

STORY

Paul is Taken to Rome - Acts 27-28

TEACHER PRAYER

O dearest Jesus, You have said: "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." What a comforting promise! Be with me now as I ponder Your holy Word in this lesson. Bless my meditation and preparation. Also bless my presentation and application. Enable the children entrusted to my care to see You in this lesson. Strengthen their faith and increase their love for You and Your word. Move them also to share it with others. Amen.

VOCABULARY

fast - the Day of Atonement, late September or early October

Euroclydon - a southeast wind that stirs up broad waves, a northeaster

drive - be driven

skiff - any light rowboat, or a long, narrow rowboat, especially one with a small sail

fathom - a nautical unit of depth or length, approximately six feet

stern - back end of a ship or boat

pro - the forward part of a ship

reef - a ridge of rock or sand near or at the surface of the water

OUTER AIM

Paul is taken to Rome

INNER AIM

Paul was a "prisoner" of Jesus Christ

BACKGROUND (Rupprecht, *Bible History References*, Vol. 2, pp. 598-612)

In his epistle to the Romans, Paul mentions his desire to come and preach in Rome. (Romans. 1:9-15) The Lord granted his prayer and request, but not under the most favorable of circumstances. He was brought to Rome as a prisoner since he had appealed to Caesar, the Roman emperor. Paul was a prisoner in Rome for two years. During this time he had plenty of opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Christ.

Chapter 27

Paul Sails for Rome. Luke records many details concerning the voyage. He reports where they sailed and what they encountered. The Roman centurion on board was sympathetic to Paul and his plight. The weather became a serious problem. Paul advised wintering on the island of Crete. The shipowner and helmsman thought otherwise. They figured they could continue. The ship became engulfed in a terrible storm. It lasted for days and days. The crew and soldiers feared the worst. Paul assured them that all would survive, but the ship would be lost. The Lord saved them. He had plans for Paul in Rome.

Chapter 28:1-10

Paul is Shipwrecked on Malta. The natives regarded Paul as some sort of god. He miraculously survived a deadly snakebite. Paul later healed the father of the island's magistrate. Many others on the island were healed as well. They were sent and were helped on their way.



Chapter 28:11-31

Paul Teaches in Rome. Paul and those with him stayed on the island of Malta for three months. The journey to Rome continued, first by sea, then by land. Finally, Paul arrived in Rome. He was still a prisoner, but he was granted considerable freedom. He spoke to the Jews at Rome. They had heard nothing about Paul or the charges levied against him by the Jews in Jerusalem. They had heard about the Christian faith. They wanted to know more. Paul taught them. Some believed; some didn't. For two years, Paul spoke to all who came to him—Jews and Gentiles alike. He proclaimed Christ and His kingdom. No one interfered.

Note: After two years, Paul's case was finally heard. He was acquitted and released. He continued on with a fourth missionary journey. Following that he was again arrested, tried, and condemned in Rome. He was beheaded for his testimony concerning Jesus Christ.

STUDENTS' PRAYER TLH #498:3, 6

If Thou, merciful Redeemer, Hadst not saved us from this plight
In like darkness we should languish Hopeless, helpless, in sin's night.
Lovingly Thou, Lord, didst seek us In the beauty of Thy grace;
Now with joy we freely serve Thee, We, Thy blessed, chosen race.

Savior, shine in all Thy glory On the nations near and far;
From the highways and the byways Call them, O Thou Morning Star.
Guide them whom Thy grace hath chosen Out of Satan's dreadful thrall
To the mansions of Thy Father-There is room for sinners all.

PRESENTATION

In this lesson, again you will find more than one familiar Bible story. This lesson will take you from Caesarea to Rome.

A map showing the path Paul took will be of considerable help. The student can then trace the routes and places Paul visited.

Keep in mind the overall reason for Paul's trip to Rome. Paul was sent there to have his case brought before the Roman Emperor. He had done nothing wrong, nothing worthy of death, as the Jews claimed. The Lord wanted Paul in Rome so that the Gospel could ring out. Refer to passages such as Acts 9:15-16 and 23:11.

APPLICATION

In his epistles, Paul describes himself as a servant, slave, even prisoner of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 1:1; Phil. 1:1; Titus 1:1) After his conversion, he devoted his entire life to his Savior, spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom. Wherever he went, no matter what the circumstances, the Lord used Paul to advance His Kingdom. "All things worked together for good." The fact that Paul was in bonds and that he was a prisoner did not hinder the Gospel. If anything, the Lord used the situation to advance it. The Gospel of the Kingdom reached people and places it may never have reached otherwise.

Today, too, the Lord works in a variety of ways to 'let His Kingdom come.'

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Matt. 18:11 - The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.

Mark 16:15 - Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.

Middle

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Acts 16:31 - Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.

Upper

Acts 4:12 - Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among man by which we must be saved.

Romans 10:4 - For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

I Cor. 1:18 - For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

HYMN CHOICES

Look From Thy Sphere of Endless Day - TLH #499

Savior, Sprinkle Many Nations - TLH #510

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun - TLH #511

O Christ, Our True and Only Light - TLH #512

Paul is Taken to Rome

Acts 27-28



Roman citizen

Yes or No: A Roman citizen in Paul's time was a lot like an American citizen in our time.

(Don't look at the clothes but their rights.)

Roman soldiers protected Roman citizens all over the world. American embassies protect American citizens all over the world.

Roman citizens could plead their case before the king in Rome. American citizens can plead their case to the highest court.



Lady Justice of USA

These American privileges can help us go all over the U.S.A. and all over the world to preach the Gospel to every creature.

