



Missionaries of Christ



Paul • Philip • Stephen
Peter • Lydia • _____

Level • IV

How do you become a missionary?
**Paul – Converted by
 God to Preach Christ**

Text:

Acts 9:1-9; 18b-22 (NKJV)

Background Setting:

The time of this story is about 33 A.D., three years after Jesus's death, resurrection, and ascension.

We are here introduced to Saul, who at this point persecuted instead of professed Christ. the name "Saul" was Paul's given Hebrew name, while Paul was his Roman or Latin name.



And Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 And he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying

to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." 6 And he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" And the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

7 And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. 8

And Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. (V. 10-18a: God sent Ananias to bring the Word to Saul and to heal him of his blindness. Saul received the Holy Spirit.) 18b And he arose and was baptized. 19 And when he had received food, he was strengthened.

Then Saul spent some days with the disciples who were in Damascus. 20 And immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. 21 But all who heard him were amazed, and said, "Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and came here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priest?"

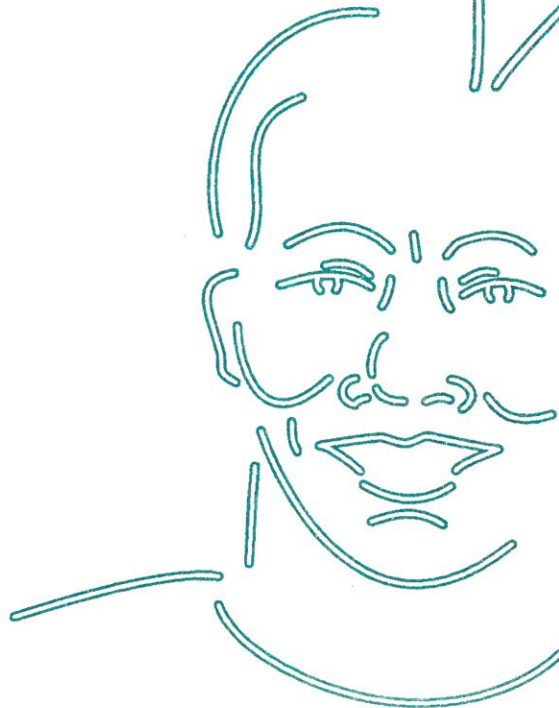
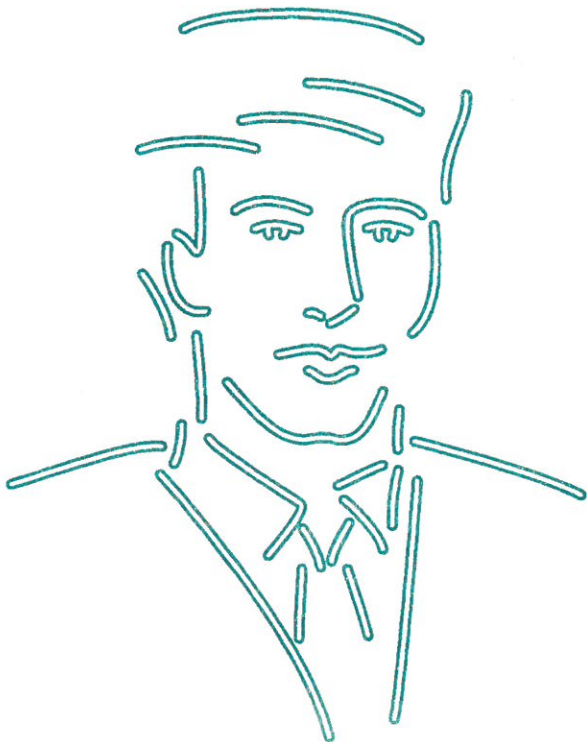
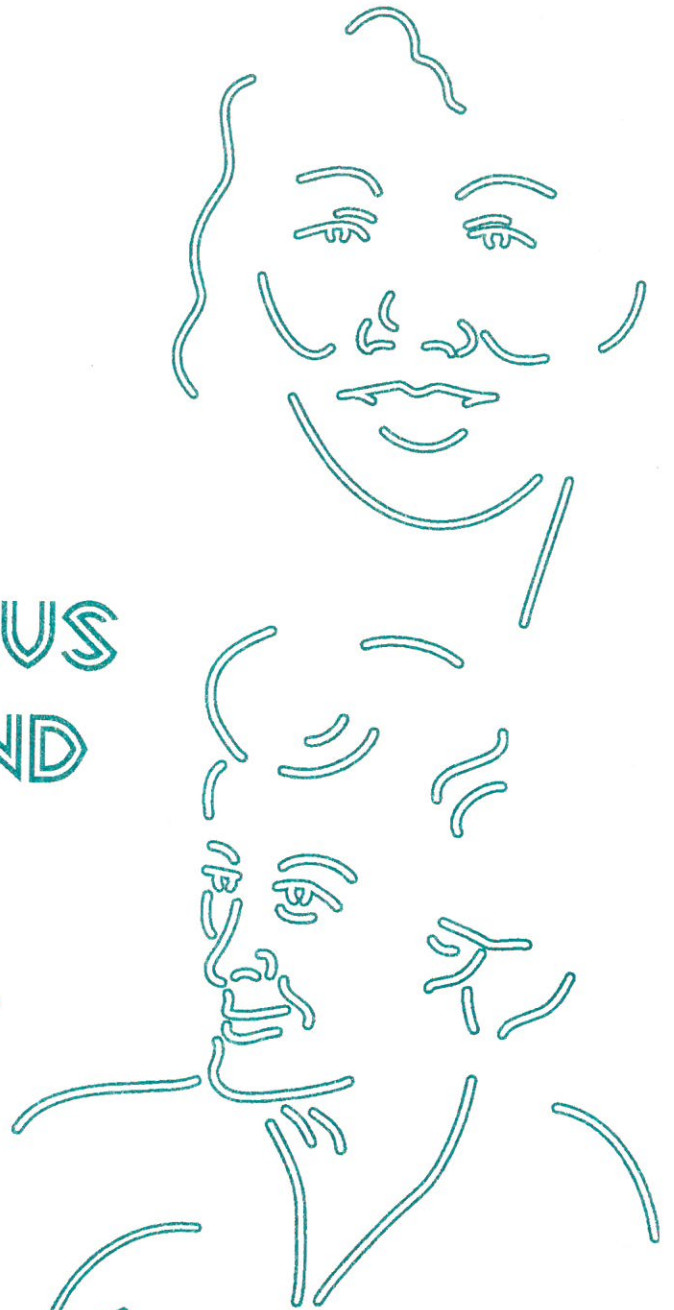
22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this is indeed the Christ.

