



WESLEY METHODIST SCHOOL
KUALA LUMPUR
INTERNATIONAL



Student Activity Workbook for The Visual Bible Explorer Series

For Teens

Based on

Epic of the Apostles

Vol.1 Peter and the Jerusalem Church



SAMPLE

The Visual Bible Explorer Series

Student Activity

Workbook

for Teens

Based on

Epic of the Apostle

Vol.1 Peter and the Jerusalem Church

Peter C. T. Lim



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Acknowledgement

Thanks to Rev. Dr. Herbet Tan for providing advice on the contents
in this book.

Epic of the Apostle Vol.1

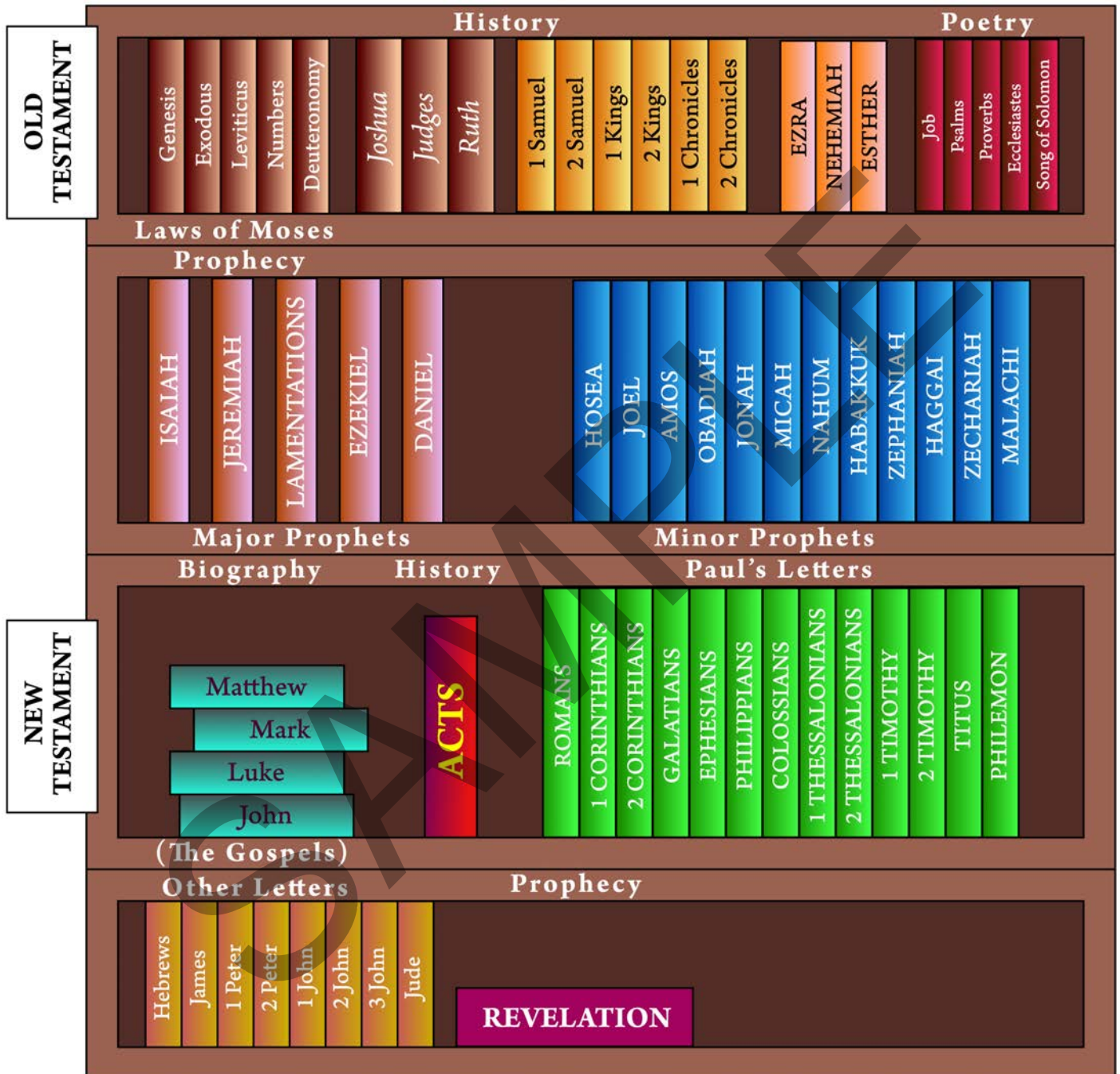
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Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

INTRODUCTION CHARTS

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



The Bible is a collection of books broadly divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Introduction to Acts of the Apostles



Author: Luke the 'beloved physician'

- Ref Col 4:14, 2 Tim 4:11, Philemon 1:24.
- He is also the author of the Gospel of Luke.

