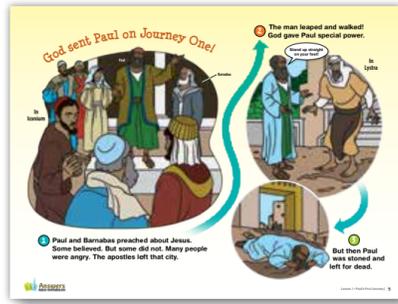


Paul's 1st & 2nd Journeys



- 1st Journey
- 2nd Journey
- ★ Journeys Began

Paul's First Journey



Key Passage

Acts 14:4–10

Lesson Focus

God sent Paul on journey one. He preached about Jesus!

Memory Verse

1 Corinthians 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.



Circle Time

Bring your Lesson Flip Chart, Bible, stuffed animal for prayer time, Lesson Illustrations, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

Begin with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week this quarter. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? What is sin? *Sin is any disobedience against God!*
- ? Who is a sinner? *Every person is born in sin.*
- ? Did Jesus ever sin? *No. He lived a sinless life.*
- ? Does everyone go to heaven? *No. Only those whose hearts are changed and believe in Jesus.*
- ? What does it mean to believe in Jesus? *To trust that Jesus alone can save me.*

Bible Pass Around See the Teacher Guide for details about this activity.

Continue lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.

? Refer to the God Changed Saul Booklet from the Come on In activity and/or the Quarter 3, Lesson 11 Flip Chart Page. Let's get started! Who is this man? *Saul.*

? What happened to Saul? What did he see? *A bright light.*

? And whose voice did Saul hear? Who did he meet? *Jesus.*

Yes! Jesus changed Saul.

Saul did not like the Christians because the Christians loved Jesus. And Saul did not love Jesus. He wanted to find the Christians and bring them to jail. But one day Saul saw a bright light that blinded his eyes. And Saul heard a voice from heaven. It was Jesus's voice! Jesus came to Saul and changed him forever!

? How was Saul changed? *Allow discussion.*

Now Saul believed in Jesus. He loved Jesus! Saul didn't want to hurt the Christians anymore. He wanted to tell others about Jesus.

From now on, we are going to be talking about PAUL. This is the same man as Saul. Paul is another name the Bible uses for him. So when I talk about Paul, you will know it is the same person. Paul is Saul!

? What is another name for Saul? *Paul.*

Good! Remember Jesus changed Paul forever. Paul wanted to KILL Christians because he did not believe in Jesus. But after Jesus changed him, Paul loved Jesus and wanted everyone to

know and believe in Him. Well, Paul didn't know what God had in store for him. God was going to use Paul. And Paul was going to tell LOTS of people about Jesus.

Refer to Paul's Missionary Journeys Flip Chart Map Page. In fact, God sent Paul on four LONG journeys. He traveled to lots of cities. Today we will talk about the first journey. That journey is marked on this map in YELLOW.

? Paul was with a man named Barnabas on this journey. Can you say that? *Have students repeat "Barnabas."*

Refer to these cities on the Flip Chart Map Page. This was the first journey God sent Paul on. Paul and Barnabas started here in the city of Antioch. *Point out the cities on the map. They got on a boat here and sailed to the island of Cyprus. They stayed on a boat and went over here to a city called Perga. Continue to show Paul's journey on the Map Page. Then they went to a different city called Antioch. Refer to the first Antioch, where they started. Remember, they started here at Antioch. But now they were way over here! This is another city by the same name.*

Then they went to MORE cities. *Follow the yellow path to Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. They went to Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. God sent Paul and Barnabas a long way!*

? How do you think they traveled? *Allow discussion.*

Well, we know they went by boat because they were on the sea. But they didn't have cars, or trains, or planes, or even bicycles back then. When they weren't on a ship, they were probably WALKING. And that took a long time because they went a long way!

Now we don't have time to talk about what happened in ALL of these cities. So today, we are going to talk about what happened right here in Iconium. *Point to Iconium on the Flip Chart Map Page.*

? Can you say that with me? Repeat "Iconium" with the children while pointing to it on the Flip Chart Map Page. Who do you think Paul was telling the people in Iconium about? Who did Paul love to tell people about? *Jesus!*

Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible, and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book of Acts is. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.