SAUL
SAUL





BELIEVE
ON THE
LORD JESUS
CHRIST AND
YOU WILL
BE SAVED.
ACTS 16:31



Paul – Converted by God to Preach Christ

1

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

Saul took part in the stoning of _____, the first martyr.

Saul's job was to capture or kill _____.

On his way to _____, Saul was confronted by the Lord.

Saul was _____ for three days following this incident.

When Saul regained his sight, he asked to be _____.

2. True or False:

____ Saul realized his sin and decided that he should be converted.

____ God's Word brought Saul to a realization of his sin.

____ Some people are too sinful to be converted.

____ We should not ignore anyone in our preaching of the Gospel.

3. Tell whether each statement below refers to conversion, baptism, or confession.

_____ speaking of our faith to others.

_____ instituted by Christ.

_____ gives the forgiveness of sins.

_____ done by the Holy Spirit.

_____ a desire to share the Gospel.

_____ a rebirth by water and the Word.

_____ a turning from sin to Christ.

4. Hymn Study - Use the word from the hymn to answer the following questions. (#37 TLH)

Stanza 1

If it was up to man, how
would our hearts treat Jesus

What caused Jesus to choose
us to be saved?

For what purpose has Jesus
chosen us?

Stanza 2

In what condition were we
before the Lord chose us?

As Christians, for what do
we thirst?

Why can we love the Lord?

What does a missionary talk about?

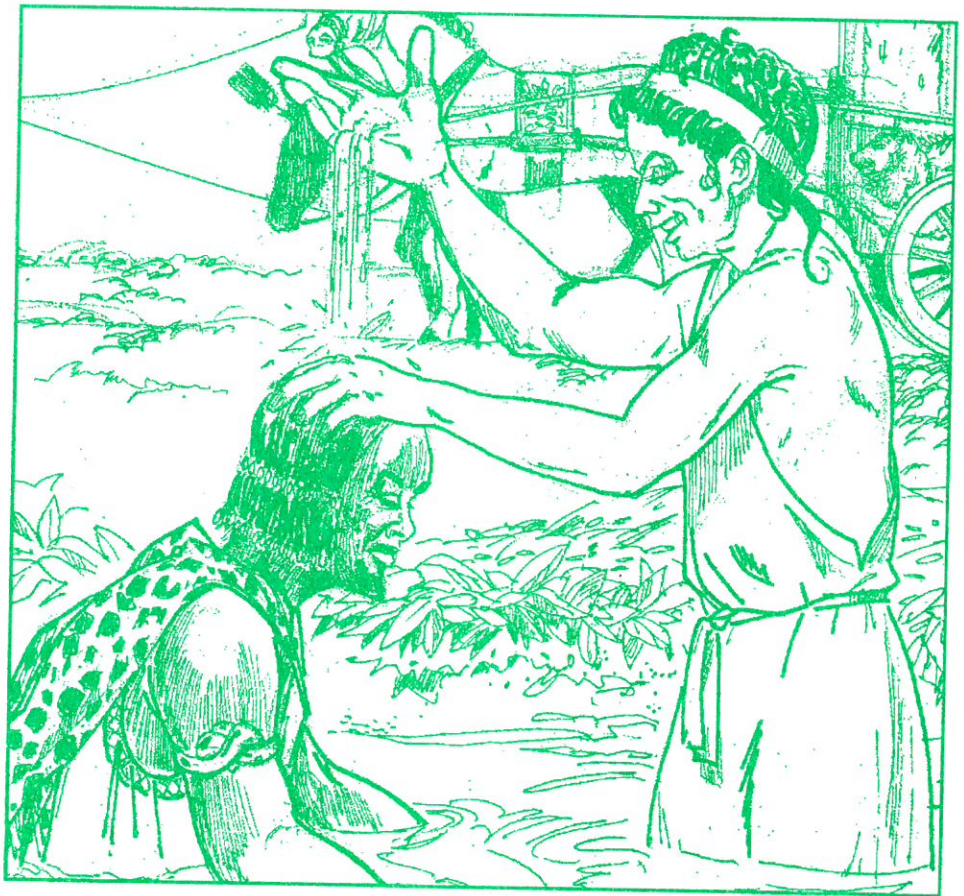
Philip – Instructed by God to Speak His Word

Text:

Acts 8:26-40 (NKJV)

Background Setting:

One source suggests a general time frame of six to seven years following the great day of Pentecost. It certainly takes place during the time of the persecution which claimed the life of Stephen the martyr, cf. Acts 7-8. Acts 8:1 speaks of a great persecution which caused the Christians to be scattered abroad. Acts 8:5 speaks of Philip going down to the city of Samaria and preaching Christ, and then (cf. Acts 8:26) being directed by the angel of the Lord to the place where he would meet the Ethiopian in the desert between Jerusalem and Gaza, cf. Acts 8:26



And an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, “Arise and go toward the south to the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert. 27 And he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch, of great authority

under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, 28 was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.” 30 And Philip ran to