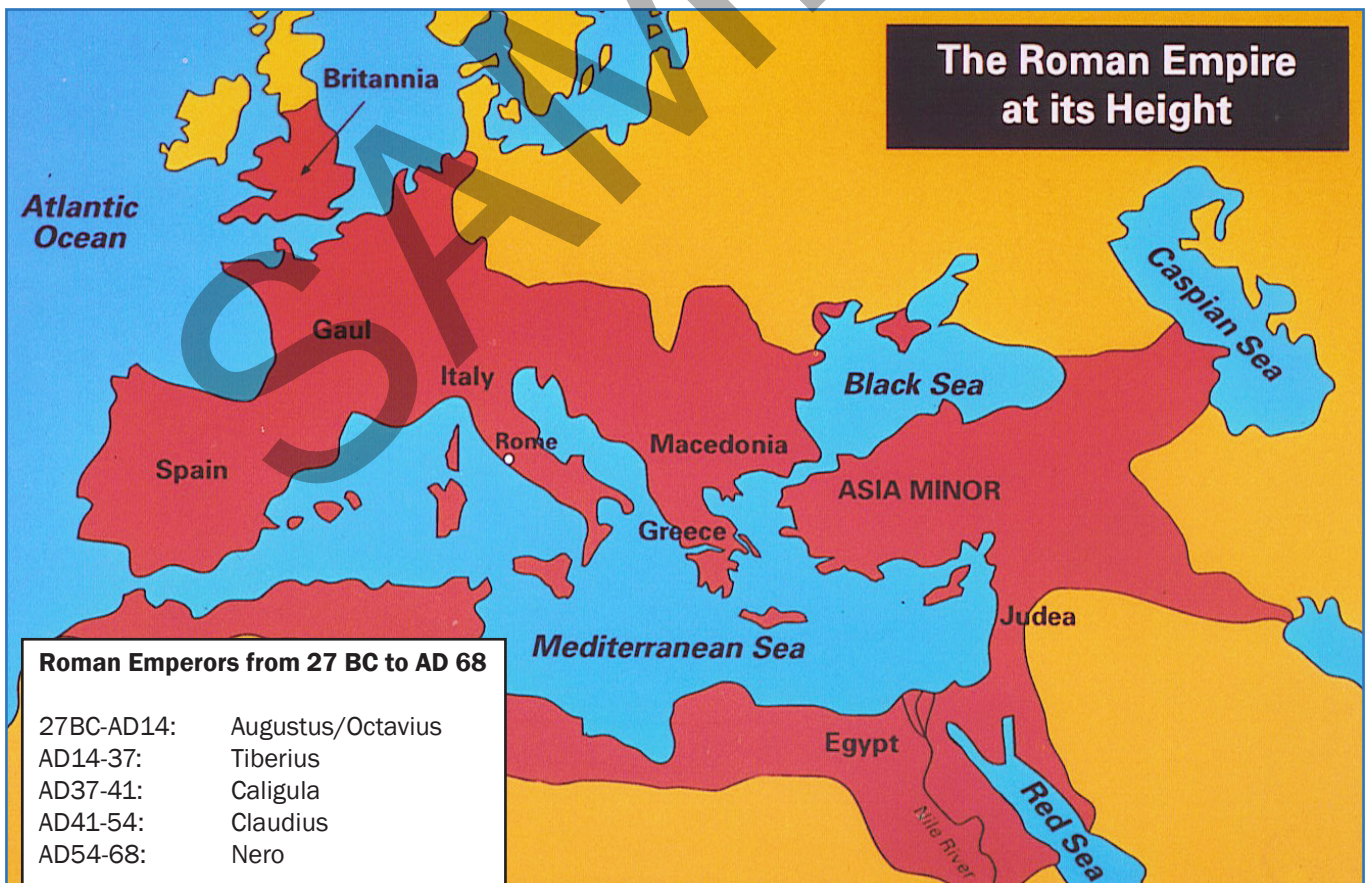
Date written: circa early AD 62

- It covers a period from c.30 AD to c.62 AD.

Purpose of Book

- To Theophilus, a high official but also to be read in churches.
- Probably a wide audience of readers in the Roman Empire.
- To establish the truth about the things he (Theophilus) or they (the church) have been taught i.e. the truth about the gospel and the spread of the church.

Roman Empire c. 1st - 3rd Century



Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Chronology of Event and Approximate Date in Epic of the Apostles

1. Birth of the New Testament Church	c*. AD 30
2. Stephen's Martyrdom and Scattering of Christians	c. AD 33-35
3. Saul the Persecutor is Converted	c. AD 37
4. Peter's Miracles and Vision, the Conversion of Cornelius	c. AD 41
5. Barnabas the Encourager is sent to Antioch	c. AD 43
6. Persecution in Jerusalem, Peter's Imprisonment and Escape	c AD. 44
7. Barnabas's and Paul's First Missionary Journey	c. AD 47
8. Paul and Barnabas in Galatia	c. AD 47-48
9. The Jerusalem Council	c. AD 49
10. Paul's Second Missionary Journey	c. AD 50-52
11. Paul's Third Missionary Journey	c. AD. 54-57
12. Paul Arrested in Jerusalem and Imprisoned in Caesarea	c. AD 58-60
13. Paul's Journey to Rome	c. AD 60
14. Paul Imprisoned in Rome	c. AD 60-62

* **Note: c is short for 'circa' or around.**

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

Bible Truth: The Bible is God's word to all people. It tells of God's actions to bring salvation to humankind.