Acts 14:4

Paul was telling the people in the city of Iconium about Jesus. What did the people think about Jesus? The Bible tells us! Listen carefully as I read and see if you can figure it out. *Read Acts 14:4 very enthusiastically emphasizing the answers to the questions.*

? The Bible says the people were divided. That means they didn't agree on the same thing. How were they divided? *Re-read the verse if necessary. Some sided with the Jews, others sided with the apostles.*

Some of the people believed everything Paul and Barnabas said about Jesus. They were happy to hear about Jesus! But there were other people who did NOT believe any of it! They weren't happy with the apostles.

Acts 14:5–6

This was trouble for the apostles. Let's see what happened. Listen really carefully as I read Acts 14:5–6. *Read the verses.*

Uh oh! The apostles were in trouble! The Bible says the people wanted to stone them!

? What do you think that means? What does stoning mean? *Allow discussion.*

The people who did not like to hear about Jesus wanted to throw big stones at them. That would hurt! Sometimes they would throw so many stones the person would die!

? What did the apostles do when they heard that they might get stoned? *Re-read Acts 14:6. They fled!*

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page. They FLED out of Iconium! They were running for their lives! Paul and Barnabas did not want stones thrown at them. They did not want to die! The Bible says they went to these cities—to Lystra and Derbe. *Point to Lystra and Derbe on the map.*

Acts 14:7

Guess what the apostles did when they got to those cities? Listen to this verse. It is Acts 14:7. It tells us what they did in Lystra and Derbe. *Read Acts 14:7.*

? What were they doing there? *Preaching the gospel!*

Yes! Those mean people weren't going to stop Paul and Barnabas! God sent them on journey one. They were preaching the gospel again in the cities of Lystra and Derbe. They were telling the people all about Jesus!

Acts 14:8–10

When Paul and Barnabas got to Lystra, the people saw Paul do something really amazing! Listen to this, and then tell me what Paul did! *Read Acts 14:8–10 with enthusiasm. Emphasize the key points.*

? Wow! What was wrong with the man Paul saw? *Re-read Acts 14:8 if necessary. He had never walked!*

Refer to Lesson Illustration #1. He couldn't walk. There was something wrong with his feet. He had NEVER walked because he was born that way! But the Bible says the man had faith that he could be healed.

? Who did the man have faith in? *Allow discussion.*

This man had faith in Jesus. He knew that Paul was telling everyone about Jesus!

? What did Paul say to the man? *Re-read Acts 14:10. Stand up straight on your feet!*

? What did the man do? *Acts 14:10. He leaped and walked!*

Refer to the Lesson Illustration #2. That would have been something to see! Paul told him to stand up on his feet. The man had never walked before! And just like that, the man got up and leaped around and walked! Jesus had given Paul the power to heal the man.

But there were people in Lystra who did NOT like what Paul was saying about Jesus. They did NOT care that Jesus had given Paul special power to do wonderful things such as healing a man. They caused more trouble. These people came and stoned Paul!

Remember how Paul and Barnabas fled from Iconium so they wouldn't get stoned? Well, this time they didn't make it out! The people stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city. They thought he was dead and left him there. But he wasn't dead! He got up, and the next day he went to the city of Derbe. And guess what? Paul would NOT stop telling the people about Jesus!

Paul wanted everyone to know that Jesus is God! He wanted the people of Derbe to know that Jesus came so that sinners could be saved forever! Jesus died on the Cross, was buried, and rose from the grave. And everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life! That is what Paul was telling the people.

1 Corinthians 1:18

Refer to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. That is what our memory verse talks about. Let's take a look at that now. *Have the students repeat the memory verse after you as you point out the words and pictures on the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.*

? Who died on the Cross? *Jesus.*

? Why did Jesus die on the Cross? *Allow discussion.*

Jesus died so sinners could be saved! But to people who don't believe what the Bible says about Jesus, everything about Him seems like foolishness—a lot of people think it is silly talk and just not true! Some people even get mad when they hear about Jesus!

Refer to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. But look here! This verse says to us who are being saved it is the power of God!

? What is the power of God? Can you tell by looking at this picture? *The Cross.*

Yes! You see, the Cross and what Jesus did on it seems silly to people who don't believe. But to people who DO believe, it is the power of God! The Cross saves sinners and gives them eternal life! The message of the Cross is about Jesus!

On journey one, some people believed what Paul and Barnabas said about Jesus. Others did not believe the truth about Jesus. But Paul kept preaching! He got into trouble and even got stoned! What the Bible tells us is true! The Cross is foolishness to those who do not believe. But it is POWER for us who do believe in Jesus! Believing in the message of the Cross can save us!

SONG

➤ Musical instruments, marching, and motions can be added to this section to add interest. Lyrics to the songs can be found on the Flip Chart Song Page and on the Song Sheet at the back of the Teacher Guide.

