

Student Workbook for Ages **11-12**



Based on The Children's Bible Explorer Series
Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1
Peter and the Jerusalem Church

SAMPLE

Student Activity Workbook

for Ages 11 - 12

Based on

The Children's Bible Explorer Series

EPIC OF THE APOSTLES

ACTS VOLUME 1

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Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 1: Birth of the New Testament Church in Jerusalem

Theme:

The Holy Spirit lives in us and gives us the boldness to tell others about Jesus.

Lesson Aim:

Trust in the Holy Spirit who lives in you to give you courage to share the story of Jesus with others.

Bible Passage:

Acts 1:1-11, 26, 2:1-47

Memory 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



Lessons from the story:

The Holy Spirit helped the early Christians to spread the story of Jesus. As a result, many people believed in Jesus and started the first church.

Activity 1: Fill in the missing letters to find the right words.

1. Jesus told his disciples, “Do not leave Je _____ m, but wait for the g _____ my F _____ promised, which you have heard me speak about.”
2. Mat _____ was added to the eleven apostles.
3. The disciples will receive _____ er when the Holy Spirit comes on them.
4. The prophet Joel prophesized, “Your sons and daughters will pro _____ y, your young men will see _____ ons, your old men will dr _____ dr _____ .”
5. Jesus was exalted to the r _____ t _____ d of God, he has received from the Father the promised H _____ it.

Activity 2:

Describe in your own words, what are your impressions of the Holy Spirit? Write down at least 3 points.

E.g. He is my friend.

Clues: Who is someone who gives advice? What do you call a person who shows you where to go on a tour? What is another name for the blanket you cover yourself with when you sleep?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Activity 3: Do you know?

How much do you know about the Holy Spirit? Take away all the 'x' and 'z' letters to identify some of things about the Holy Spirit.

ThehxxzxHhzzxozlxxyxz zzxSpxxixzrxizztx zzxixxzszxzx zzzonxxxzxe zxzxz-zofxxz xzxtzhxxzezz zzTxzrxixnxzzixxtzzzyxzxz

Hexxiszzxxazzlxxxxxzsozzzzazzzxtxxexxxxazxzcxxxhzzzzxexrxzxzxxx

zzHxxzezzxxzxisxxourxzxzxxczzxozxxxuzzznxxxszxzxzezzlxxxozzzrxzxzz

xxzxzHexxizzxszzourxxxzxxhxxxexlzzpxxzexrxzxxxxz

Respond:

You can invite the Holy Spirit to live in you. He starts dwelling in us at the very moment we believe in Jesus and become born again (Refer John 1: 12-13, John 3: 5-6, 1 Corinthians 6: 19, Romans 8: 9).

Prayer:

Dear Lord, Thank You for giving us Your Spirit. Please help me to be aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Help me to allow the Spirit to work in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 2: Peter and John

Theme:

Telling others about Jesus and about our personal testimony is the best gift we can give others.

Lesson Aim:

Think of deeds or actions you can do which show others that Jesus is in your life.

Bible Passage:

Acts 3:1-25, 4:1-31

Memory Verse:

Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."

Acts 3:6



Lessons from the story:

A crippled man is healed by a miracle. Peter and John show that faith in Jesus is the root of such miracles. Miracles are meant to show people who Jesus is.

Activity 1A: Today's News: Peter heals the crippled beggar!

Look in the Bible or think through all the Bible stories you know of and try to find three miracles that took place.

E.g. Jesus changes water to wine.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Activity 1B: Pick one miracle from above and answer the questions below

Who performed the miracle? _____

When and where did it happen? _____

Do you think the power was from God? _____

What was the purpose of the miracle? _____

Activity 2: True or False

1. Peter healed the crippled and gave him money. (True / False)
2. Peter was not happy when the people found his miraculous act amazing. (True / False)
3. When Peter spoke to the people, Andrew was with him. (True / False)
4. The priests and the captain of the temple were well pleased with Peter. (True / False)
5. Peter and John did not bring shame to the name of Jesus. (True / False)

Activity 3: Determine your words and your actions

Spreading the name of Jesus is not only with words of the mouth, but also by your actions daily. Put a '✓' for the person whose actions share Jesus and 'X' for those who don't.

1. Jenny always gossips with her friends.	3. Julie was tempted to lie to the teacher about her homework, but she decided to tell the truth.
2. Andy didn't study for the test, and he cheated during the exam.	4. During Christmas, Joe and friends bought some food and toys to bring to the orphanage.

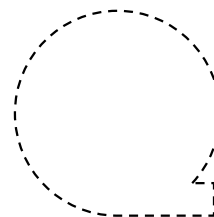
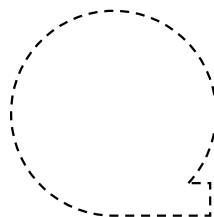
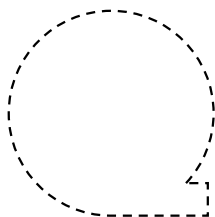
Respond:

1. If you were given the power to heal, how would you use your power?

2. Do you think Peter healed the cripple using his own power in order to make himself famous? If not, why?

Application:

Think of three things you can do to share the name of our Lord Jesus and write them down in the spaces below. Be creative.