Lesson: The Bible is God's message of salvation to all who will believe and follow its teachings.

Key Verse: Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. (NIV)

Questions

1. What is the meaning of the word Biblio – the Greek word for the Bible?
2. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
3. How many books are there in the New Testament?
4. What is the meaning of the word Testament or Covenant as used in the Bible?
5. Name the first five books of the Old Testament.
6. Name the first five books of the New Testament.
7. Name a few genres or types of writings found in the Bible.
8. After the great flood during Noah's time, who did God make a covenant with to head and lead His people?

9. After the Israelites had been enslaved in Egypt for 430 years, who did God use to lead them out of Egypt?

10. Who led the Israelites into the Promised Land?

11. Who was the first king of Israel?

12. Which king brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem?

13. Who was the promised Messiah?

Challenge Questions

1. Write down 3 key themes found in the Bible.

2. What were some of the prophecies made about what the Messiah would do when He came?

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Lesson 2: INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS

Bible Truth: Jesus coming to earth and the growth of the church is a historical reality. Although it may have seemed like an awkward period in history, but the coming of the Messiah happens in a time and place that God has planned.

Lesson: The coming of Jesus the Messiah and God's giving of the Holy Spirit to all believers takes place to fulfill God's promise to provide salvation to all believers.

Key Verse: John 4:24 God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.^(NIV)

Questions

1. The author of *Acts of the Apostles* was _____.
2. The author of *Acts of the Apostles* was the travelling companion of the apostle _____.
3. Approximately when was the book of Acts written?
4. Acts is a continuation of the Gospel of _____.
5. The book of Acts is found in the _____ Testament in the Bible.
6. _____ was the Roman emperor at the beginning of Acts.
7. The most common language spoken in the Roman Empire at that time was _____.
8. Name 5 key characters found in the book of Acts of the Apostles. Refer to the textbook p. 18-21.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

9. The Story of Acts began in the city of _____.
10. Name and briefly describe the people groups in the Roman Empire at that time (Refer to the text book: Epic of the Apostles Vol.1, pages 15-17).
11. Give a short description of the following characters: Peter, John, Barnabas, Philip and Stephen (Refer to the text book, pages 8-21).

Challenge Question

1. Although persecuted by Jews and Gentiles, describe some advantages available in the Roman Empire that were used by the Apostles to spread the Gospel. Hint: Roman Law, Roads and culture plus other advantages. Describe how they were an advantage.

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 3: BIRTH OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH IN JERUSALEM

Chapter 1 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: It is promised in the Old Testament and now fulfilled in the New Testament. God gives His Spirit to live in all believers. The Holy Spirit tells us that we belong to God and teaches us from the Bible what is right and wrong.

Lesson: This is the first step in the building of the New Testament Church where God builds His temple not as a building but in the hearts and lives of believers.

Bible Reference: Acts 1:1-11, 26; 2:1-47

Key Verse: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 (NIV)

Questions

1. After His resurrection, for how long did Jesus stay with His disciples before he ascended to heaven?
2. What did Jesus say to His disciples just before He left them? (Acts 1:8)
3. Immediately after Jesus had ascended to heaven, what did the disciples witness?
4. What is the name of the follower of Jesus who was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot to be one of the 12 apostles?
5. How did Luke describe the coming of the Holy Spirit?
6. When the crowd of people saw the believers and apostles speaking in tongues or languages of their own countries, what was their reaction? Count how many different countries were mentioned. Write down the names of the countries mentioned.

7. What did Peter tell them was happening?

Challenge Question

1. Summarise Peter's sermon and explain how it tells the Gospel Story?

Application Questions

1. Share a recent experience or something you just discovered which could benefit others around you. How would you prepare to share it and how do you feel after that?
2. For many years the apostles had followed Jesus, seen the miracles performed and heard His teachings. They were being prepared for the time when they were to bring the Gospel (the Good News of God's Salvation) to all the world. How were the apostles further equipped on the day of Pentecost? How have we been equipped to do what God calls us to do today, for example, to study, or to do something helpful for our community or country?

Challenge Application Question

1. What difference does it make for a person to have God live inside him or her?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 4: PETER AND JOHN

Chapter 2 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: Sharing about who Jesus is and what He has done for us is the best gift we can give to others.

Lesson: The apostles risk their own security by obeying God rather than man.

Bible Reference: Acts 3:1-25; 4:1-31

Key Verse: Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Acts 3:6 (NIV)

Questions

1. How big was the community of Christians at this point in time?
2. Where were Peter and John heading to at 3 in the afternoon? Who did they meet?
3. What was asked of Peter and John by this person whom they met and what was Peter's answer?
4. Describe the miracle that happened then.
5. When the crowd gathered, how did Peter describe the miracle?
6. Peter and John were arrested and brought before which groups of people to be questioned?
7. When the High Priest ordered Peter and John not to teach in the name of Jesus again, what was the answer of Peter and John?