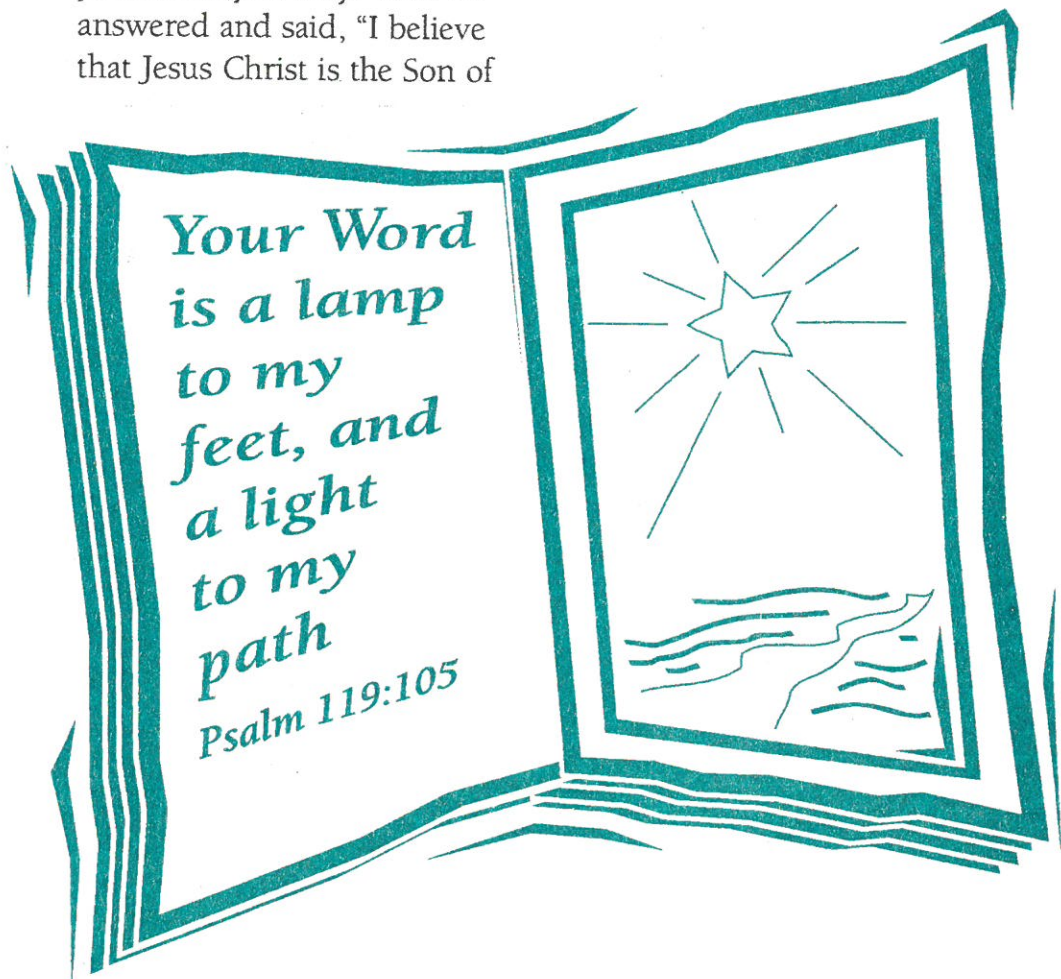
him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 The place in the Scripture which he was reading was this:

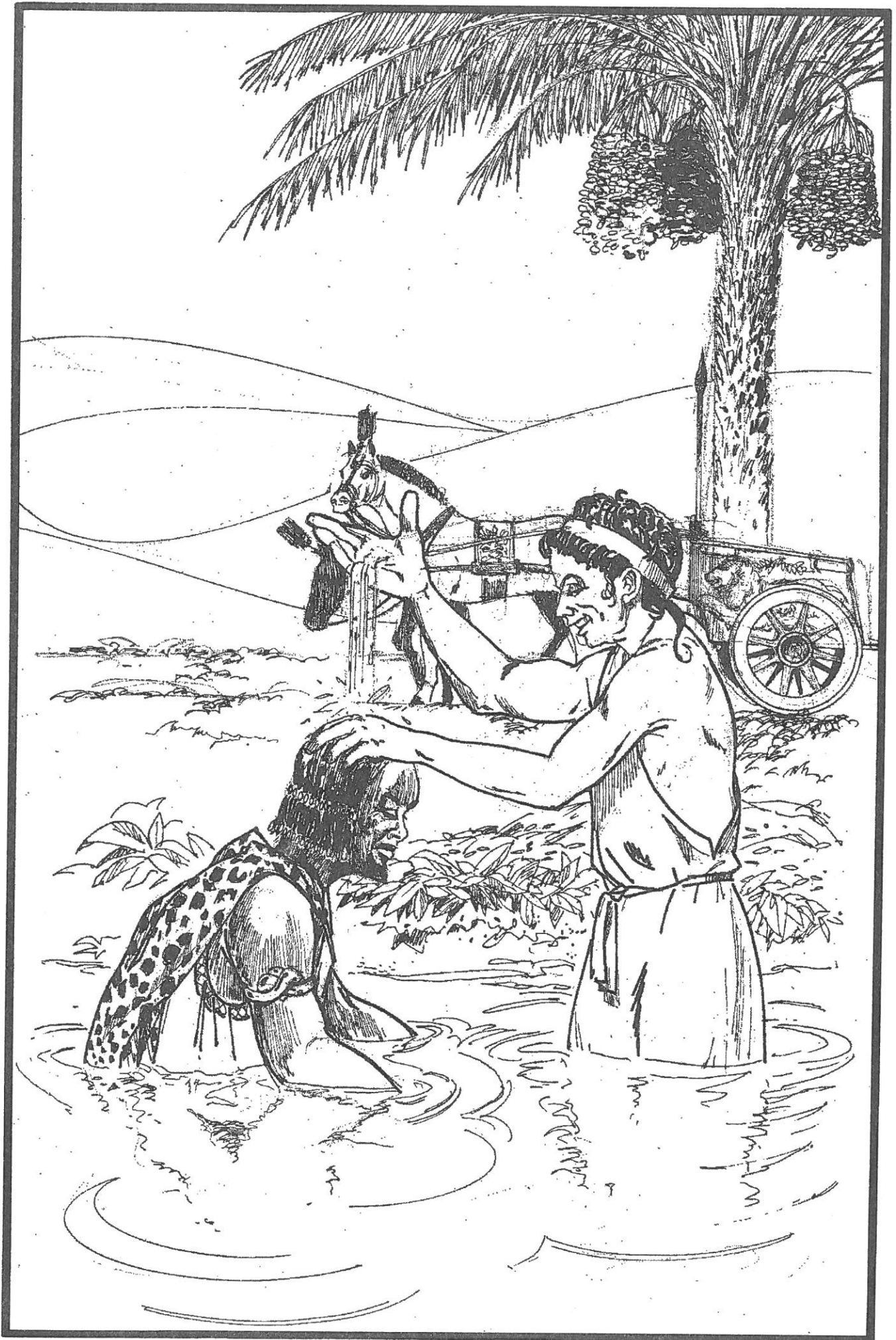
"He was led as a sheep
to the slaughter;
And like a lamb silent
before its shearer,
So He did not open
His mouth.