Prayer:

Dear Lord, please help me to be bold in telling my friends about You and also to live in a way that shows You are in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 3: Life in the Early Jerusalem Church - Ananias and Sapphira

Theme:

When we tell lies, we are lying to the Holy Spirit and not just the people we lie to.

Lesson Aim:

When we lie, we hurt God.

Bible Passage:

Acts 5: 1-11

Memory Verse:

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



Learn

Lessons from the story:

The deaths of Ananias and his wife are a warning and a lesson that we cannot lie or cheat God. God cannot stand hypocrisy or cheating in the church.

Activity 1: Who lied to who? Read the story.

One day, Annie visited John at his home because she heard from Sarah that John was sick. Annie was worried about John because he had promised to be her dance partner at a friend's wedding party this Saturday. Annie had told her friend, Angie, the one getting married, that John was her new boyfriend. However, John was actually seeing a girl named Samantha. Samantha, John's real girlfriend had asked him to meet her parents because she had told them that John had proposed to her. But in fact, John had not proposed at all. When Annie arrived at John's house, John's mother greeted her at the door. "Is John very sick?" Annie asked. John's mother replied, "Sick? He's out at the beach with his classmate, Sarah."

Identify the characters in the passage above and write down the lies they told. You may want to discuss your answers with your teacher and the rest of the class.

Characters	Lies

See how messy things can get when lies are told?

Which people in this story do you think would feel very hurt if they knew the truth?
Discuss with your classmates.

Activity 2: Crime and punishment

Try to find out what are the legal punishments for the following crimes in Malaysia:

1. Stealing –
2. Driving dangerously –
3. Bribing –
4. Selling drugs –
5. Kidnapping –
6. Threatening –
7. Cheating –
8. Murder –

Respond: Group Discussion

Do you think it was necessary for Ananias and Sapphira to die? _____

How else could they have been punished? _____

If they had not died, do you think other believers would not be afraid to lie and cheat as well? _____

Do you think, in God's standards, there is a difference between white lies and lies? Yes / No

Application:

Make it a commitment not to lie, even if is a white lie.. Remember, if you are unable to stop yourself from doing it, pray to God for forgiveness and strength. By God's grace, you will be able to overcome it.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, I realise that when I sin, I not only hurt others but I hurt You. Please help me to be pure and upright in all my ways. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 4: Life in the Early Jerusalem Church - A Miraculous Prison Break

Theme:

It is better to fear God than man, for God protects us.

Lesson Aim:

Choose to obey and fear God even in the face of peer pressure.

Bible Passage:

Acts 5:17–42

Memory Verse:

Peter and the other apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than men!" Acts 5:29



Learn

Lessons from the story:

The apostles did not stop speaking about Jesus even though they were threatened and put in prison. They were convinced that they had to obey God rather than men.

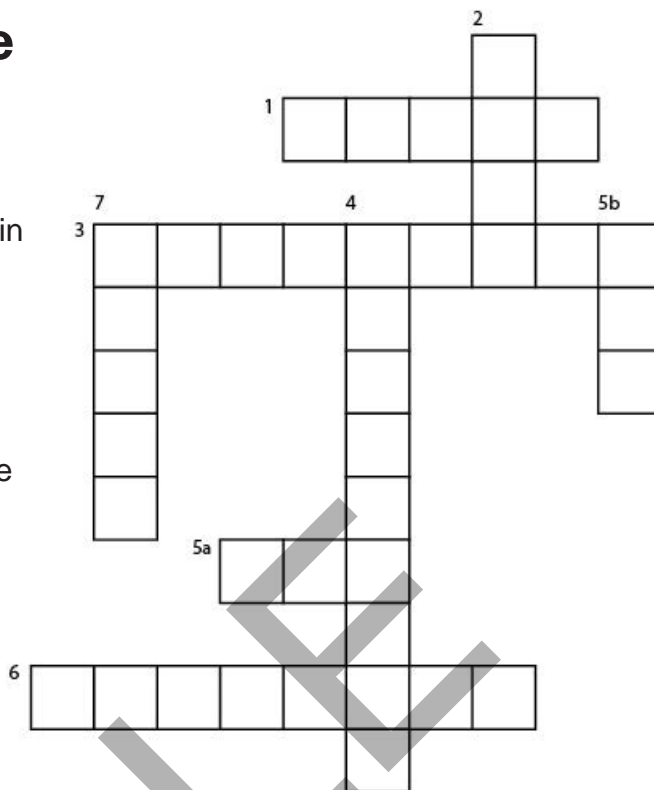
Activity 1: Rearrange the story

Write down the correct sequence in the empty boxes.

	Peter and John got caught a second time while preaching.		A Pharisee names Gamaliel stood up for them.
	The officers could not find the apostles in the jail.		The apostles were arrested.
	The apostles were beaten before they were released.		At night, an angel came to their rescue.

Activity 2: Crossword Puzzle

- (Across) Who played the biggest role in the arrest of the apostles?
- (Down) The apostles were arrested and put in _____?
- (Across) ..."You have filled _____ with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." (Acts 5: 28)
- (Down) The apostles were brought before the _____ to be questioned.
- Peter said that he must obey (a) _____ (Across) rather than (b) _____ (Down).
- (Across) A Pharisee, a teacher of the law.
- (Down) They ordered the apostles not to speak in the name of _____.



Respond: Discuss with your teacher

What does "fear of God" in this context mean?