Challenge Questions

1. Peter said, “He is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.” Who was he referring to as “the stone, the builders rejected” and the “capstone”?

2. Why were Peter and John arrested even after they had performed a miracle?

Application Questions

1. The rulers and priests described Peter and John as “unschooled and uneducated fishermen from Galilee. They are not qualified to teach anyone about the Law, least of all to us.” What was wrong with their attitude? Peter and John were not afraid to speak the truth about Jesus and about how Jesus had healed the blind man. What can we learn from Peter and John?

2. When the believers heard about the miracle performed, they praised God. How can we give praise to God for what has happened in our lives?

Challenge Application Question

1. Peter and John said, “Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God’s sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” How can we apply this principle in our lives today with wisdom and without being offensive?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 5: LIFE IN THE EARLY JERUSALEM CHURCH

Chapter 3 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: When we tell lies, we are actually lying to God and not only to the people we lie to.

Lesson: The early church shared their wealth and helped those who were in need. They came together to worship and be taught by the apostles.

Bible Reference: Acts 4:32-27; Acts 5:1-11

Verse to ponder: Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.
Colossians 3:9. (NIV)

Questions

1. What were the believers of Jesus called at this point in time?
2. How did the believers help each other especially those in need?
3. Where did Joseph the Levite originally come from and what significant thing did he do to help the believers? What was his other name?
4. How did Ananias and Sapphira try to deceive the Apostle Peter? What happened to them?
5. Where did the believers often meet to hear the apostles teach and see them perform healing miracles?

Application Questions

1. Gamaliel said, "... If their plan is something they thought up, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop them. You might even be fighting against God Himself." Write down your thoughts on this statement. Is it true? How do we know when something is from God or from human plans? How can we support a plan from God or oppose a plan that is from wicked human design?
2. The apostles left the Sanhedrin rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for doing what they believed God had called them to do. What can we learn from the attitude of the apostles? If we suffer for doing something we believe is right what can we do?

Challenge Application Question

1. Why do you think Ananias and Sapphira were severely punished for their sin of deception? What does this teach us about the importance of following God's laws? How can we receive forgiveness if we have done something wrong?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 6: STEPHEN - PERSECUTION AND SCATTERING OF THE JERUSALEM CHURCH

Chapter 4 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: We are called to forgive those who do evil to us. God sometimes allows suffering but His purposes cannot be stopped. The Gospel spreads faster during the time of persecution.

Lesson: Acts 7:49-53 Another note about how God cannot be limited to buildings made by man.

Bible Reference: Acts 6:1 – 8:3

Verse to Think About: For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Matthew 6:14. (NIV)

Questions

1. Describe the two groups of Christians found in Acts chapter 6.
2. What was the complaint of the Hellenists?
3. What did the apostles do in response to the complaint of the Hellenists? Why?
4. In Acts 6:7, what new group of people began to join the Christians?
5. Who was Stephen and how does the Bible describe him?
6. Where was he sharing the Gospel when people opposed him and caused him to be arrested?
7. What was the charge or accusation against Stephen made by the false witnesses?
- 8.. What did the High Priest ask Stephen?

9. What did Stephen say about where God dwells (Acts 7:46-50)?

10. What were Stephen's concluding remarks in his defence (Acts 7:51-53)?

11. What were the last words of Stephen before he died (Acts 7:60)?

Challenge Questions

1. Why did the apostles assign a separate group of people to focus on proper and fair distribution of food (Acts 6:1-2)? Why didn't they do the job themselves?

2. Why did Luke the author mention specifically the name of Saul in Acts 7:58?

Application Question

1. Compare the last words of Stephen before he died with the words of Jesus found in Luke 23:34 when He was crucified. These words were recorded by the same author, Luke. What does it show about what the disciples of Jesus had learnt from their Lord? What characteristics had Stephen, a new disciple, learnt from Jesus, his Lord?

Challenge Application Question

1. Stephen talked about how disobedient the Jews and the priests had been to God's prophets in the Old Testament and to the Holy Spirit (God). How are we in danger of making the same mistakes today and what must we do to avoid making such mistakes?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 7: THE GOSPEL SPREADS TO SAMARIA

Chapter 5 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: Sometimes God will use difficult circumstances to make us realise that our lives have grown so comfortable that we miss out on what God wants us to do.

Lesson: The Gospel spreads across the first ethnic boundary. Samaritans are the first non-Jews to receive the Good News.

Bible Reference: Acts 8:1-40

Verse to Think About: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:23-24. (NIV)

Questions

1. Who was leading the persecution in Jerusalem?
2. What did the believers who had been scattered do wherever they went?
3. Where did Philip travel to and what did he do there?
4. What kind of signs or miracles were performed by Philip?
5. How did Philip describe what was happening in Samaria in his report to the church in Jerusalem?
6. Whom did the Jerusalem church send to see what was happening in Samaria?
7. Describe the encounter between Simon the sorcerer and Peter.