Prayer

Spread, oh, spread, thou mighty Word, spread the kingdom of the Lord.

Wheresoe'er His breath has giv'n life to beings meant for heav'n. Amen. (TLH

#507)

Paul is Taken to Rome

Acts 27-28 (condensed)

The Voyage to Rome Begins

The soldiers of Caesarea delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a *centurion* (a captain of 100 men) named Julius, to sail to Rome.

God gives Luke the following words to write, "So, entering a ship we put to sea, meaning to sail along the coasts of Asia. The next day we landed at **Sidon**. Julius, the captain, treated Paul kindly and let him go to his friends and receive care. We sailed under the shelter of **Cyprus** and over the sea which

is off **Cilicia** and **Pamphylia**, we came to **Lycia**. There the centurion found another ship sailing to Italy, and he put us on board.

When we had sailed slowly many days we arrived with difficulty off **Cnidus**, the wind not permitting us to proceed, we sailed under the shelter of **Crete**. Passing it with difficulty, we came to a place called **Fair Havens**."

Paul's Warning Ignored

"Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous, Paul advised



them, saying, 'Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.' Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the majority to set sail."

In the Tempest

"The south wind blew softly and they sailed close by Crete. But not long after, a tempest arose. When the ship was caught by the great winds the sailors gave up trying to drive it. They tried to lighten the ship and even threw the ship's tackle overboard. They couldn't see the sun or moon for many days so they were lost at sea.

They went many days without food. Then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, 'Men, you should have listened to me. But now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, "Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you." Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. However, we must run aground on a certain island.'

And as day was about to dawn, Paul implored them all to eat so that they would have energy to survive. He took bread and gave thanks to God and began to eat. Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves. In all we were 276 persons on the ship."

Shipwrecked on Malta

"When it was day, they did not recognize the land; but they observed a bay with a beach, onto which they planned to run the ship aground if possible.

Some of the soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim away and escape. But the centurion,

wanting to save Paul, kept them from doing that and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard and the rest could float on boards from the ship. So it was that they all escaped safely to land."

Paul's Ministry on Malta

"The island was called **Malta**. The natives showed us unusual kindness. They made a fire for us because it was cold. When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a snake came out and fastened on his hand. When the natives saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to one another, 'No doubt this man is a murderer. He has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow him to live.' But Paul shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

We stayed three days with a leading citizen of the island. His father became sick with a fever and Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him. So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed. They also honored us in many ways; and when we departed, they provided such things as were necessary."

Arrival at Rome

"We sailed to **Syracuse** and then to **Rhegium** and on to **Puteoli**, where we found fellow Christians, and were invited to stay with them seven days. And so we went toward **Rome** where we met with other Christians who came to meet us. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the

captain of the guard, but Paul was permitted to live by himself with the soldier who guarded him.”

Paul’s Ministry at Rome

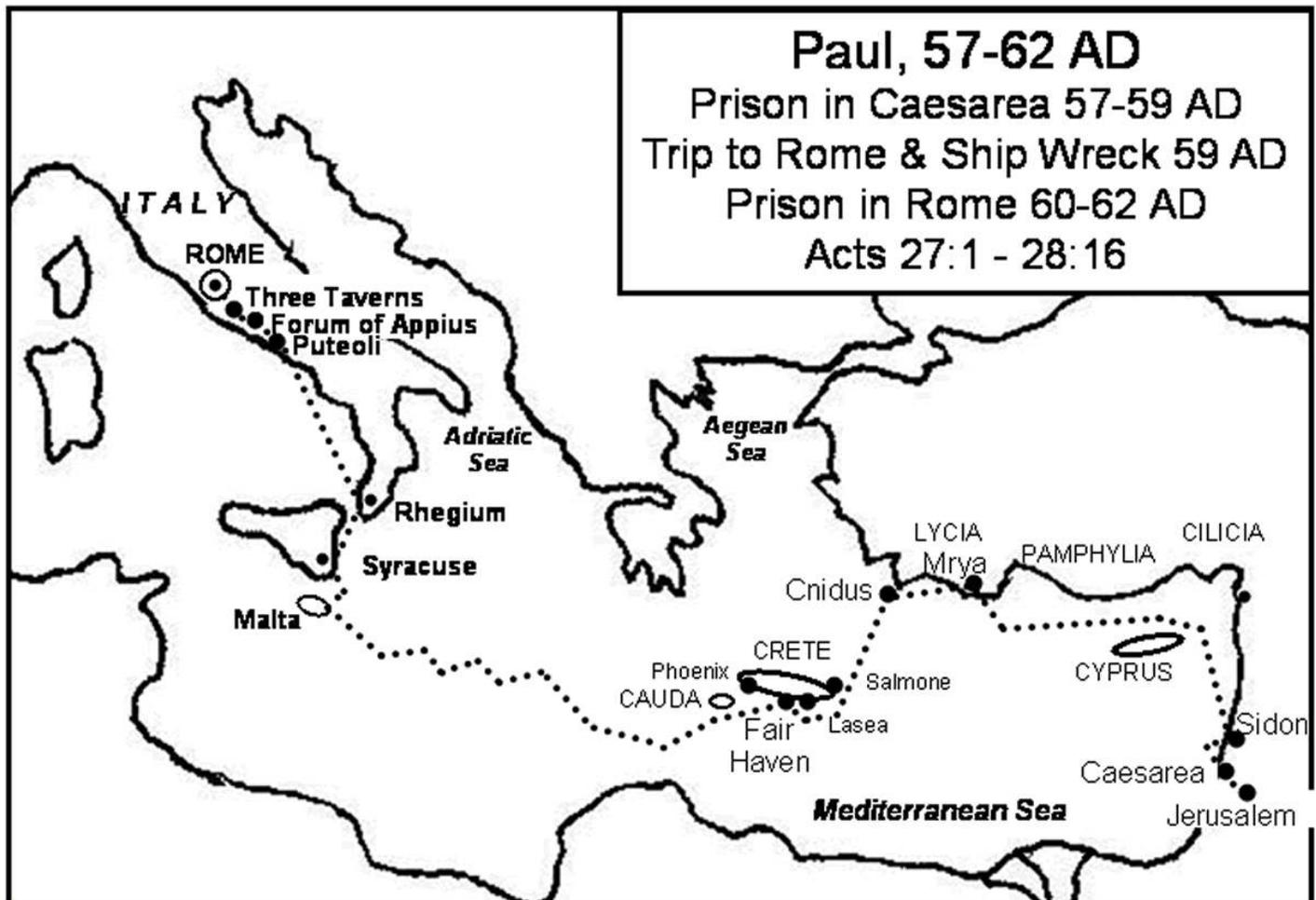
“After three days Paul called the leaders of the Jews together. He told them all about how he became a prisoner. They were interested in what he had to say and came to his lodging. Paul preached about Jesus from the Bible from morning till evening and some believed and others didn’t believe God’s Word.