33 In His humiliation His
justice was taken away.
And who will declare
His generation?
For His life is taken from
the earth.

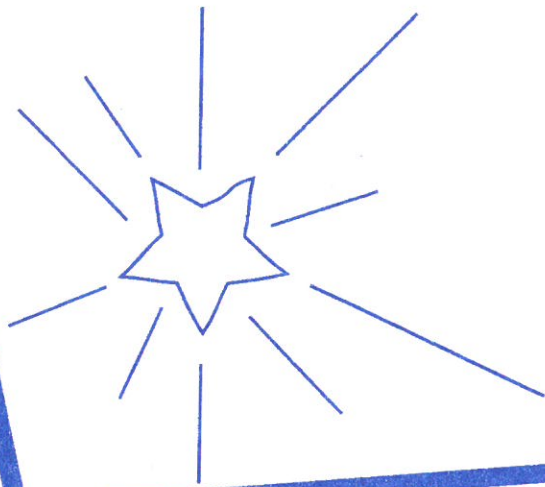
34 And the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 And as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of

God." 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. 39 And when they had come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.





*Your Word
is a lamp
to my
feet, and
a light
to my
path
Psalm 119:105*



Philip – Instructed by God to Speak His Word

1. True or False:

- ___ Philip and Stephen were deacons in Jerusalem.
- ___ Philip left Jerusalem to get away from Saul's persecution.
- ___ An Ethiopian eunuch was reading from Isaiah.
- ___ The Ethiopian wondered about whom Isaiah was speaking.
- ___ Philip baptized the Ethiopian when he realized that he was wealthy.
- ___ The Ethiopian believed because Philip was a good preacher.
- ___ The Ethiopian believed that Jesus was God's Son, our Savior.
- ___ Philip rode with the Ethiopian to his house.
- ___ After Philip left the Ethiopian, his mission work was over.

3. Hymn Study - Use the words from the hymn to answer the following questions. (TLH)

#283

Name 2 things God's Word does or is for us.

Name 2 things we should do if your life is with God's Word.

#512: st. 1, 2, 5, 6

What word (s) is used to refer to living in unbelief?

What word (s) is used to refer to living in Jesus?

#506

Stanza 1 Where is God's Word preached?

Stanza 2-3 Give 3 reasons why God sends out workers.

Stanza 5 What weapon does God send with His workers?

2. Answer these questions about "Mission Work" specifically

When and where should we speak about God's Word?

Why should we share the written Word of God?

Why should we study the Scriptures and know them well?

How can we make sure that someone believes?

Why should we be ready and willing to baptize?

Being a missionary may not be easy.

Stephen – Strengthened by God to Confess unto Death



Text:

Acts 6:8; 7:51-60 (NKJV)

Background Setting:

Love and harmony reigned supreme with the church at Jerusalem, and at first the enemies of Christ were not permitted to harm these Christians in any way. The

Lord preserved Peter and John during their first arrest. All the Apostles were then imprisoned by the elders of the Jews.

Again the Lord miraculously intervened and sent His angel to open the prison doors and set them free. The next day the Lord moves the highly respected Rabbi Gamaliel to advise against passing the death sentence upon the disciples.