8. Describe the encounter between Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch.

9. Where did Philip go after the encounter with the Ethiopian Eunuch?

Challenge Questions

1. Why did Philip make a report to the Jerusalem church about what had happened in Samaria? Why did the apostles in Jerusalem send Peter and John to Samaria? Why was this important?
2. Read Acts 8:26-40. Then Read Isaiah 53:7-8. Who was the prophet Isaiah referring to? What do we learn about Jesus being the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies? What was the reaction of the Eunuch?

Application Questions

1. The Christians were persecuted in Jerusalem and fled to the countryside. But they continued to preach the Gospel. Their preaching met with success. What does this show us about how God can use adversity or difficult times to help either to build up our faith or to open new opportunities for us? Can you remember any recent events that had created opportunities for you to do good things?
2. Philip went wherever God led him. What can we learn from Philip?

Challenge Application Questions

1. Based on what Simon the sorcerer asked Peter to do, what do you think his motives were in joining the Christian group? When are we in danger of thinking that we can buy divine favours with money or trade it with good works?
2. What should our attitude be when approaching God for His blessings?

Philip's Ministry

Acts 8:4-40

To escape persecution in Jerusalem, Philip fled to Samaria, where he continued preaching the gospel. While he was there, an angel commanded him to meet an Ethiopian official on the road between Jerusalem and Gaza. The man became a believer before continuing on to Ethiopia. Philip then went from Azotus to Caesarea.



Source: Tyndale House Publishers

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 8: SAUL THE PERSECUTOR MEETS JESUS ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS

Chapter 6 part 1 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: Our lives will be changed when we truly know Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

Lesson: God disciplines Saul to prepare him for his task ahead as the apostle Paul. We must be willing to accept God's discipline to become better people.

Bible Reference: Acts 9:1-22

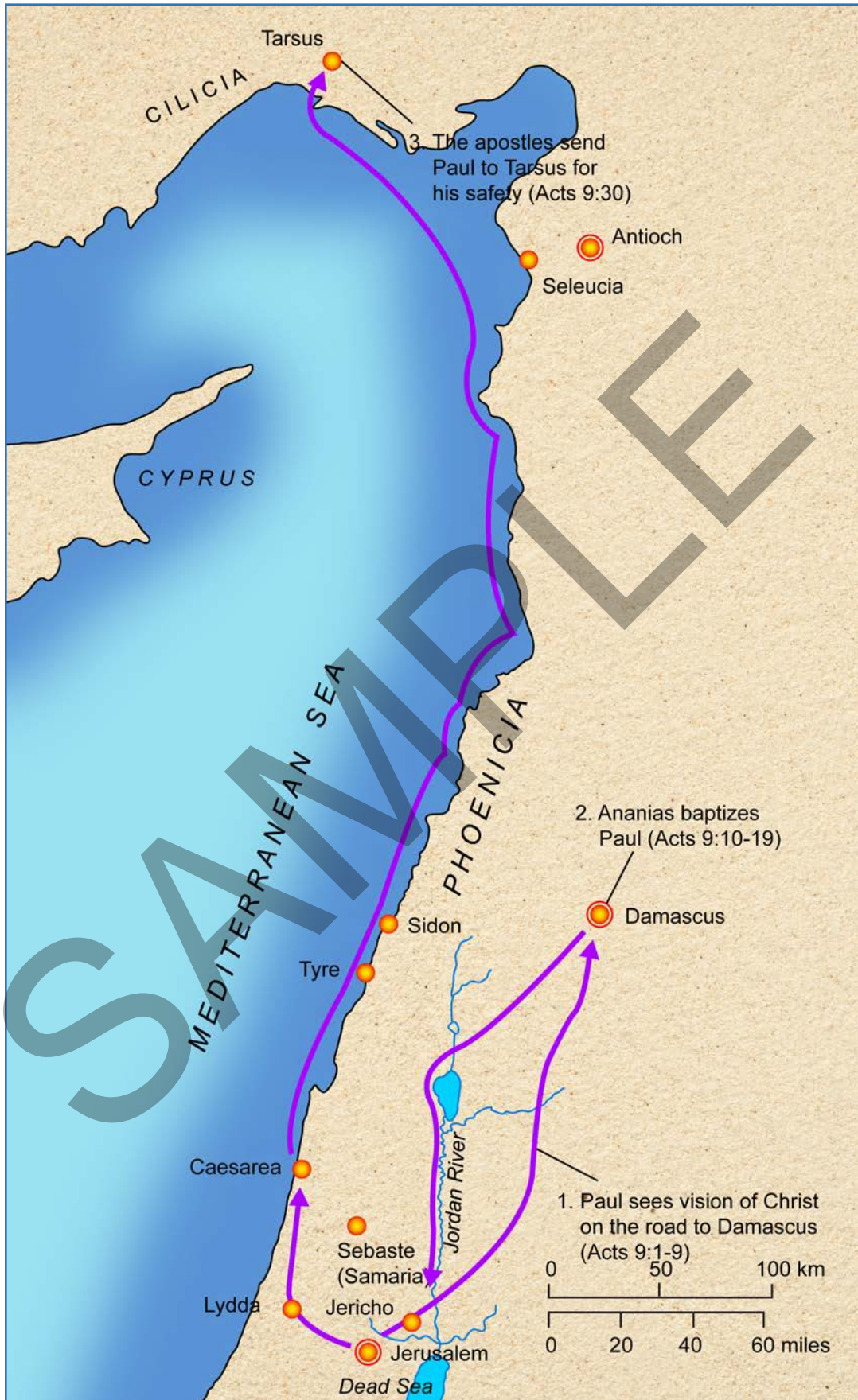
Verse to Think About: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17. (NIV)