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah had written about the Word of God being rejected by the Jews and then given to the Gentiles who would hear it and believe. The Jews left Paul’s home arguing with each other.

Paul lived two years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one stopped him.”

Map Study

Your teacher will help you fill in the names of the cities (found in BOLD print) and the path Paul took to get to Rome.



Paul was a “prisoner” of Jesus Christ.

Fill in the Blank - “All things work together for good to those who love God.” Romans 8:28. Fill in the blank with words that tell how God turned the “Bad” into “Good” for Paul and for the spread of the Gospel.

Bad	Good
Paul arrested	Taken into the care of soldier, <u>Julius</u> , who kept him safe and have <u>Luke</u> , his friend, go with him.
Tempest at sea	God sends Paul a <u>dream</u> to let him know all people would live.
Shipwreck	God kept everyone safe and they landed at the <u>Malta</u> .
Paul was a prisoner	In Rome Paul lived on his own with only a guard and was able to <u>preach</u> God’s Word and have visitors.

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” Acts 16:31 Name the people from this lesson that could have heard Paul’s message of Jesus.

Centurion, fellow ship passengers, prisoners and crew (275), those on Malta, every city where they stopped with the ship, those in Rome that came to his home.

Memory Passages

The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. Matt. 18:11

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among man by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:4

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Cor. 1:18

“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15 There are two mission programs for you to consider now or when you are older



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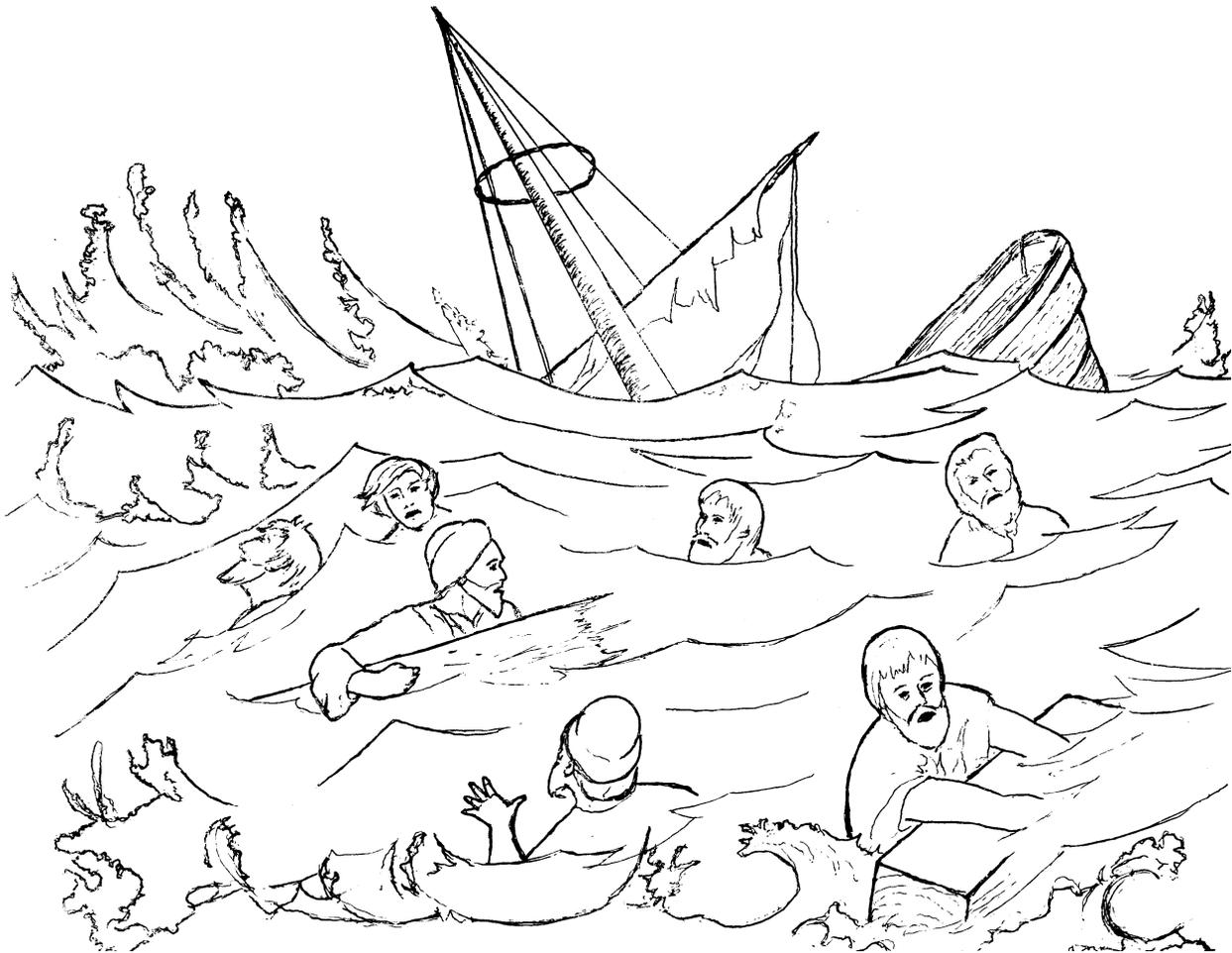
Prayer