Are there different types of fear?

You love your parents, but are you also afraid of them? Why?

Application: Dealing with peer pressure

If a friend asks you to steal something to show you are brave, what would you do?

Find a partner in your Sunday School class. Share with each other one thing another friend made you do that you knew was wrong and how you dealt with it.

Remember: It is better to fear and obey God than the people around us. Peter obeyed God and was rescued from prison!

As we grow closer to God, we will learn to trust Him more. We can get to know God through:

- Reading the Bible
- Praying always about everything
- Putting God's teachings into actions

Prayer:

Dear Lord, please help me to know and fear You more so that I will say NO to sin. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 5: Stephen – Persecution and Scattering of the Jerusalem Church

Theme:

We must forgive those who do evil to us.

Lesson Aim:

To follow Jesus' example and forgive those who treat us badly.

Bible Passage:

Acts 6:1-8:3

Memory Verse:

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Matthew 6:14



Learn

Lessons from the story:

Stephen is the first follower of Jesus to die for his faith. He follows the example of the Lord Jesus by praying for forgiveness for those who stoned him to death.

Activity 1: Circle the correct answer.

1. The (businessman, children, widows) were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.
2. They chose (Stephen, John, Peter) a man full of faith and of the (Holy Spirit, fun, strength) in the distribution of food.
3. Some men told lies, saying, "We have heard (Moses, Stephen, Joshua) speak words of blasphemy against (Moses, Stephen, Joshua) and against God."
4. "Look," Stephen said, "I see heaven open and the (Holy Spirit, Son of Man, angels) standing at the right hand of God."
5. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their (shoes, coats, money) at the feet of a young man named (Saul, Peter, John).

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 6: The Gospel Spreads to Samaria

Theme:

God sometimes uses difficult situations to make us realise that there are things He wants us to do.

Lesson Aim:

To check our lives and see if we are obeying God.

Bible Passage:

Acts 8:4-40

Memory Verse:

Search me, O 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



Learn

Lessons from the story:

The persecution of the church by the Jewish leaders causes the believers to flee Jerusalem and to spread the Gospel to the Judean countryside and to Samaria.

Activity 1: **The Ministry of Philip**

Try to solve the Bible word search puzzle below.

JESUS
ETHIOPIAN
GOSPEL
SAMARIA
CHRIST
EUNUCH
BAPTIZED
GAZA
MONEY
ISAIAH
PHILIP
REPENT

D	O	I	U	Y	T	H	R	E	T	N	E	P	E	R
E	G	H	J	K	G	A	Z	A	L	Z	X	C	R	V
Z	S	D	C	F	G	I	T	J	L	K	M	N	A	B
I	W	L	E	H	R	A	T	Y	M	O	N	E	Y	T
T	F	G	E	H	R	S	J	K	L	P	O	T	I	U
P	S	M	N	P	B	I	V	C	X	Z	S	H	F	H
A	P	I	Y	R	S	W	S	A	M	A	R	I	A	K
B	T	E	Q	A	S	O	D	T	F	G	H	O	J	L
F	G	H	J	K	R	L	G	N	B	V	C	P	X	Z
D	S	A	Q	C	W	E	R	T	P	I	L	I	H	P
K	P	L	E	U	N	U	C	H	P	O	I	A	U	Y
M	N	R	V	C	X	Z	A	H	S	D	F	N	E	R
T	E	F	G	V	C	D	E	L	W	S	X	Z	A	Q
R	T	H	N	H	M	C	J	Y	Y	U	K	L	P	M
D	W	R	G	B	J	N	J	S	U	S	E	J	I	L

Activity 2: The Holy Spirit helps Philip

Put a tick (✓) next to the things that Philip could only do by the Holy Spirit's power.

1. Run up to the Ethiopian eunuch's chariot and run beside it. ____
2. Perform miracles in Samaria. ____
3. Walk to the water to baptize the eunuch. ____
4. Leave Jerusalem to escape the persecution. ____
5. Suddenly disappear from the eunuch and appear in another place. ____

Activity 3: Difficult situations

Write down what you think God would want you to do in the following circumstances.

Example	What would you do?
Your best friend wants to cheat during the exam by asking you to show him the answer when he gives you the signal.	
Someone drops his money in the church and you need money to buy a toy which your parents do not allow you to have.	
Exams are around the corner and your parents suggest that you skip Sunday school to do revision at home.	
One of your classmates loves to tease you. After telling him that you dislike it, he teases you even more.	

Respond:

Discuss these questions in small groups. Present to the class and compare your answers. There are no right or wrong answers!

- a) When is it easy to obey God?
- b) When is it difficult to obey God?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank You that You make good things happen out of bad situations. Help me to trust You in difficult times and to check my heart to see if I am obeying You. Give me a faithful heart to obey You always. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 7: Saul the Persecutor Meets Jesus - On the Road to Damascus

Theme:

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

Lesson Aim:

To be faithful to Jesus and to allow Him to change our lives.

Bible Passage:

Acts 9:1-22

Memory Verse:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
2 Corinthians 5:17



Learn

Lessons from the story:

After encountering the risen Lord, Saul changes from being someone who hated the church into someone who loves Jesus Christ and preaches about Him.

Activity 1: Who am I?