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. The message of the Cross is that Jesus took the place of sinners so sinners could be saved. Some people think this message is foolish. But other people believe the good news. These people are being saved! We talked about our memory verse. There is a song for it. Let's sing it together! *Sing the Memory Verse Song two or three times.*

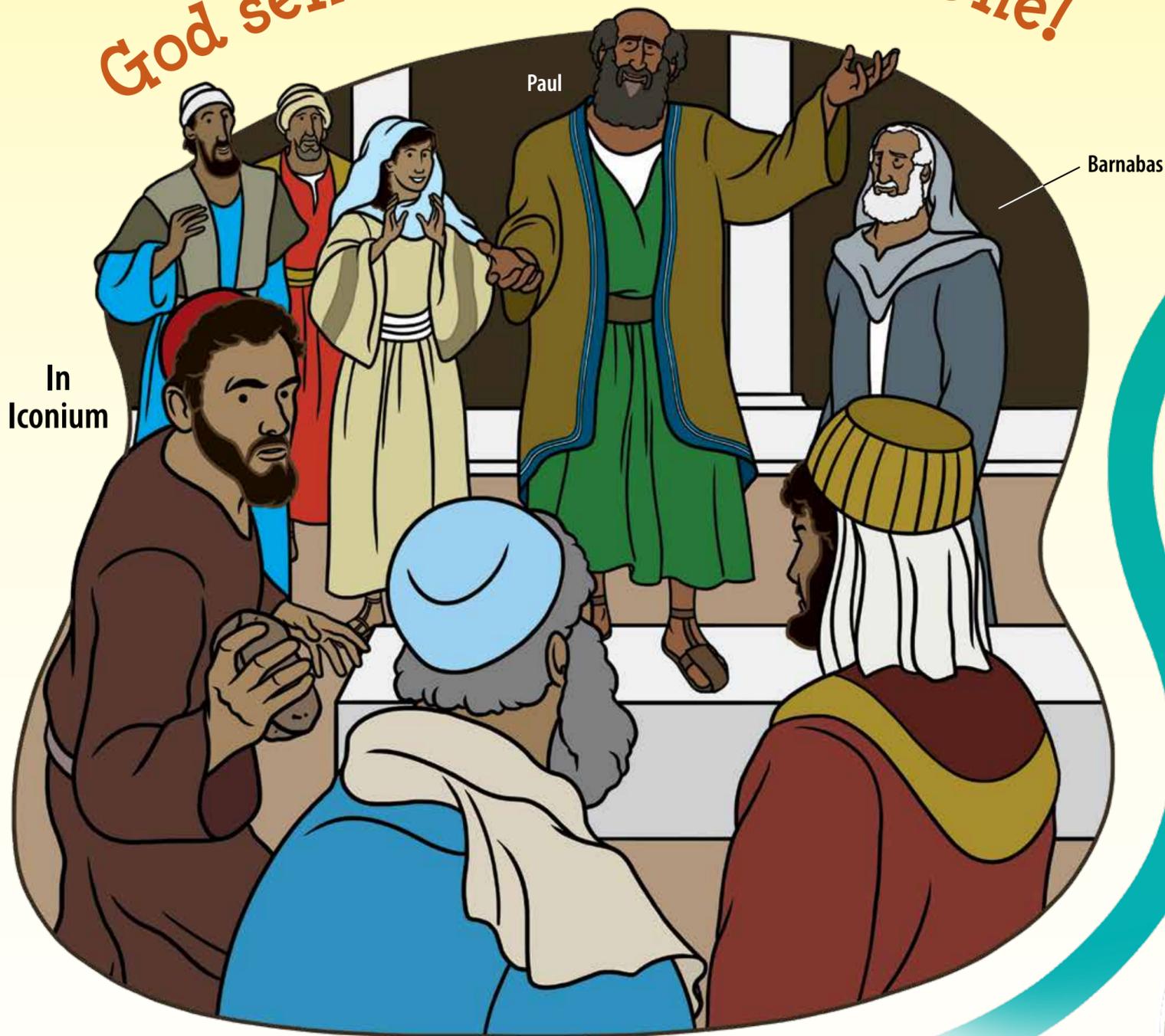
Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page. Jesus died on the Cross, but came back to life! That is good news! Paul loved Jesus and wanted to tell everyone about Him! Let's sing the song called "Tell the Gospel News." Let's sing it a few times together. *Sing together. You may want to whisper while patting your lap, or sing loudly while stomping.*

Now we are going to learn a new song about Paul and the first journey God sent him on with Barnabas. Let's give it a try! Let's sing "God Sent Paul." *Sing together while marching around the circle.*

➤ Refer to the Teacher Guide for the activities to be continued in Circle Time.