Tell of our Redeemers love, Who forever doth remove
By His holy sacrifice all the guilt that on us lies.

Lord of Harvest, let there be joy and strength to work for Thee
Till the nations far and near see Thy light and learn Thy fear. Amen (TLH 507:3, 6)

Paul is Taken to Rome

Acts 27-28



The Story

The soldiers took Paul and some other prisoners to a soldier so they could sail to Rome. Paul would be put on trial before the king in Rome.

Paul and over two hundred other people sailed in a ship for many days. It was often bad weather and it was slow sailing. The captain took good care of Paul and kept him safe.

Paul had a dream in which God told him that their ship would wreck but nobody would die.

Just as God had told Paul, there was very bad weather and the ship broke to pieces but all the people swam or floated to safety on the island of Malta. The people of Malta were friendly and gave them food and built a warm fire. When Paul was getting wood for the fire a snake bit him and hung on to his hand. The people of Malta thought he would die, but God made him not get sick from the poison.

The chief of the island had a sick father. The chief asked Paul to heal his father. Paul prayed for the man and laid his hands on him and he was made better because God helped Paul. Many people then came to Paul to be healed. Paul prayed for them and healed them with God's help.

The people got on another ship and sailed from Malta and finally came to Rome. Paul was still a prisoner but could live in a house and have people come to visit him. He was able to tell them about Jesus, their Savior. Many of Paul's friends and many Christians were able to worship together.