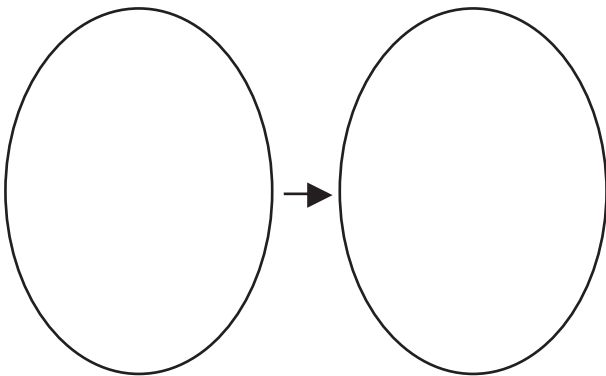
Read today's passage. Then fill in the correct character in the space next to the sentences.

1.	A disciple sent by the Lord to lay hands upon and baptize Saul to remove his physical and spiritual blindness.	
2.	Giving letters to Saul as permission to persecute Christians in Damascus.	
3.	"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"	
4.	From persecutor to preacher.	

After encountering the risen Lord, Saul changes from being a persecutor of the church to a zealous preacher of the good news of Jesus Christ. John Newton (who wrote the hymn Amazing Grace) was once a slave trader with a violent temper and filthy tongue who also became zealous a minister after he found God in 1748. Our lives will be changed when we truly know Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Activity 2: Transformed

Draw it: Draw the face of Saul before and after his conversion.



Saul the persecutor

Paul the preacher

Activity 3:

How did Saul change? Write some words to show how he might have been before and after meeting the Lord. (Note to Teacher: This is an open-ended activity to stimulate critical thinking among children. Sample answers in the Teacher's Guide are merely guidelines and teachers should use discretion.)

Before	After

Discuss it: Share with a friend.

Do you truly know Jesus in a way that wants to make you change into being a better person? What are some things about yourself that you want to change? Talk to a friend in class about this. Take turns to listen to each other.

Respond:

1. Are you a Christian? Or are you a Christian because your parents want you to be one and you had no choice but to follow them? From this lesson, you have seen how God can change our hearts when we choose to believe in Him. Please say the sinner's prayer now if you have not invited Jesus be your Lord and Savior.

Lord Jesus, I am a sinner. But I believe that you died upon the cross for me. That you shed your precious blood for the forgiveness of my sin. And I believe that on the third day, you rose from the dead, and went to Heaven to prepare a place for me. I accept you now as my Saviour, my Lord, my God, my friend. Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, and set me free from my sin. And, because you are my Saviour, Jesus, "I shall not die, but have everlasting life".

Thank you Jesus!

Congratulations! If you had sincerely said the sinner's prayer, you can rest assured that you are now a child of God. Welcome to the big family!

2. Do you want your life to be changed? Or do you want yourself to change? It can only happen if we choose to be faithful to God and humbly allow Him to change us. Think of a bad habit that you want to get rid of and write it down in the prayer below. Confess it to God and have faith that He will transform you!

Prayer:

Dear Lord, I confess that I have sinned against You by _____
_____. (write your bad habit here, e.g. cheating, spending too much time on Facebook, etc). I invite You to come into my life as my Saviour and my Lord. Thank You Lord for forgiving my sin. Help me to turn away from it completely and choose to obey and follow Your teaching. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 8: Saul Meets the Apostles

Theme:

Obedying God can sometimes be lonely and difficult, so we should encourage one another because Christians are all one in the body of Christ.

Lesson Aim:

To encourage others to live for God.

Bible Passage:

Acts 9:23-31

Memory Verse:

And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24



Learn

Lessons from the story:

Barnabas teaches us about encouragement. When he saw Paul had truly changed, he persuaded the apostles to accept Paul.

Activity 1: 1,2,3 Action!

Break into groups with each group acting out a mime (acting with no words spoken) on today's Bible story from verse 26 to 28 with the characters below. Each group presents their mime to the class. Vote on which group gave the best performance!

Character 1: Saul

Character 2: Barnabas

3 to 4 Characters: Apostles in Jerusalem

Activity 2: Fear Factor

Ever since Saul met Jesus, his life changed and he faced all troubles fearlessly. Put (✓) in the boxes if the sentence is true – read the sentences carefully!

1. The Jews in Damascus conspired to kill Saul.
2. Only at night, the Jews kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill Saul.
3. Saul's followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the city wall.
4. Saul is warmly welcomed by the disciples when he came to Jerusalem.
5. Barnabas persuades the apostles to accept Saul.
6. Saul speaks secretly in the name of the Lord among the Jews in Jerusalem.
7. When the apostles learned that the Jews in Jerusalem tried to kill Saul, they sent him off to Tarsus.

Activity 3: Be an encourager!

1. Do you ever feel lonely and isolated? E.g. moving to a new school or class. Discuss.
2. Saul probably experienced that too! The encouraging words spoken by Barnabas made such a huge difference in Saul's life! We too can be encouragers like Barnabas.

Choose a person in this class and write down words of encouragement for him/her on a bookmark (e.g. "I like the way you speak to the teacher very respectfully"). Your teacher will pass you the art and craft materials to make the bookmark. Give it to the person when you have finished making it.

(Note to teachers: prepare craft materials like coloured cards, coloured marker pens, stickers or glitter to decorate, glue, ribbons or yarn, scissors, hole puncher. Ensure that every child gets a bookmark or that no child gets more bookmarks than others.)