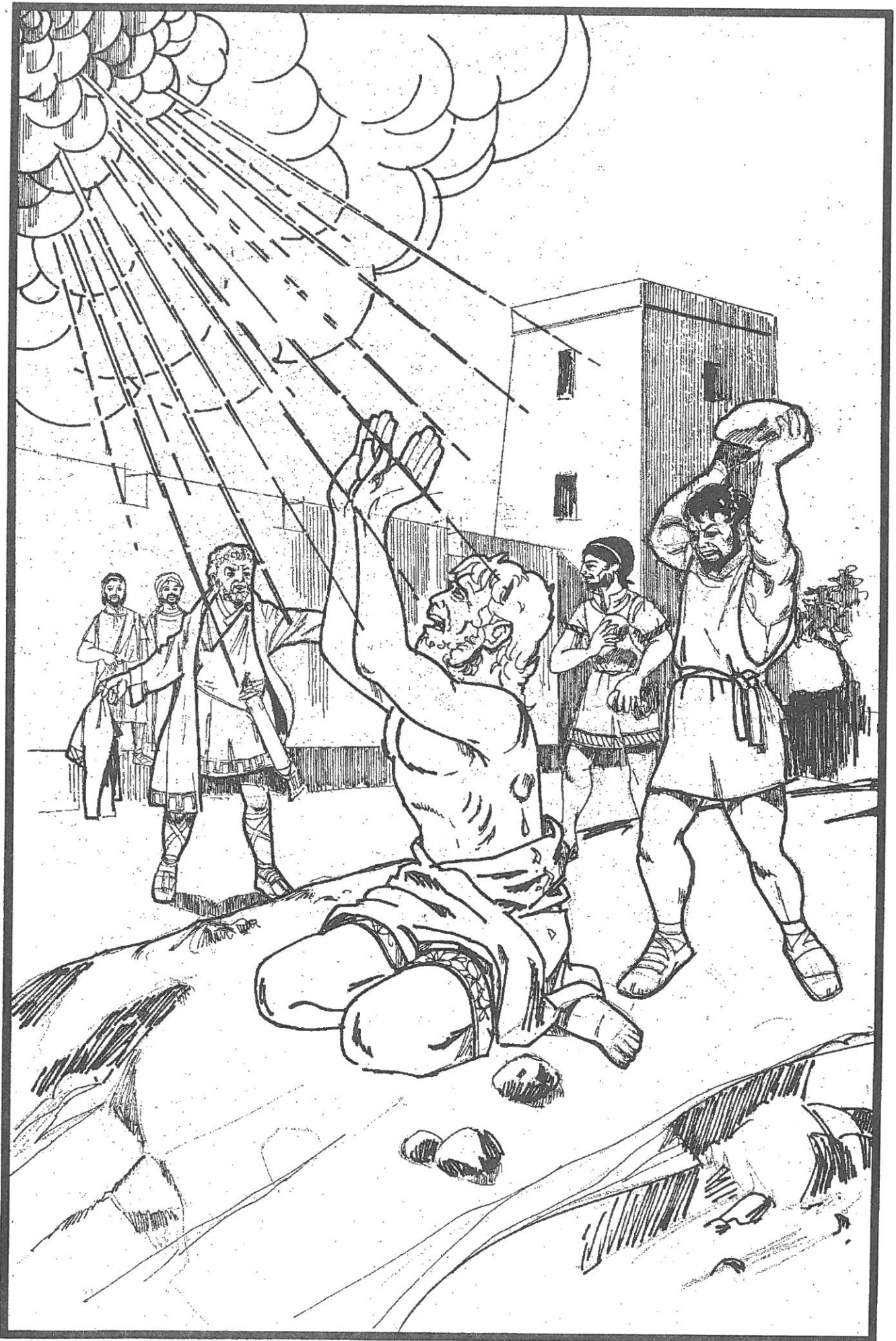
However, the Apostles are whipped and again strictly forbidden to preach Christ crucified. But strengthened by the Risen Savior they fearlessly continue to preach Jesus Christ “daily in the Temple and in every house.” In our lesson today we hear of the first major persecution of Christians and of the first martyr for Christ, Stephen.


And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people. (Chap. 6:8)

(But some Jews falsely accused Stephen, had him arrested, and brought him to trial. In his own defense, Stephen quoted from the Old Testament to show that Jesus was indeed the promised Messiah. The Savior had come. But the Jews refused to believe. In a sermon to them - Acts 7:1-53 Stephen continued.)

51 “You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets have your fathers not persecuted? And they have killed those who have foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, 53 who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it.”

54 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” 57 Then they called out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; 58 and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man whose name was Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.





*Be
faithful unto
death, And I
will give you the
Crown of Life.*

Revelation 2:10

Stephen – Strengthened by God to Confess unto Death

1. Put these events in the order in which they happened.

Use 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

- _____ Saul watched the coats of those who would stone Stephen.
- _____ Stephen preached about the unbelief of the Jews.
- _____ Stephen saw Jesus standing at God's right hand.
- _____ Stephen died.
- _____ Stephen prayed for the Jews.

2. Write Stephen's words which show him:

Preaching the Law to his enemies.

Preaching the Gospel to his enemies.

Caring about the salvation of his enemies.

Depending on God for all things, even in death.

4. Hymn Study - Use the words from the hymn to answer the following questions.

#289 (TLH)

Tell what the Law and the Gospel do as expressed by the hymnwriter in stanzas 1, 2, and 3.

Stanza 1 Law -
Gospel -

Stanza 2 Law -
Gospel -

Stanza 3 Law -
Gospel -

Stanza 4 Law or Gospel?
Which gives us no comfort, only despair?

Which gives us the hope of our Savior?

3. Fill in the blanks.

By preaching the _____ Stephen hoped to show the Jews what their Savior had done for them.

By preaching the _____ Stephen hoped to show the Jews that they were sinful.

The Jews became _____ when they heard Stephen preach.

_____ is the greatest gift Jesus has given to us.

We should forgive even the sins of our _____.



Why a missionary talks to all people.
**Peter – Sent by God
 to Witness unto All**

Text: Acts 10:9-16; 34-40;
 42-43 (NKJV)

Background Setting:

Cornelius was in charge of the Roman fortress at Caesarea the seat of the governor of Judea. Caesarea like Joppa is along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.

Caesarea is about 35 miles North of Joppa. Cornelius was over the Italian Cohort. A Cohort was one tenth of a legion, which actually amounted to 600 men or more, plus auxiliary calvary units. It was probably called "Italian" because it was mustered in Italy, of Roman Citizens.

Cornelius was a proselyte (convert) to Judaism. In contrast to the normal Roman and Gentiles - who worshiped Jupiter, Mercury, Venus, the Emperor, as well as many other gods, this man had forsaken the pagan notion of many gods and identified with the living God, the One God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. This was a tremendous step that very obviously set the man apart from his associates in every day matters, such as simply not beginning every meal with a libation (pouring out some of the wine) to the gods. This chapter describes (v.2, 22) that he was so generous in appreciation for the knowledge of the one, living, God that all the Jews respected him, a Gentile. That was unusual, to say the least. The words in verse 2 "devout man and one that feared God" clearly show his conversion. The adjective "devout" is used also in v.7 about the soldier whom he sent. This word is used in Acts:13:43, 16:14, 17:4, 17, and 18:7 designating Gentile converts to Judaism. The Greek word for "Feared God" is used in Acts 10:22, 35, 13:16, 27) in a similar sense.



In answer to His prayers and works, God came to Cornelius with a message: "seek Peter". Why? Cornelius knew about the one God and His revealed Truth, even the promise of a coming Messiah, one anointed to save. However, though Peter's words later imply that Cornelius too must have heard some things about Jesus, Cornelius did not understand that Jesus was that promised Messiah and all that it meant for him. Notice that Cornelius did not just send anyone. He sent two of his close servants and a soldier who shared his faith (v.7 "devout"). Notice also in v.27 that many had come together, it would appear that Cornelius was very actively sharing his faith, perhaps even meeting with others regularly to worship God in his home.