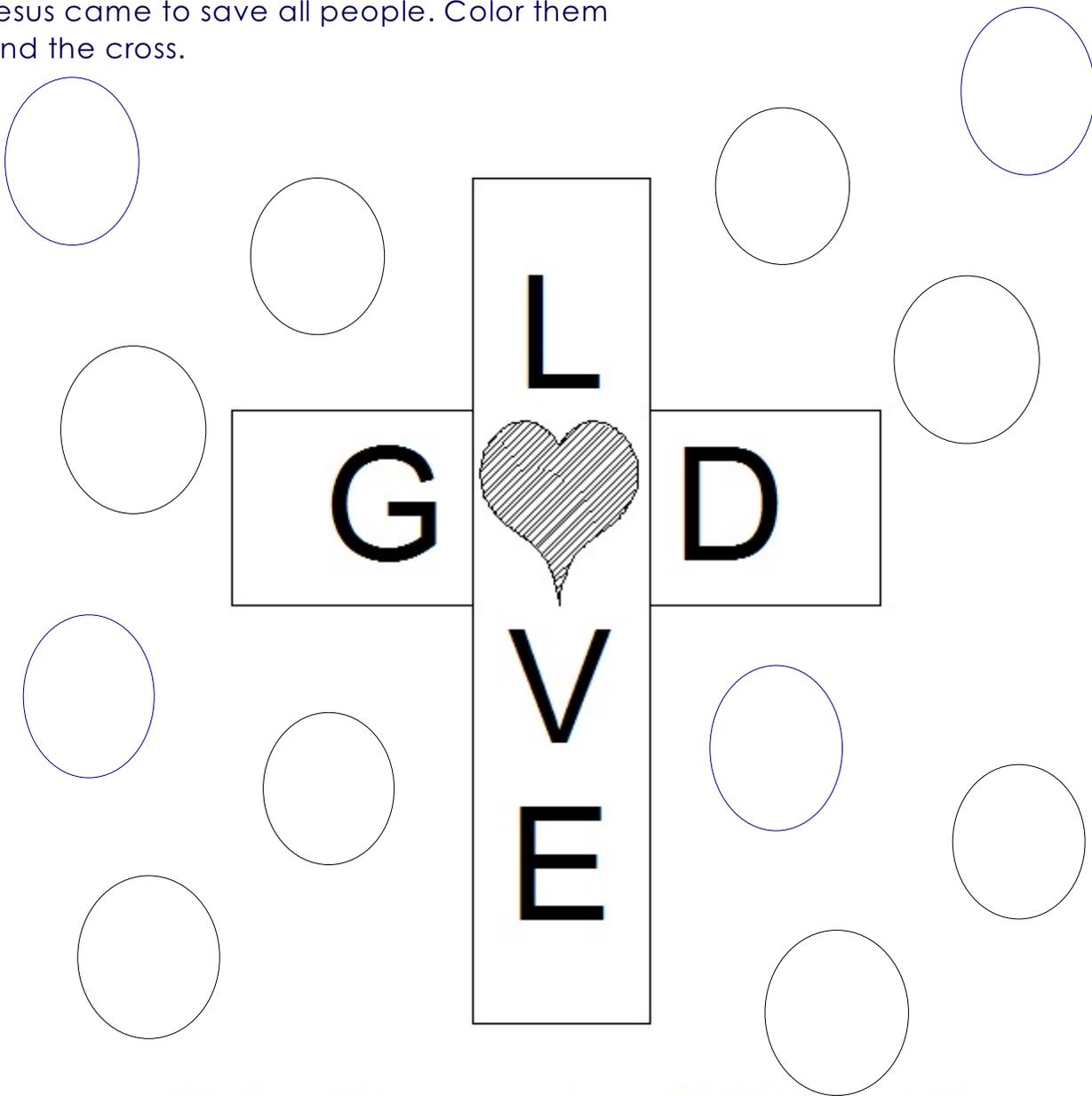


Rome

Inner Aim: Paul is taken to Rome

Activity One

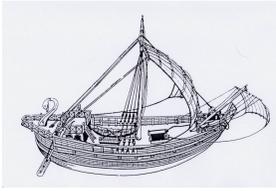
Draw faces all around the cross to show that Jesus came to save all people. Color them and the cross.



The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.
Matthew 18:11

Activity Two

Draw a line to match the "S" word with the picture from the lesson.



ship

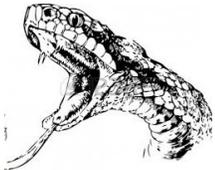
soldier



shipwreck

snake

Savior



Outer Aim: Paul was a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

Bible Passages

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Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

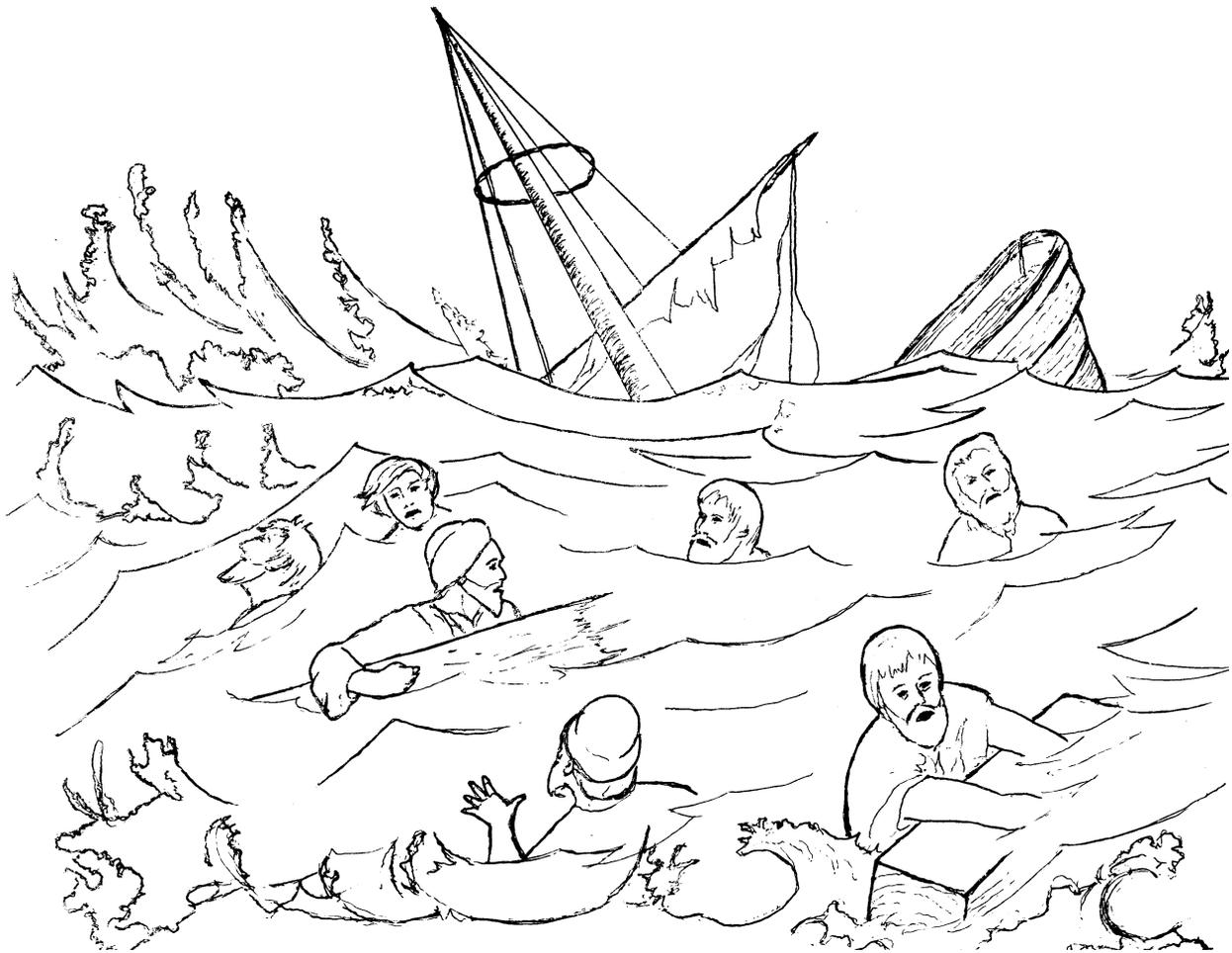
- ◆ Can you name someone to whom Paul preached the Gospel?
- ◆ Who can you tell about Jesus?