Respond:

Do you tend to say negative things more than positive things to other people? It's not too late to change! Are you willing to respond to God's call to be an encourager?

Yes

No

Application:

You can start being an encourager right away!

1. Start a diary or journal with the title "Encourage one another".
2. Write down the name of key people in your life in that journal.
3. Pray for God to help you to know what to say or write to encourage them.
4. Write it down in a piece of paper and pass it to that person. Can't think of anything to say? Just smile and say hi!
5. Make a record for the people you encourage daily in your journal.
If you make it a habit to encourage those around you, you will be amazed at how you yourself can change from being a person who always speaks negatively to becoming an encourager.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank You for Barnabas who encouraged Saul even when nobody else stood up for Saul. Help me to love others who are different and lonely by finding ways to befriend and encourage them. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 9: Peter's Miracles and Vision

Theme:

God can do amazing things through us not because of how good we are, but because the Holy Spirit lives in us.

Lesson Aim:

To realise that we can only achieve so much with our own abilities and we still have to rely on the Holy Spirit to help us obey God.

Bible Passage:

Acts 9:32 -10:48

Memory Verse:

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord Almighty. Zechariah 4:6b

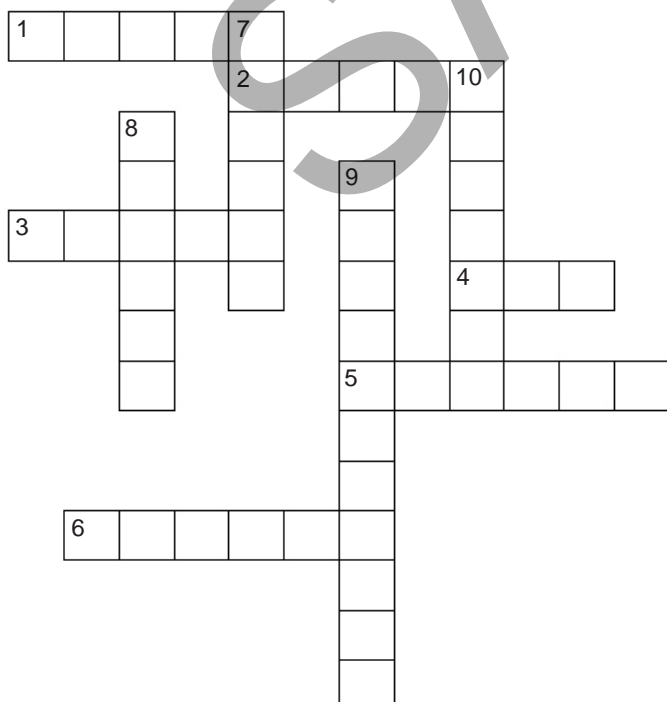


Learn

Lessons from the story:

The Holy Spirit makes Peter perform great miracles and shows him through a vision that the good news about Jesus Christ is for everyone, including the non-Jews (Gentiles).

Activity 1: Peter's Miracles



Solve the crossword puzzle.

1. The place where Peter heals Tabitha.
2. How many years was Aeneas bedridden?
3. Peter visited the saints in _____.
4. _____ men came and asked Peter to go immediately to Joppa.
5. The people who lived in Lydda and _____ turned to the Lord when they saw the healing of Aeneas.
6. Peter stayed in Joppa with a _____ named Simon.
7. A paralytic who was healed by Peter.
8. Cried for the death of Tabitha.
9. Who healed Aeneas?
10. Aramaic name for Dorcas.

Activity 2: Peter's Vision

After reading the Acts chapter 10, fill in the spaces with the name of the correct person.

Peter Angel God Cornelius

1	"...They have received the Holy Spirit as we have."	
2	"Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."	
3	"Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."	
4	"I am only a man myself."	
5	"I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism, but accepts men from every nation who fear Him and do what is right..."	
6	"Surely not, Lord! I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."	
7	"Why have you come?"	
8	"Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God."	
9	A devout and God-fearing centurion.	
10	Called together his relatives and close friends to his house.	
11	Fell into a trance when he went up on the roof to pray.	
12	Sent his two servants and a devout soldier to Joppa.	

Respond:

There are many things we cannot do or be without the help of the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23) Now, choose one of the fruit of the Spirit which you think you need the most and pray for it!

Circle your best answer:

I will totally rely on (myself / the Holy Spirit) to have _____ (name one of the fruit of the Spirit) in _____

(E.g. **gentleness** in treating my younger brother, **self-control** in using the computer, **patience** in doing my homework, etc.)

Prayer:

Dear God, teach me to rely on Your Holy Spirit so that I can bear all the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Epic of the Apostles Acts Volume 1

Lesson 10: 'It's Official: The Gospel Is For All – Even the Gentiles'

Theme:

God's plan is for everyone to hear about and receive His gift of salvation.

Lesson Aim:

To thank God for His gift of salvation that is given to all people.

Bible Passage:

Acts 11:1– 8.
(Briefly re-cap Acts 10:1–48)

Memory Verse:

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. Romans 1:16



Learn

Lessons from the story:

Peters learns that not just the Jews, but even the Gentiles, are part of God's salvation plan. God wants the Gospel preached to the Gentiles.