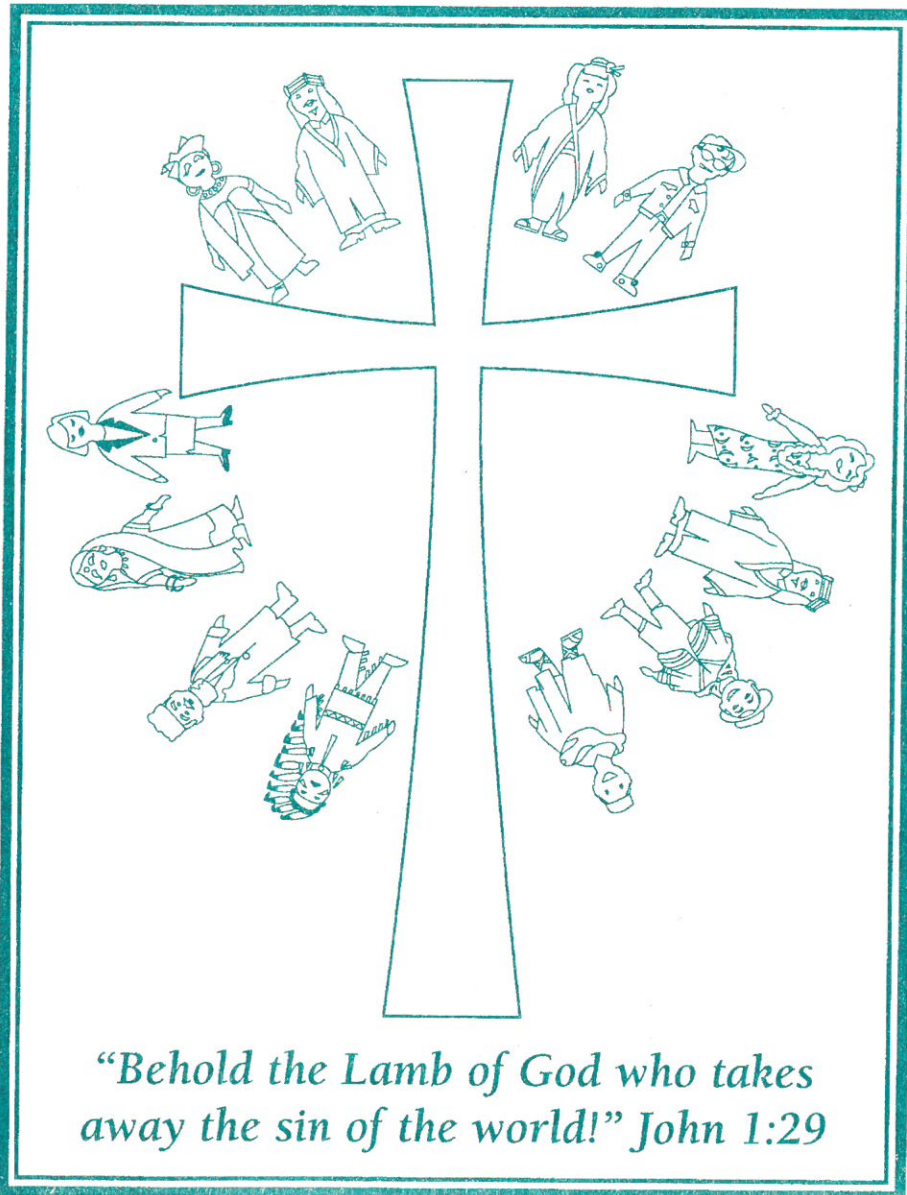
The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. 10 And he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance 11 and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him, and let down to the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of four-

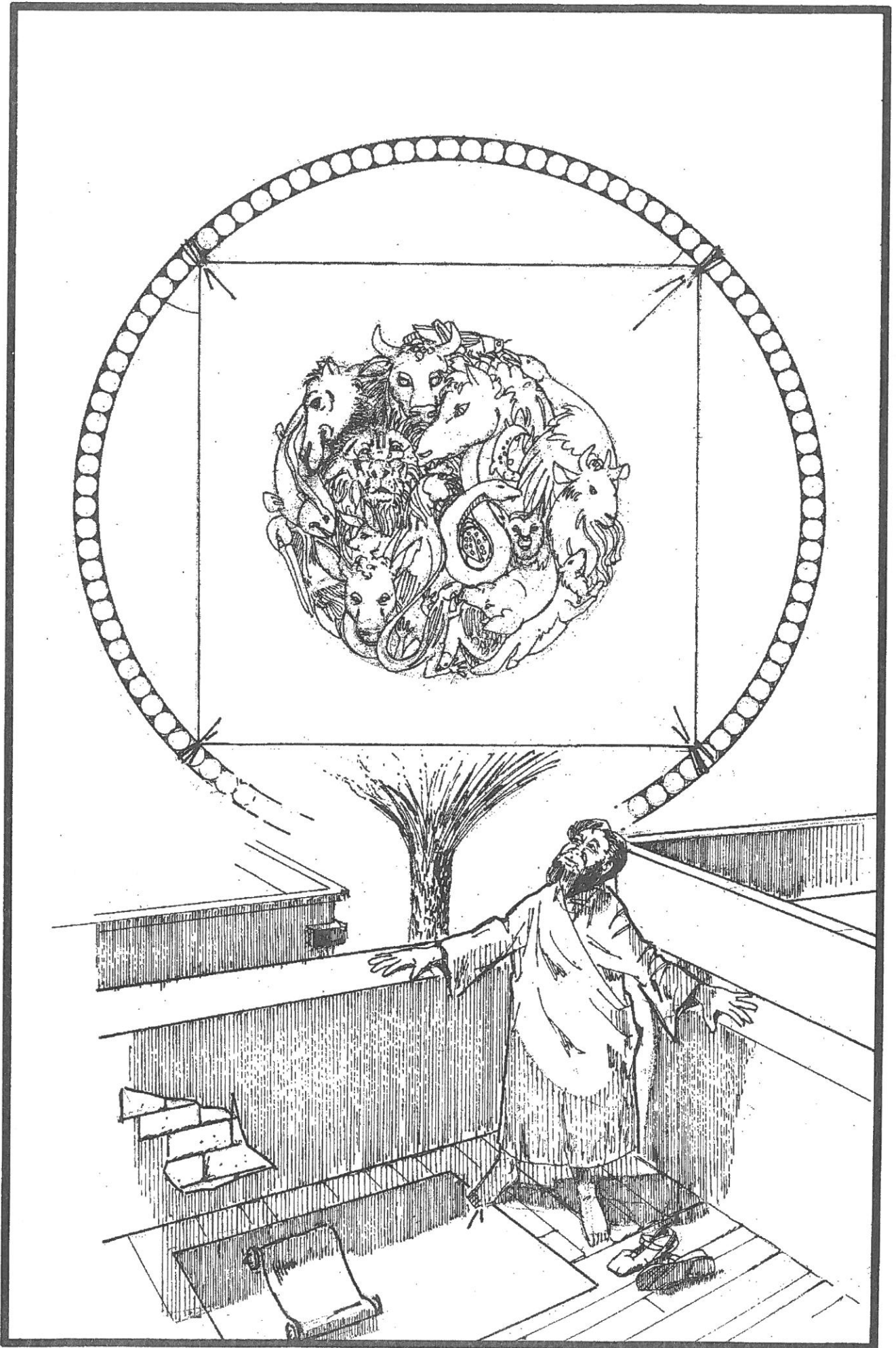
footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. 13 And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." 14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord!" For I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." 15 And a voice spoke to him again the

