset because she could no longer tell the future. The officials put Paul and Silas in jail.

About midnight, a violent earthquake shook the jail. The jailer woke up and thought the prisoners had escaped, so he took out his sword and was about to kill himself.

"Don't hurt yourself!" Paul said. "We are all here!"

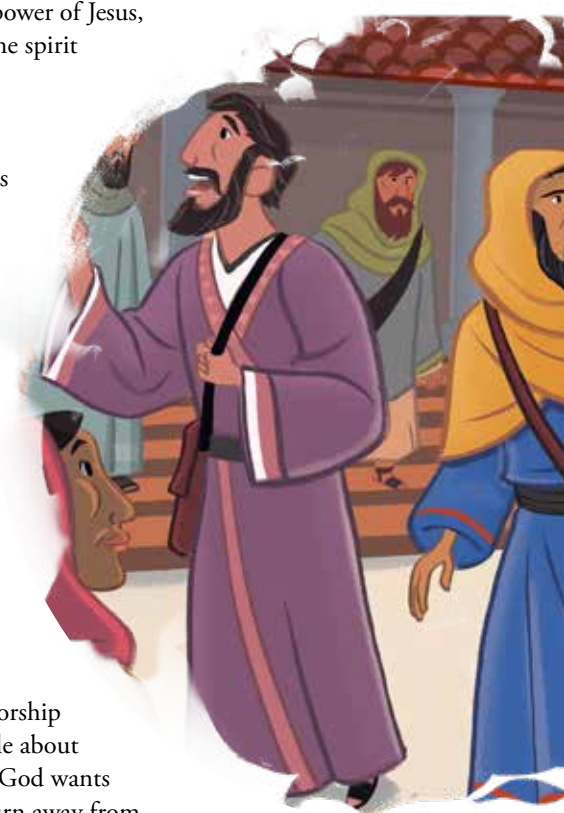
The jailer took Paul and Silas outside. "Men, what must I do to be saved?" he asked.

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."

When Paul got to Athens, he was upset that the people there did not worship the one true God. Paul told the people about the one true God. Paul also said that God wants everyone in the world to repent, to turn away from their sin and turn to Him.

When the people heard about Jesus being raised from the dead, some of them laughed; however, some people believed in Jesus.

Christ Connection: Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."



FOLD

What's Different?

Find and circle what is different between the two pictures. Can you find more than 10?



Order of Events | Number the events in the order they happened.

- ___ The officials put Paul and Silas in jail.
- ___ The jailer asked how he could be saved.
- ___ God spoke to Paul in a vision at night.
- ___ Paul commanded a spirit to come out of a servant girl.
- ___ Paul spoke to Lydia in Philippi, and Lydia believed in Jesus.
- ___ The jailer believed in Jesus.
- ___ An earthquake shook the jail where Paul and Silas were praying and singing.
- ___ Paul went to Athens and told the people about the one true God.

Journal Page



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why does God want us to grow in godliness?
- How does faith help us grow in godliness?
- Where does our power to obey come from?

No Other Gospel

Galatians 1–3

STORY POINT: BELIEVERS ARE SAVED AND GROW IN GODLINESS BY FAITH IN JESUS.

The Galatian Christians had believed the gospel Paul preached to them, but false teachers had come preaching a different message, and the Galatians started to believe those lies!

The false teachers taught that to be saved, a person needed more than just faith in Jesus. They said you had to obey the law of Moses too. Paul wrote them a letter to stop their confusion.

Paul said that God will punish anyone who comes preaching a different message than the gospel He gave us through His Son, Jesus.

Paul reminded the Galatians of what God had done for him. Jesus appeared to Paul and called him to preach the gospel to the Gentiles. Paul knew the gospel: Jesus came into the world to save sinners. This good news is for Jews and Gentiles, and Jesus is all they need.

Paul told the Galatians they were foolish. Paul wanted to make this clear: Every believer becomes a Christian by faith in Jesus. No one can be saved by the law.

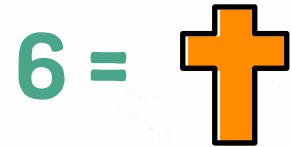
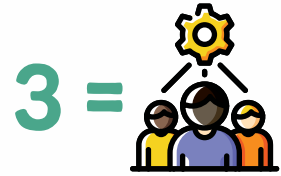
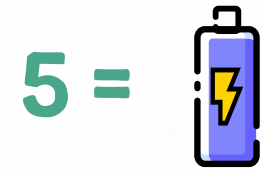
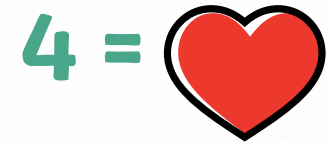


Christ Connection: All of salvation—from first trusting to faithful obedience—is God's gift to us through Jesus. The Holy Spirit changes our minds and hearts so that we want to obey God, and He gives us power to obey. Our righteousness does not come through faith in ourselves but through faith in Jesus.

FOLD

Which Book? | Use your Bible and the clues to discover the name of the Bible book where today's story is found.

- » Today's Bible story is found in the New Testament.
- » Today's Bible story is found in the Bible division called Paul's Letters.
- » The name of this Bible book does not contain a number.
- » The name of this Bible book has an odd number of letters.
- » This Bible book contains six chapters.
- » The name of this Bible book does not begin with a vowel.



Clue Connection

Use the picture clues to fill in the blanks of today's Christ connection.