Prayer/Hymn TLH 507

Spread, oh, spread, thou mighty Word,
Spread the kingdom of the Lord.
Wheresoe'er Hie breath has giv'n
Life to beings meant for heav'n. Amen

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Acts 27-28



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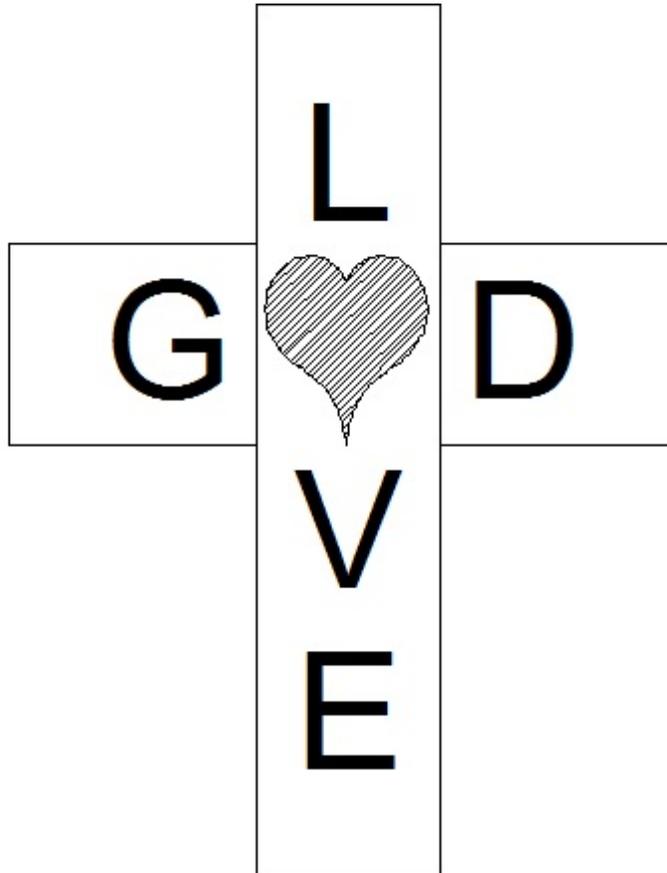


Rome

Inner Aim: Paul is taken to Rome

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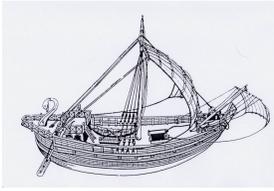
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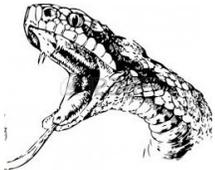
soldier



shipwreck

snake

Savior



Outer Aim: *Paul was a prisoner of Jesus Christ.*

Bible Passages

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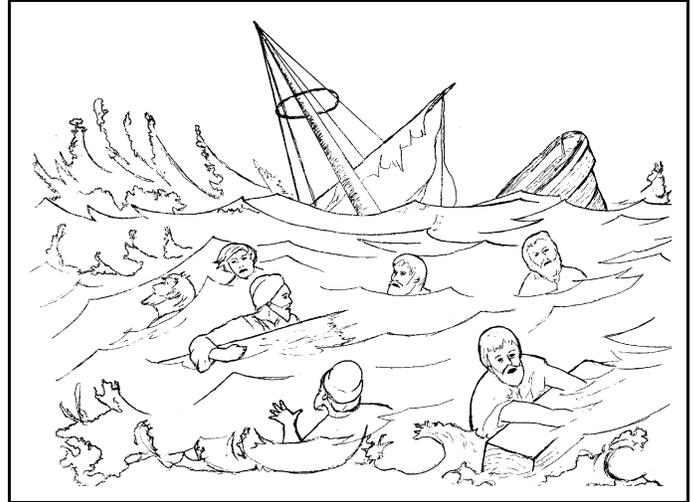
Acts 27-28

How can a shipwreck be a good thing?

Read in today's lesson how the Lord can take a bad thing and turn it into a good thing for Paul and for the spread of the Gospel message of Jesus and salvation.

Prayer

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spread the kingdom of the Lord.
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(TLH #507:1)



Paul is Taken to Rome

Acts 27-28 (condensed)

The Voyage to Rome Begins

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In the Tempest

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ship and even threw the ship's tackle overboard. They couldn't see the sun or moon for many days so they were lost at sea.