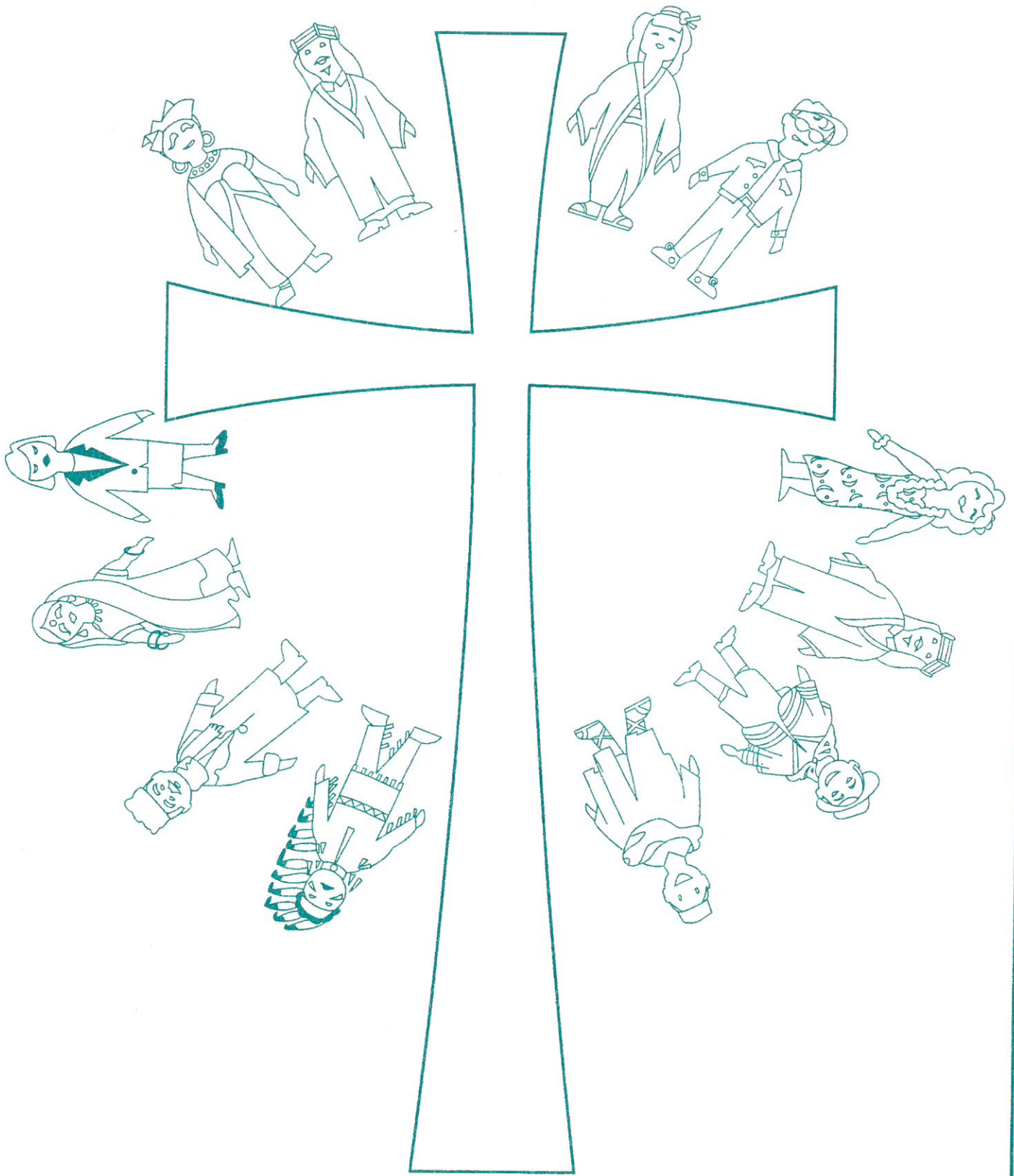
second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." 16 This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven...

34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said, "In truth, I perceive that God shows no

partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--He is Lord of all-- 37 that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. 40 Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly. 42 "And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."