Questions

Assignment: Play the role of an underground Christian Reporter living in Damascus. Now you have heard that Saul was coming to Damascus for a mission. You have interviewed Ananias after his encounter with Saul. Write a news report of your findings. Include the points given below:

1. At this point in time, what are we told about Saul?
2. What did Saul, later known as Paul, want to do in Damascus?
3. Describe what unusual thing happened while Saul was travelling to Damascus?
4. What was Ananias's reaction when he was asked by Jesus to help Saul?
5. What did Jesus say about the person Saul of Tarsus?
6. Describe the encounter between Ananias and Saul.
Use a separate piece of paper to write the report.

Saul's Conversion and Return to Tarsus



Source: Tyndale House Publishers

Challenge Questions

1. Why do you think Saul/Paul was so zealous in trying to stamp out the new religion which was only known as 'The Way' at that time? What could he have learnt from the respected Pharisee Gamaliel (from our previous lessons)?
2. List down the New Testament passages where Paul made reference to this event and describe how he felt about it whenever he mentioned it.

Application Question

1. Acts 9:1-18 describes a very important event which had a great impact later on the growth of the church. Saul/Paul talked about this event on several occasions later. Can you describe what kind of person Saul/Paul was before this event? Describe and contrast his condition when he left Jerusalem and when he arrived in Damascus? God had to 'break' the proud Pharisee, Saul, before he could become the effective apostle Paul. Have we gone through such a similar experience? When God disciplines us, how should we respond?

Challenge Application Question

1. Review the initial reaction of Ananias. How would we react if God calls us to go, risking much, to help our repented enemy? Is he/she worth saving? What would we do? Share an experience if you have one.

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 9: SAUL MEETS THE APOSTLES

Chapter 6 part 2 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: We are called to encourage one another in the body of Christ to live in ways that are right in God's eyes and pleasing to Him.

Lesson: When was the last time we were given a second chance? What did we do?

Bible Reference: Acts 9:23-31

Verse to Think About: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24. (NIV)

Questions

1. What did Saul do after he had recovered and what was the reaction of the people who heard him speak (Acts 9:23-31)?
2. When Saul learned of a conspiracy to murder him, how did his followers help him to escape?
3. When Saul tried to meet up with the apostles, what was their reaction at first?
4. Who came to help Saul?
5. Imagine you were one of the disciples of Jesus. Learning of Saul's arrival in Jerusalem after his conversion and wanting to meet the disciples - send a whatsapp message to friends in the 'underground' church what you think was happening. Then ask your friends to forward your message but with their comments added.

Challenge Questions

1. The Bible says that Saul had followers who helped him to escape. How did Saul, the newly converted Christian have followers? What does this imply about what he had been doing in Damascus?

- Write an imaginary play of how the first meeting between Saul, Barnabas, Peter and James the brother of Jesus might have been like. (Referring to Galatians 1, Saul only met with these two disciples of Jesus). Use extra paper if needed.

Application Questions

- Fill in the comparison chart of Saul before and after he became a follower of Jesus - what was his status, what he did and what happened to him. Then answer the questions below.

Saul before he became a Christian	Saul after he became a Christian
Acts 8:1 Approved of the Jews killing Stephen	Acts 9:8-9 Led as a blind man to Damascus. Blind & did not eat or drink for 3 days.
Acts 8:3 Persecuted the Church dragging men and women to jail	Acts 9:20-22
Acts 9:1-2	Acts 9:23-25
Acts 9:13	Acts 9:26,29-30

Note the changes in Saul's life and comment why was he willing to accept his new more difficult life?

Doing what we believe is just and right, but may not always bring us favour with people around us. Share some experiences when you had to do something right but it was not well received. How did you feel about it?

Challenge Application Question

- After Saul was sent back to Tarsus, the Bible records that the Church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. Do you think this was important? How do you see God at work in this part of the story?

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Lesson 10: PETER'S MIRACLES AND VISION

Chapter 7 and 8 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: God's people are empowered to do great things for Him not because of their abilities or how good they are but because of the Holy Spirit living in them.

Lesson: God's Spirit leads the apostles beyond ethnic and cultural boundaries. We must be willing to work across cultural boundaries.