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Arrival at Rome

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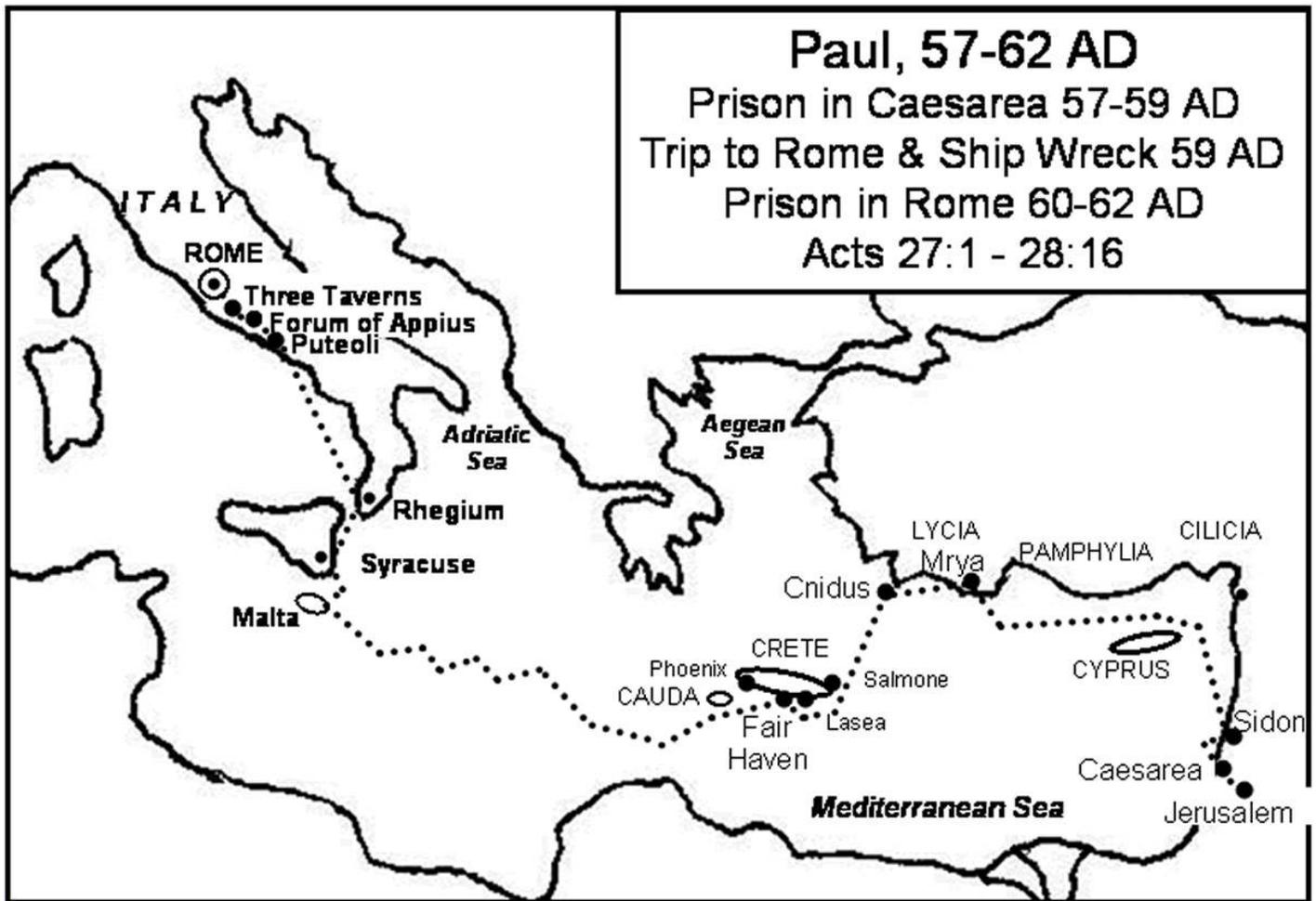
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Map Study

Trace the path Paul took to get to Rome. Be sure to start at Caesarea and end at Rome.



Paul was a "prisoner" of Jesus Christ.

Word Search- Find the words from the lesson in the puzzle.

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

PAUL
SHIPWRECK
ROME

LUKE
SNAKE
MALTA

TEMPEST
SOLDIERS
FEVER

VOYAGE
JULIUS
ISLAND

MINISTRY
CENTURION
CHRISTIAN

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Paul is Taken to Rome

Acts 27-28



Roman citizen

Yes or No: A Roman citizen in Paul's time was a lot like an American citizen in our time.

(Don't look at the clothes but their rights.)

- ▶ Roman soldiers protected Roman citizens all over the world. American embassies protect American citizens all over the world.
- ▶ Roman citizens could plead their case before the king in Rome. American citizens can plead their case to the highest court.
- ▶ These American privileges can help us go all over the U.S.A. and all over the world to preach the Gospel to every creature.



Lady Justice of USA

Prayer

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God gives Luke the following words to write, "So, entering a ship we put to sea, meaning to sail along the coasts of Asia. The next day we landed at **Sidon**. Julius, the captain, treated Paul kindly and let him go to his friends and receive care. We sailed under the shelter of **Cyprus** and over the sea which is off **Cilicia** and **Pamphylia**, we came to

Lycia. There the centurion found another ship sailing to Italy, and he put us on board.

When we had sailed slowly many days we arrived with difficulty off **Cnidus**, the wind not permitting us to proceed, we sailed under the shelter of **Crete**. Passing it with difficulty, we came to a place called **Fair Havens**."

Paul's Warning Ignored

"Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous, Paul advised them, saying, 'Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only



of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.’
Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the majority to set sail.”

In the Tempest

“The south wind blew softly and they sailed close by Crete. But not long after, a tempest arose. When the ship was caught by the great winds the sailors gave up trying to drive it. They tried to lighten the ship and even threw the ship’s tackle overboard. They couldn’t see the sun or moon for many days so they were lost at sea.

They went many days without food. Then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, ‘Men, you should have listened to me. But now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, “Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.” Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. However, we must run aground on a certain island.’

And as day was about to dawn, Paul implored them all to eat so that they would have energy to survive. He took bread and gave thanks to God and began to eat. Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves. In all we were 276 persons on the ship.”

Shipwrecked on Malta

“When it was day, they did not recognize the land; but they observed a bay with a beach, onto which they planned to run the ship aground if possible.

Some of the soldiers’ plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim away and escape. But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from doing that and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard and the rest

could float on boards from the ship. So it was that they all escaped safely to land.”

Paul’s Ministry on Malta

“The island was called **Malta**. The natives showed us unusual kindness. They made a fire for us because it was cold. When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a snake came out and fastened on his hand. When the natives saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to one another, ‘No doubt this man is a murderer. He has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow him to live.’ But Paul shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

We stayed three days with a leading citizen of the island. His father became sick with a fever and Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him. So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed. They also honored us in many ways; and when we departed, they provided such things as were necessary.”

Arrival at Rome

“We sailed to **Syracuse** and then to **Rhegium** and on to **Puteoli**, where we found fellow Christians, and were invited to stay with them seven days. And so we went toward **Rome** where we met with other Christians who came to meet us. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was permitted to live by himself with the soldier who guarded him.”