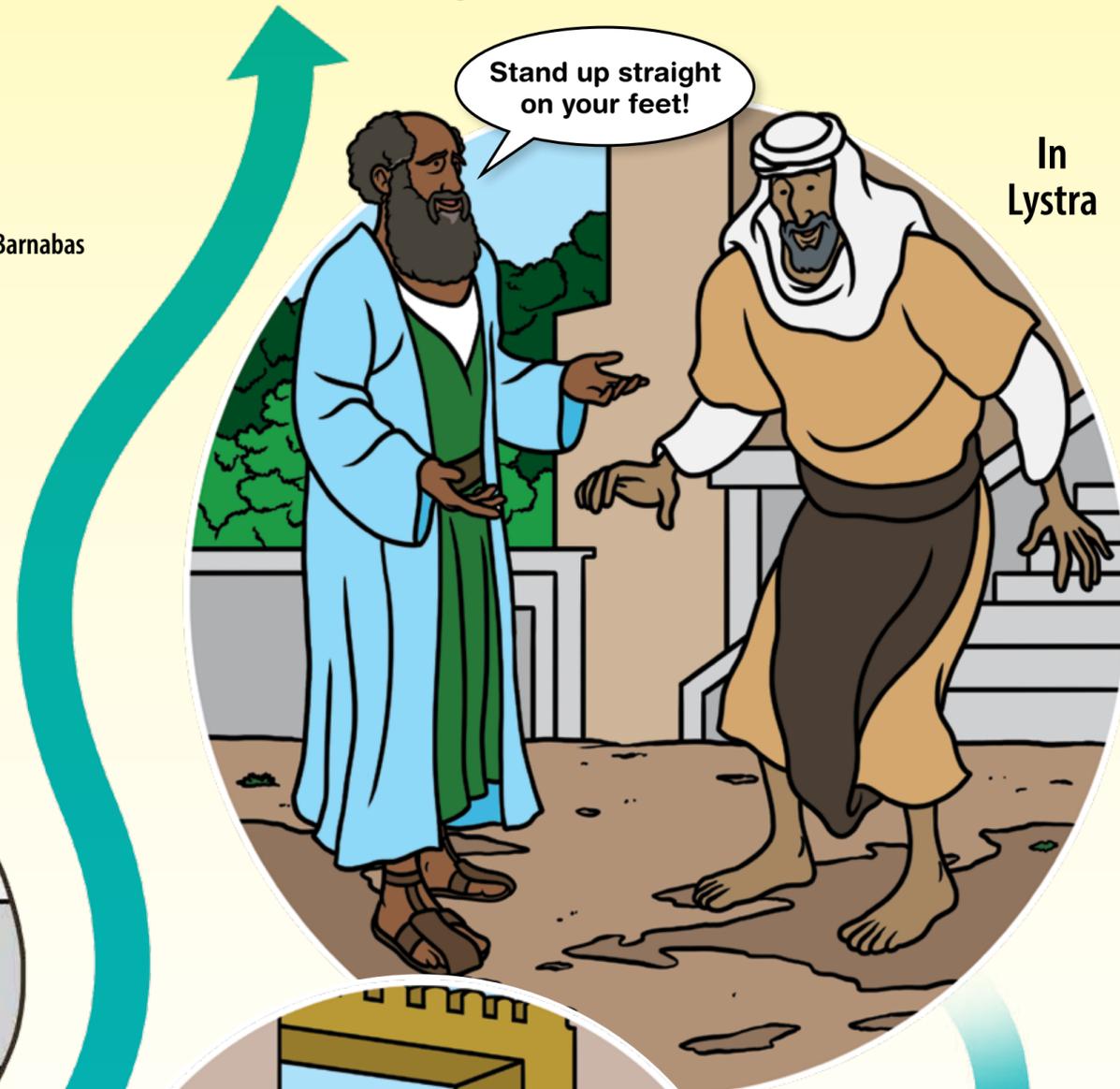
➤ Oversee an orderly way to get the children back to their seats, especially if the chairs were moved for Circle Time.

God sent Paul on Journey One!



1 Paul and Barnabas preached about Jesus. Some believed. But some did not. Many people were angry. The apostles left that city.

2 The man leaped and walked! God gave Paul special power.



3 But then Paul was stoned and left for dead.