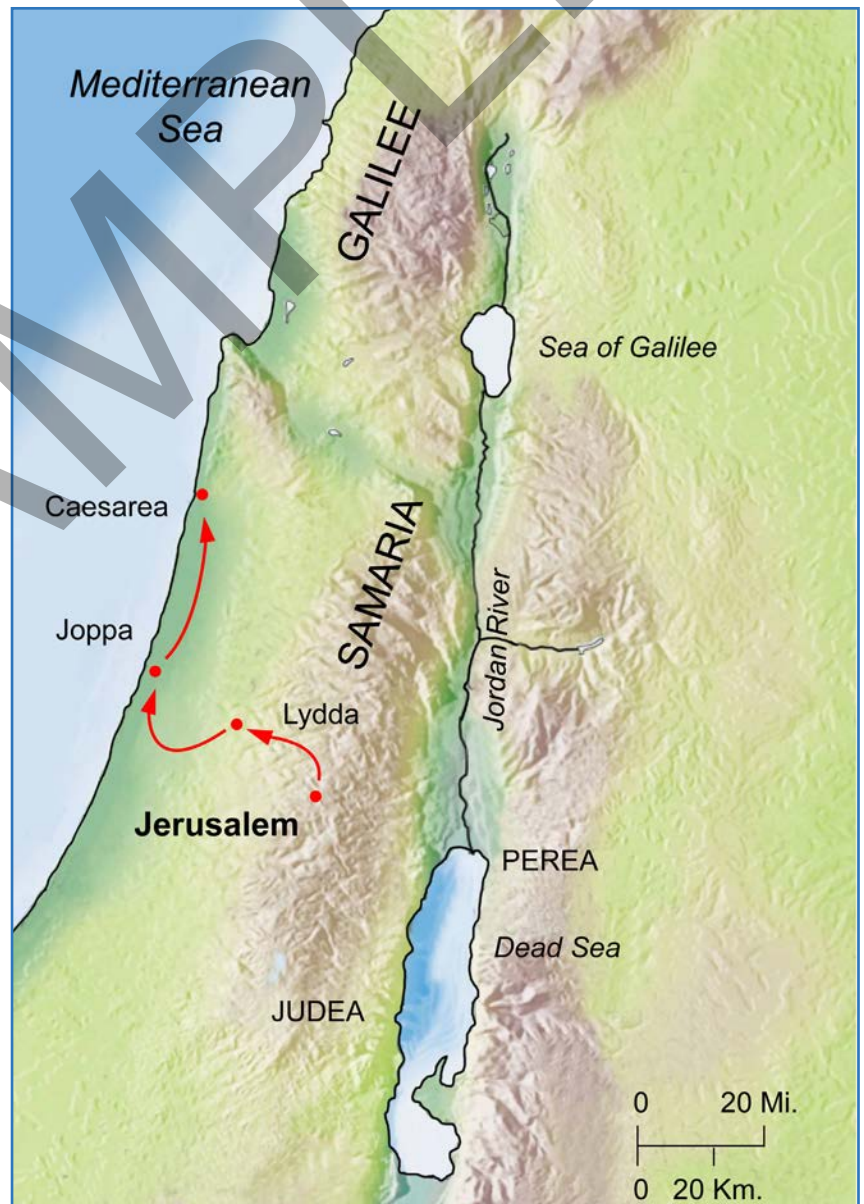
Bible Reference: Acts 9:32-10:48, 11:1-18

Verse to Think About: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. ^(NIV)
Zechariah 4:6b.

Peter's Ministry

Acts 9:32-10:48

Peter traveled to the ancient cross-roads town of Lydda, where he healed crippled Aeneas. The believers in Joppa, an old port city, sent for him after a wonderful woman died. Peter went and brought her back to life. While in Joppa, Peter had a vision that led him to take the gospel to Cornelius, a Gentile, in Caesarea.



Source: Tyndale House Publishers

Questions

1. Where was Peter when he healed Aeneas, the paralysed man?
2. What impact did it have on the people in the town?
3. What did Peter do for Tabitha?
4. Who was Cornelius and what message did he receive from the angel?
5. Describe the vision that Peter saw when he was sitting and praying on the roof of the house.
6. What happened when Peter shared the good news of Jesus with the people in the house of Cornelius?
7. Back in Jerusalem, what did the non-Jewish believers question Peter about?
8. How did Peter explain his vision? What did God say to Peter when he said 'nothing unclean has ever entered his mouth'?
9. How did Peter convince the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem that God had accepted the non-Jewish believers?

Challenge Questions

1. Why was it important for Peter to receive the vision about the unclean food before he went to the house of Cornelius?
2. Why was the story about the vision and the visit to the house of Cornelius told twice, once in Acts 10 and again in Acts 11? What is the significance of the story that it received so much space in Acts?

Application Questions

1. What can we learn from the actions of Peter when he was led by the Holy Spirit to homes of the various people in need? What does this teach us about obeying God's call?
2. Read Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8. Where did Jesus instruct his apostles to take the Gospel message to? How can Christians share the word of God with others today?

Challenge Application Question

1. About ten years have passed since the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. The apostles and believers knew about the instructions of Jesus to bring the Good News, or Gospel to all nations. Why do you think they still found it difficult to cross the Jewish to Gentile or non-Jewish boundary? Why did God allow them some time before gently pushing them to go to the Gentiles? Describe an experience you had when you had to cross a difficult boundary to share something that would benefit the other person.