Paul's Ministry at Rome

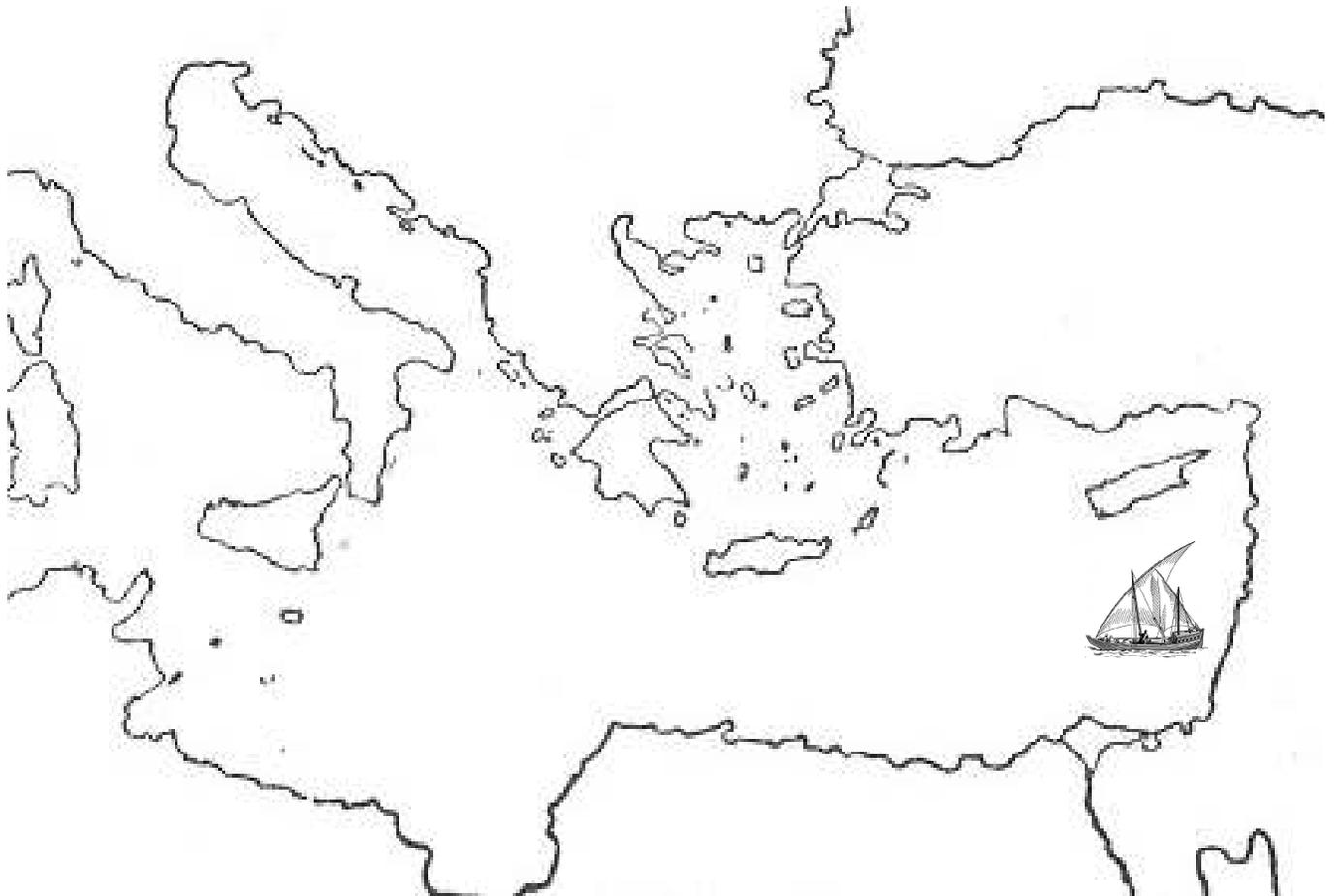
"After three days Paul called the leaders of the Jews together. He told them all about how he became a prisoner. They were interested in what he had to say and came to his lodging. Paul preached about Jesus from the Bible from morning till evening and some believed and others didn't believe God's Word. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah had written about the Word of God being rejected by the

Jews and then given to the Gentiles who would hear it and believe. The Jews left Paul's home arguing with each other.

Paul lived two years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one stopped him."

Map Study

Your teacher will help you fill in the names of the cities (found in BOLD print) and the path Paul took to get to Rome.



Paul was a "prisoner" of Jesus Christ.

Fill in the Blank - "All things work together for good to those who love God." Romans 8:28. Fill in the blank with words that tell how God turned the "Bad" into "Good" for Paul and for the spread of the Gospel.

Bad	Good
Paul arrested	Taken into the care of by soldier, _____, who kept him safe and have _____, his friend, go with him.
Tempest at sea	God sends Paul a _____ to let him know all people would live.
Shipwreck	God kept everyone safe and they landed on _____.
Paul was a prisoner	In Rome Paul lived on his own with only a guard and was able to _____ God's Word and have visitors.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Acts 16:31 Name the people from this lesson that could have heard Paul's message of Jesus.

Memory Passages

The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. Matt. 18:11

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among man by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:4

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Cor. 1:18

“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15 There are two mission programs for you to consider now or when you are older



Mission Helper Program sends you overseas.



Traveling Vacation Bible School uses your talents in the United States.

Prayer

Tell of our Redeemers love, Who forever doth remove
By His holy sacrifice all the guilt that on us lies.

Lord of Harvest, let there be joy and strength to work for Thee
Till the nations far and near see Thy light and learn Thy fear. Amen (TLH 507:3, 6)