Activity 1: Food, Glorious Food

In Peter's vision, he heard a voice telling him not to call anything impure that God has made clean. Find at least five pictures each of clean and unclean foods/animals from newspapers and magazines and paste them on an A4 paper. You can also draw the pictures yourself. Refer to Deuteronomy 14:3-21 for clean and unclean food.

*Sample layout

Clean Food	Unclean Food

Activity 2: Pride and Prejudice

The Jewish people did not like the Gentiles. That is the reason why Peter was criticised by other Jewish believers when he preached the gospel to Cornelius, who was a Gentile. But through this incident, we see that God wants to grant salvation to ALL people!

- a. The words given below have the opposite meaning from each other. Rearrange the alphabets so that they form proper words.

ewj _____ vs iltesgne _____

enacI _____ vs lcueann _____

icmcsiedcru _____ vs uceirindcmsuc _____

- b. Are you prejudiced? Prejudice is irrational suspicion or dislike based on unfounded opinions of a particular group, race, or religion. Put (✓) in the box for the people you have been prejudiced against and ask God for forgiveness.

Poor / rich people

People with lighter/darker skin than you

Opposite gender

Different race

The way they look

Fat/ thin people

Others _____

Maybe you have been a victim of prejudice. Ask God to help you to forgive those who are prejudiced against you, and help you not to be prejudiced against others.

Respond:

Our God shows no favouritism. His gift of salvation is for EVERYONE!

1. Think of a name of someone (a non-Christian and a person you have been prejudiced against) and write it down in the prayer below. Spend some time praying for this person's salvation.

Dear Lord, forgive me for being prejudiced against _____ .
Please draw him/her to Yourself. Fill his/her heart with your love and grace.
Open his/ her eyes to Your salvation. Let me have the opportunity to introduce
You to him/her. In Jesus' name, Amen.

2. Thank God for His gift of salvation to you.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank You so much for the salvation You have granted us. Thank You that You love all people. Fill my heart with Your love so that I can love others and tell them the Good News about Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Lesson 11: Barnabas the Encourager and the Antioch Church

Theme:

God uses good and faithful believers who are strengthened by the Holy Spirit, to build up His church.

Lesson Aim:

Churches need encouragement and help. Learn what it is to be a good and faithful disciple of Jesus as a way of building up and helping our church.

Bible Passage:

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



Learn

Lessons from the story:

Barnabas, a man full of the Holy Spirit and faith, goes to help the fast-growing church in Antioch. He encourages Saul (Paul) to help him build up the Antioch church.

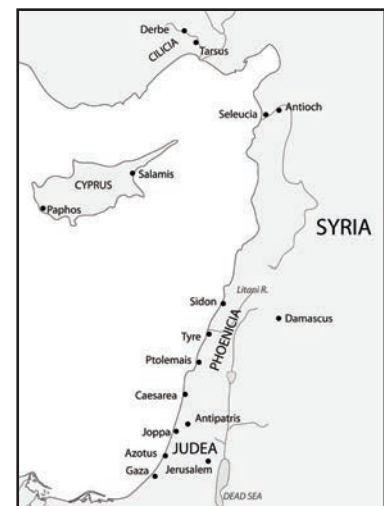
Activity 1: Bringing the Good News out of Jerusalem

The believers had travelled out of Jerusalem to other places and preached the Good News about the Lord Jesus wherever they went.

1. Map A : Draw arrows starting from Jerusalem to the places mentioned in Acts 11:19 to represent the journey of the believers.
2. Map B: Draw arrows starting from Jerusalem to the places mentioned in Acts 11:22-26 to represent the journey of Barnabas. Also circle the place where Barnabas found Saul, in the same map.



Map A



Map B

Activity 2: The Church in Antioch

Match the correct answer with each of the following question.

1. For how long did Barnabas and Saul teach in Antioch's Church?	Agabus
2. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith.	Barnabas
3. Some believers told the Gospel not only to Jews, but also to the	Christians
4. This prophet predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world.	Greeks
5. What were the disciples first called at Antioch?	One whole year

Respond:

Barnabas is a good man, full of Holy Spirit and faith. We too, can be like Barnabas if we are willing to let God to take charge in our life.

a. In what ways was Barnabas good and full of faith? Put a (✓) next to his actions mentioned in the Bible.

Barnabas gave Saul a chance when none of the other believers dared to. _____

Barnabas shared his food with everyone. _____

Barnabas didn't mind travelling all over the place. _____

Barnabas went to help the church in Antioch. _____

b. Sit in a circle and write on a piece of paper two good things about the person on your right side (e.g. you always smile, you are hardworking, you are friendly, etc). Give the paper to the person.

c. How can you show your faithfulness to Jesus in your daily life? Put a (✓) for the ones you will do.

() Complete the homework given by your teacher without waiting to be told.

() Help your parents to do the house chores as soon as they ask you without delay.

() Spend pocket money given by your parents wisely.

() Spend time to do revision before the examination.

() Be a friend to the person nobody wants to talk to in class.

() _____

Prayer:

Dear Lord, I want to be a good and faithful disciple of Yours. Help me listen to the Holy Spirit's leading in my daily life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Lesson 12: Persecution in Jerusalem and Peter's Escape

Theme:

Don't be discouraged when bad things happen to us. Pray to God and trust Him to help us face our problems.