“Behold The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29

Peter – Sent by God to Witness unto All

1. Answer the following questions.

1. what kind of person was Cornelius?
2. What did Peter see in his dream?
3. Why did Peter have a problem about preaching to the Gentiles?
4. Read Acts 10:28, 34-35. How do we see Peter has learned the lesson God was trying to teach him?
5. What lesson was God trying to teach Peter?
6. What lesson should we learn from this story?

2. Check the sentences that show prejudice.

- Jews would not travel through Samaria.
- Children refuse to play with a black child.
- Lutherans will not worship with Catholics.
- Workers don't invite their boss to a work picnic.
- Men can do a better job than women.
- Believers don't pray with unbelievers.
- Democrats are better people than Republicans.

3. True or False:

- We should witness to all people.
- Don't witness to someone you don't know very well.
- The most important message to tell is of Christ's redemption.
- Prayers will not help our mission effort very much.
- Our foreign missions are more important that missions in the U.S.

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4. Hymn Study - Use the words from the hymn to answer the following questions.

#371 (TLH)

Stanza 1 What can we wear on Judgment Day that makes u innocent before God?

Stanza 5 What 2 things has Jesus done for all men?

#348 (TLH)

Stanza 4 What should we always try to do in our life?

We should even be willing to d what for our Lord?

What does a missionary do?

Lydia – Prepared by God to Live His Word

Text:

Acts 16:9-15 (NKJV)

Background Setting:

Recall how God called Paul to be a Christian. (Lesson 1) This story occurs about 20 years later. In the meantime the Lord has trained (Gal. 1:11-18), commissioned (Acts 13:2-3) and sent Paul out (Acts 13:4) as a missionary of the Gospel. On his first missionary trip he took the message of Jesus the Savior to Cyprus and Asia Minor (presently Turkey). In this wild and rugged area the Lord formed congregations at Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch in Pisidia. After Paul returned to Antioch in Syria, he made a report of this in the conference at Jerusalem (Acts 15), and set out on his second missionary trip (2 49 A.D.), going first to his home town of Tarsus and then to those new congregations in Asia Minor - strengthening and encouraging to Christians there through the Word of God (Acts 15:41-16:5). Silas, a Jew and one of the leading men of the congregation at Jerusalem, accompanied Paul (Acts 15:22, 40) on this missionary journey. At Lystra they were joined by Timothy (Acts 16:1-3) a young disciple to whom Paul had brought the message of Jesus on his first missionary trip. God the Holy Spirit directed Paul's steps on this journey, so that he and his companions came to the sea port town of Troas, not far from the sight of ancient Troy. There they were joined by Doctor Luke, the inspired writer of Acts and the Gospel bearing his name (note the "we" in v.10). In Troas, Paul was directed to cross over into Macedonia to give the people there the only help that brings salvation - the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

11 Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, 12 and from there to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony. And

we were staying in that city for some days. 13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. 14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshipped God, heard us. The Lord opened her heart so that she heeded the things which were spoken by Paul. 15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she constrained us.





Let

your

light so shine before men that

they may see your

good works, and

glorify your Father

in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Lydia – Prepared by God to Live His Word

1. Fill in the blanks.

In a vision, Paul saw a man of _____ asking for help. Paul and his party sailed from _____ to _____. By land then, they finally arrived in _____. Paul went to the _____ where the people prayed. The Lord opened the heart of _____, a seller of dye. She begged them to _____ at her house.

3. Paul acted immediately when he received the vision, as did Lydia when the Lord brought her to faith.

Why is it important that we act immediately when the Lord gives us opportunity to tell of Jesus?

How can kind, loving, and generous actions, like Lydia's behavior, open up opportunities to tell of Jesus?

4. Hymn Study - Use the words from the hymn to answer the following questions.

#496 (TLH)

What request does Jesus make of us?

List at least 4 things we can do, even if we are not like the angels or Paul.

What should be our answer to Jesus' request?

2. Missionaries of Christ should be ready to share with others what God has given them.

What did Paul and his companions share?

What message did they tell?

What did Lydia share?

What did her actions show?

Memory Verses

LEVEL I & LEVEL II

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

Psalms 119:105 - Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Revelation 2:10c - Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

John 1:29 - Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Matthew 5:16 - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

LEVEL III & LEVEL IV

John 3:5 - Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

2 Timothy 3:15 - That from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Revelation 2:10c - Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

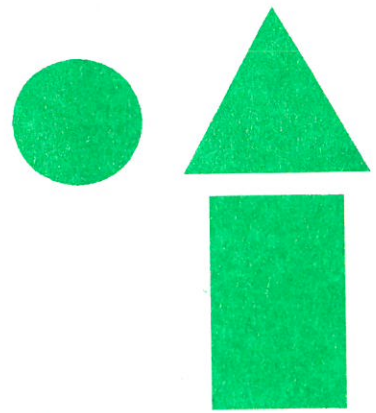
1 John 2:2 - And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

1 Corinthians 10:31 - Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Memory Hymn 496 (stanzas 2&4)

2. If you cannot speak like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
With the judgments dread alarm.
You can lead the little children
To the Savior's waiting arms.

4. Let none hear you idly saying,
There is nothing I can do,"
While the souls of men are dying
And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
"Here am I, send me, send me!"



Hymns For Opening Devotions

Monday	37:1-2
Tuesday	283
Wednesday	215:1-3
Thursday	371:1&5
Friday	409:1

Suggested Prayer

Father in heaven, thank You for sending Jesus to take away our sins.

We are happy that You brought us to faith in Jesus as our Savior. We thank You for the blessings of Baptism.

Help us to tell others about Jesus.

Like Paul, may we preach Christ and Him crucified.

Like Philip, teach us Your Word that we may teach others.

Like Stephen, keep us faithful to You unto death.

Like Peter, show us that You love everyone and want them in heaven.

Like Lydia, help us to show our love for You by how we live.

We love You because You first love us.

Make us better Christians and missionaries for the sake of Jesus. Amen.