All of salvation—from _____₁ trusting to faithful obedience—is God's _____₂ to us through Jesus. The Holy Spirit changes our _____₃ and _____₄ so that we want to obey God, and He gives us _____₅ to obey. Our righteousness does not come through faith in ourselves but through faith in _____₆.

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who knows when Jesus will return?
- How can we be ready for Jesus' return?
- Why do believers have hope even when we feel sad about death?

Paul Gave Hope

1-2 Thessalonians

STORY POINT: PAUL TOLD THE CHURCH TO STAND FIRM AS WE WAIT FOR JESUS' RETURN.

Paul traveled to the city of Thessalonica. Paul told the people the good news about Jesus, and many people believed in Jesus. Some people did not like Paul or his teachings and they forced him out of the city.

Paul worried about the people in Thessalonica. They had not been believers for very long. So Paul sent his friend Timothy to see how they were doing. Timothy brought back good news. Even though the Thessalonians faced suffering for their faith, they did not give up.

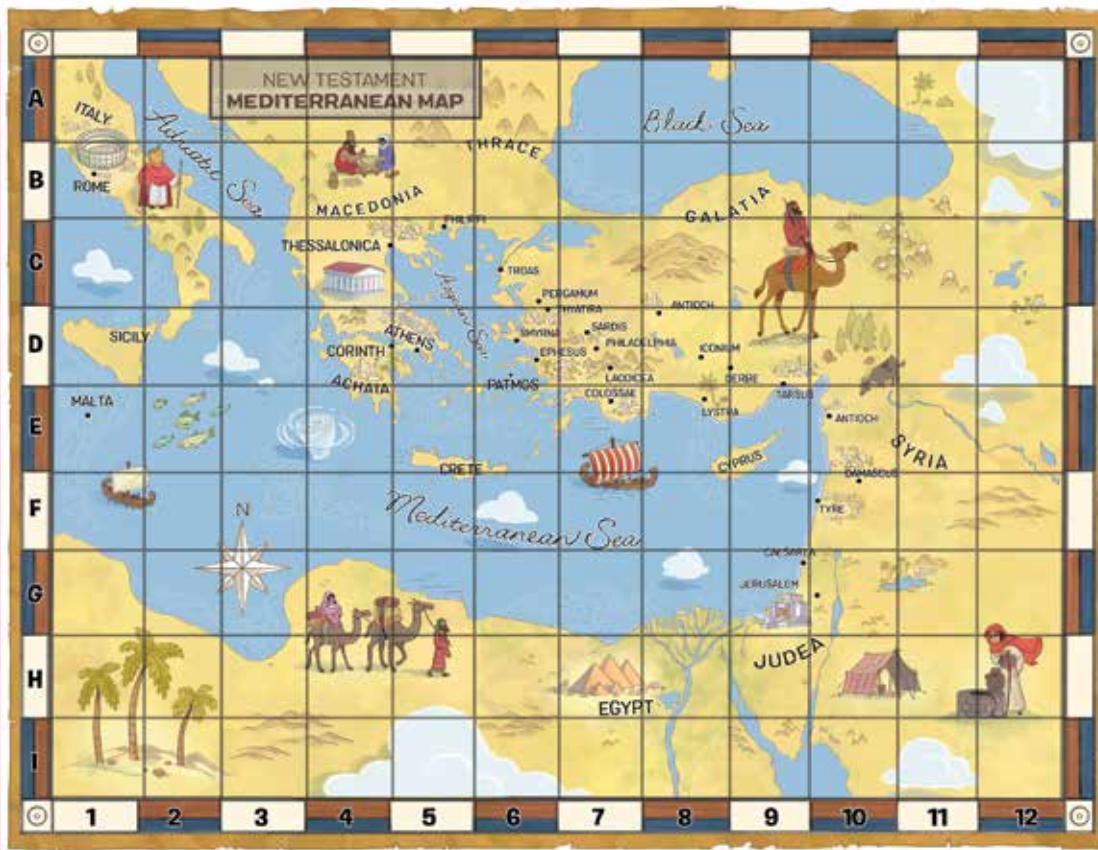
Paul wrote a letter to encourage the believers. He told them that Jesus will return someday. On that day, Paul said, believers will no longer suffer! This message gave them great hope.

Paul wrote to help the believers in Thessalonica know what is true. No one knows when Jesus will come again. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night, when you do not expect it. Whether we are alive or dead when Jesus returns, He will bring us all home with Him forever. So continue to encourage each other because we have this future hope.

Christ Connection: The prophets in the Old Testament told about the Day of the Lord, a day when God would come to judge the world and save His people. Paul said that in the future, on the Day of the Lord, Jesus will return for His people and judge the wicked. Believers live with hope, knowing that Jesus will come again.



FOLD



Onward!

Start in Jerusalem (G10). Follow the instructions to reach the final destination.

1. Go north 2 spaces. Where are you?

2. Go west 3 spaces. Where are you?

3. Go north 1 space and west 3 spaces. Where are you?

4. Go north 2 spaces and west 3 spaces.
Where are you?

5. Go south 1 space and east 3 spaces. Where are you?

Four Questions | Answer each question about the Bible story. Write out the circled letters to find what Paul preached about.

1. In what city north of Corinth did Paul start a church?

2. Which of Paul's friends visited the Thessalonians?

3. Who taught in Thessalonica?

4. Who will return on the Day of the Lord?