Lesson Aim:

To trust in God at all times and for all things, even in the worst situations.

Bible Passage:

Acts 12:1-25

Memory Verse:

I sought the Lord, and he answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Psalm 34:4

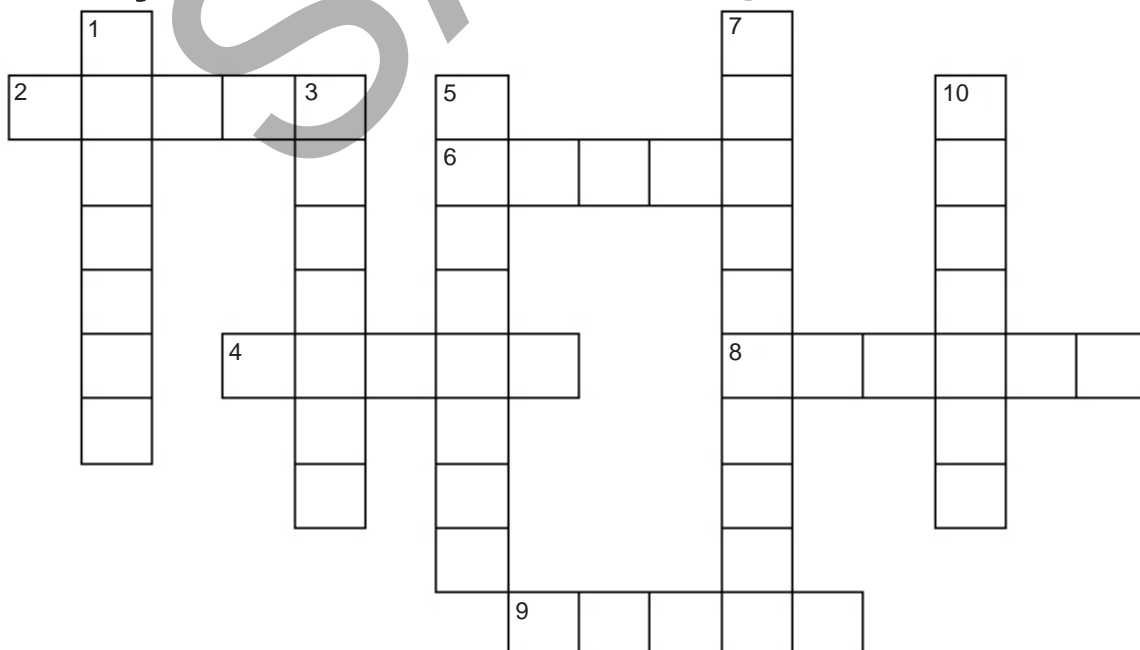


Learn

Lessons from the story:

Although Herod tries to punish the church and puts Peter in prison, the Christians are not discouraged. They keep on praying, and God miraculously rescues Peter.

Activity 1: Peter's Miraculous Escape



Fill in the blanks.

1. The angel told Peter to put on his _____.
2. Who was the apostle martyred in this chapter?
3. How many soldiers were there altogether guarding Peter?
4. This man ordered the execution of the soldiers who guarded the prison.
5. King Herod intended to bring Peter out for public trial after the _____.
6. "Quick, get up!" Who said this to Peter?
7. Bread made without yeast, eaten during the Passover.
8. Peter thought he saw a _____ when he following the angel out of the prison.
9. The name of the servant girl in Mary's house.
10. What were the people doing in the house of Mary?

Activity 2: Broken Chains

God broke the chains that held Peter in prison. Today God can also "break your chains" if you, choose to trust in Him. Nothing is impossible for God!

Which of the difficulties listed below can God help you with?
Please put (√) if you think yes and (x) if you think no.

1 God can help me overcome my fear (e.g. of the dark, of crowd, of exams, etc).	
2 Someone hurt my feelings and I want God to take revenge for me.	
3 I want money to buy my favourite PC games which my parents don't allow.	
4 I dislike myself.	
5 I want to score well in my exam without putting any effort into studying.	
6 I'm deeply depressed.	
7 Someone close to me is sick and admitted to the hospital.	
8 I have a bad relationship with my other sibling(s).	

Respond:

From today's lesson, we see how the power of prayer made a difference in Peter's life. We read in verse 5 and 12 that many Christians were praying for him. We should also pray together and place our trust in God when we face problems and difficulties in our lives. Write down a problem or difficulty you are facing currently on a piece of paper (e.g. difficulty to overcome laziness when doing homework, can't make any friends in school, etc). Write your name on it and put it in a box. Then each person in class takes turns to randomly draw a paper from the box. You might find that someone else is facing the same difficulty as you! Spend at least 2 minutes to pray for the person named on the paper you drew.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, help me to place my trust in You for all things, big and small. And help me to be a prayerful person and turn to You for help, for You are the only one who can save in impossible situations like Peter's. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Lesson 13: Epilogue to Epic of the Apostles Vol.1

