

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: The Journeys & Letters of Paul

Lesson Taught on November 19, 2017

Homework Due: December 3, 2017

After Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus, he traveled the world witnessing to the Risen Lord. Wherever Paul went he was met with both acceptance and stiff resistance. He endured shipwrecks, stoning, beatings, imprisonment and death squads hunting him down. In spite of it all, he pressed on to tell everyone he could about the amazing grace of God in Christ. His tireless efforts to witness to the Risen Christ planted the seeds for the growth of the Christian church, shaped our understanding of God, and changed the face of the world.

Part I: The Lesson

1. After his conversion, the Apostle Paul traveled the world telling others about the good news of Jesus. He made three big trips.

a. Read Acts 13:4-6. This lists some of the cities Paul (Saul) visited on his first trip. List three of the cities.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

b. Read Acts 14:19-20. What did the Jews do to Paul? _____

c. Read Acts 14:24-28. This explains what Paul does after he recovers from what you listed above. Does Paul stop doing what God has called him to do? _____

d. Read Acts 16:16-24. During Paul's second big trip, he drives a demon out of a young girl. What happens to him after he does this? _____

e. Read Acts 16:25. What does Paul do while in prison? _____

f. Read Acts 16:26-34. What happens as a result of Paul's prayers?

g. Read Acts 21:30-36. What happens to Paul?

Based on what you have read, do you notice a common theme with regards to what happens to Paul, again and again and again? _____ What is that theme?

h. What is one thing you can learn by studying Paul's life?

2. Read Philippians 3:13-14. Paul writes, "Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what _____ behind and straining _____ to what lies ahead, I _____ on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly _____ of God in Christ Jesus."

Paul had a hard life, and faced a great deal of suffering, all for the sake of Jesus. Why does he do this, according to the verse above?

3. After his blinding encounter with the living Christ on the road to Damascus, Saul:
- a) Was instructed about Jesus by a Christian named Ananias,
 - b) Regained his sight instantly when told about Jesus,
 - c) Believed in Jesus and was baptized on the spot,
 - d) All of the above
4. Paul made such a stir by proclaiming Christ in Jerusalem that:
- a) The religious leaders who had commissioned him to arrest Christians now plotted to kill him,
 - b) The religious leaders who had commissioned him to arrest Christians now all became Christians,
 - c) He was awarded keys to the city,
 - d) He was made Pope
5. Almost everywhere Paul went:
- a) Miracles happened,
 - b) Large groups converted to Christ and started churches,
 - c) People tried to kill him,

d) All of the above

6. When he wasn't busy traveling, Paul wrote many, many letters to churches in different cities. Sometimes, he wrote to cities he had visited, sometimes he wrote to cities he was *going* to visit, and sometimes he wrote to cities he would never meet. These letters have been included in the Bible because they contain so much information, and some great stories about how God is at work in the world. There are seven letters we KNOW Paul wrote, and six letters we *think* he might have written, but we really don't know.
7. The clearest, most comprehensive understanding of Paul's message can be found in his letter to the church in Rome, found in our Bible in the book of *Romans*.

What do you know about Rome? (You've probably learned about it in history class...what kinds of things were *Romans* known for? If you need help, talk with your parents).

8. In Paul's day, Rome was capital of the world super-power and was filled with:

- Wealth, art, music and culture,
- Sex, greed, gambling and crime,
- Multiple gods, multiple frauds, and multiple addictions,
- All of the above, and what a great place to start a church!

9. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18. Paul writes "For the message of the _____ is _____ to those who are perishing, but to us who are being _____ it is the _____ of God".

What does this mean? _____

Part II: Reflection Questions

1. Why do some people seem to brag about everything they do?

What motivates them?

2. Who is the most talented, humble person you know? _____

What motivates them?

3. On his three missionary journeys, Paul was jailed, stoned, shipwrecked, beaten, hunted by death squads and imprisoned. What drove him to continue sharing his faith under such terrible conditions?

4. Think of an old Paul, waiting in chains on the night before his execution. He is about to finish the race, but he is excited to finally gain the prize. Read Philippians 3:13-14 again, then have a conversation with him. What would you ask him?

What might he say?

5. What is the most memorable letter you ever received? _____

Why do you remember it?