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Lesson 11: BARNABAS THE ENCOURAGER AND THE ANTIOCH CHURCH

Chapter 9 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: There is a fast growing church in Antioch and Barnabas, a man full of the Holy Spirit and faith, is sent to oversee it. Barnabas, led by the Holy Spirit, goes and personally encourages Saul to join him in building up the Antioch church.

Application: God uses believers who are good and faithful and empowered by His Holy Spirit to encourage and build up His church.

Bible Reference: Acts 11:19-30

Memory Verse: He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. Acts 11:24. (NIV)

The Journeys of Barnabas

Acts 11:19-26

Persecution scattered the believers into Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and the gospel went with them. Most spoke only to Jews, but in Antioch, some Gentiles were converted. The church sent Barnabas to investigate, and he was pleased with what he found. Barnabas went to Tarsus to bring Saul (Paul) back to Antioch.



Source: Tyndale House Publishers

Questions

1. Where did the Jewish Christians come from who preached the Gospel to the Greeks, or non-Jews and what happened as a result?

2. Write down what information we know about Barnabas up to this point in time.

3. What did Barnabas do when he arrived at the church in Antioch?

4. Who did Barnabas call to join him in the Antioch church?

5. Where did Barnabas go to find Saul? How far away was Antioch of Syria from Tarsus in Cilicia?

6. What did the prophet Agabus say would happen in the Roman world?

7. What was the response of the believers in Antioch when they heard about the famine?

Challenge Questions

1. Why did Barnabas search for Saul to help him in the Antioch Church? What do you think Barnabas saw in Saul that was not obvious to the other apostles yet at this point?

2. What was significant about the church in Antioch? What were some 'first time in church history' things that happened in this church?

Application Questions

1. God's word spread from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria and to places such as Phoenicia, Cyprus, Cyrene and Antioch as a result of the persecution which was started by Saul. Was this planned by the apostles in Jerusalem? What can we observe and learn about how God can use difficult situations to create opportunities for spreading the Gospel? What can we do when we face a challenging situation but we have an opportunity to do something good. Share your thoughts or an experience.
2. What can we learn from the believers in Antioch about the right response to a need? When was the last time you saw a need and helped out? How did you feel?

Challenge Application Question

1. When Barnabas first arrived at the Antioch church he saw non-Jewish believers who had 'evidence of the grace of God'. But they were non-Jewish believers who were not circumcised and did not observe Jewish rituals or dietary laws. The Bible says the church in Antioch grew as many people became believers and joined the church. What do you think Barnabas did correctly that helped this church to grow? How did his reliance on God help him achieve such success?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 12: PERSECUTION IN JERUSALEM AND PETER'S ESCAPE

Chapter 10 in the Book and DVD-R

Bible Truth: We are not to be discouraged when bad things happen to us but we are to pray to God and trust Him to deliver us.

Application: Learn to see opportunities in difficult situations for us to do good and spread God's word.

Bible Reference: Acts 12:1-25

Memory Verse: I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
Psalm 34:4. (NIV)

Questions

1. Who was the local ruler of Galilee, Perea, Judea and Samaria at this time?
2. What did King Herod Agrippa do to please the Jewish people?
3. Who did he execute and who did he arrest?
4. How many soldiers did he allocate to make sure that Peter could not escape?
5. Describe Peter's encounter with the angel.
6. After Peter was freed, where did he go first?

7. What did Herod Agrippa do when he found out that Peter had escaped?

8. Where did Peter go when he left Judea?

9. What was Herod Agrippa doing when he was struck down by an angel?

Challenge Questions

1. Why did God punish King Herod Agrippa? What was his sin (Acts 12:20-24)?

2. Describe all the security measures Herod Agrippa put in place to make sure that Peter could not escape. What does the passage show about trusting God when faced with impossible odds?

Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1

Lesson 13: EPILOGUE TO EPIC OF THE APOSTLES VOL. 1

Chapter 11 in the Book and DVD-R

Application: Revise the Memory Verse from lesson 3:

MV: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 (NIV)

Revise the key lessons learnt from Acts Vol.1

1. Salvation is given through faith in the Lord Jesus. There is no other way back to God except by faith in Christ Jesus.
2. The apostles have been given the task of spreading the Gospel message. They take their mission seriously even when facing opposition.
3. The apostles receive guidance from Scriptures and obey the instructions of the Holy Spirit. This enables them to share the Gospel effectively.

Questions

1. Before Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, what did He instruct His apostles to do?
2. Who empowered the apostles to be effective preachers and teachers of the Gospel?
3. How did the Holy Spirit's presence in the apostles make a difference in their lives? Give some examples or references.
4. How did the early church show their love for each other?
5. List down some acts of the following characters:
 - a. Peter
 - b. Barnabas

c. Philip

d. Saul

6. What kind of person was Saul at first and how was he converted?

7. How is salvation provided by God?

Application Questions

1. Summarise and write down what are some key lessons you have gained from Acts chapter 1 to 12.

2. Which of these lessons mean the most to you. Share how it inspires you or motivates you to improve yourself and do good things.