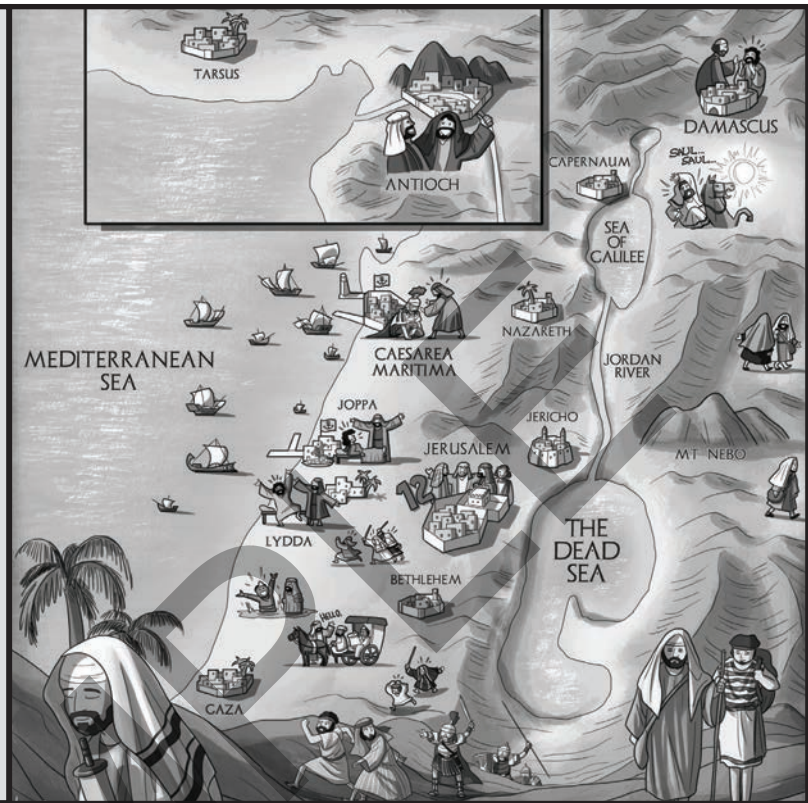
Lesson Aim:

1. To trust in Jesus for my salvation and to ask Jesus to be my Lord.
2. To pray for help in sharing the Good News of Jesus with my friends.

Memory Verse:

Revise the memory verse from Lesson 1:

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



Learn

Lessons from the story:

1. Salvation is given through faith in the Lord Jesus. There is no other way to God except by faith in Jesus.
2. The apostles have been given the task of spreading the Good News. They take their mission seriously although people try to stop them and make life difficult for them.
3. The apostles receive guidance from the Scriptures and obey the instructions of the Holy Spirit. These give them boldness to share the Good News.

Activity 1: Key Lesson

There are three important key lessons in Acts chapter 1 to 12.

Find the missing words by rearranging the alphabets to form proper words.

1. Salvation is given through _____(ithfa) in the Lord _____(eusJs). There is no other way back to _____(odG) except by _____(ahitf) in Christ Jesus.
2. The apostles have been given the task of spreading the _____(elsgpo) message. They take their _____(ismnsio) seriously even when facing opposition.
3. The apostles receive guidance from Scriptures and obey the instructions of the _____(IHoy) _____(irSpit). These enable them to witness effectively.

Activity 2: Revision

What is the Bible truth behind the incident? Match each incident with the correct truth by drawing lines.

Incident
1. Pentecost
2. Peter heals the crippled beggar
3. The deaths of Ananias and Sapphira
4. The apostles do not stop speaking about Jesus even when they are persecuted by the Sanhedrin.
5. The stoning of Stephen
6. The church is persecuted and the apostles are scattered throughout Judea and Samaria
7. Saul encounters Jesus
8. Barnabas persuades the apostles to accept Saul.
9. Peter heals Aeneas and raises Tabitha
10. Cornelius and his household receive Christ
11. Barnabas and Saul build up the Antioch church.
12. Peter's miraculous escape from prison

Bible Truth
a. God gives us His Holy Spirit to live in us and empower us to be His witnesses.
b. God uses believers who are good, faithful and empowered by His Holy Spirit to build up His church
c. God's gift of salvation is for everyone.
d. God's people are empowered to do great things for Him through the Holy Spirit that lives in them.
e. Our lives will be changed when we truly know Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.
f. Sharing about who Jesus is and what He has done for us is the best gift we can give to others.
g. Sometimes God uses difficult circumstances to make us realise what He want us to do
h. We are called to encourage one another in the body of Christ.
i. We are called to fear God and obey Him, rather than the people around us.
j. We are called to forgive those who do evil to us.
k. We are not to be discouraged when bad things happen, but we are to pray and trust God to deliver us.
l. When we tell lies, we are actually lying to the Holy Spirit and not just to the people we lie to.

Respond: Please put (✓) in the box next to what correctly describes you.

- I have invited Jesus into my heart.
- I have encouraged my friends to invite Jesus into their hearts.

God's purpose is for everyone to hear and receive His gift of salvation. If you have accepted His gift and said the sinner's prayer in Lesson 7, congratulations and you are encouraged to share with others His wonderful gift. List down the names of at least three or more people that you want introduce to Jesus. Pray for them and yourself, to know how to bring them to God. You can use the prayer sample in Lesson 10.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

But if you haven't received God's gift, please do it now! Remember, salvation is given only through faith in Jesus Christ. Ask your teacher to pray with you and help you say the sinner's prayer in Lesson 7)

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank You for the way You made Your Church grow in the story of Acts. I can see from this story that You used ordinary people like me and difficult circumstances to spread the Good News of Jesus. Help me to be Your faithful follower and to share the Good News with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Notes

SAMPLE