



Paul's Journey to Rome



Key Passages

- Acts 27:14a, 27:23–24a, 27:43–44

Lesson Focus

- God sent Paul on journey four! He went all the way to Rome.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

As a review of Lesson 3 Students will color and assemble a puzzle of Eutychus and/or play with play dough.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—Paul was in a boat on a stormy sea. Things looked bad for Paul and the crew. But God promised him that everyone on board would be safe. God kept His promise! He brought them to dry land!

Song Time—Students will sing songs to help them remember the lesson of the day. Lyrics to the songs are found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Activity 1: Shipwreck

Students will answer questions from the lesson to get off the sinking boat!



Activity 2: Wrecked Boat/Colored Sand

Students will use colored sand to color the picture from today's lesson.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will review the memory verse as they play a game and recite/sing the verse. Give them an opportunity to repeat the verse with you or after you individually.



Applying God's Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.



COME ON IN

- Print and cut out one Eutychus Puzzle from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- If appropriate, students can color the puzzle pieces before assembling the puzzle.
- Put one puzzle in an envelope or small bag for each student.
- Provide play dough if appropriate.

- Eutychus Puzzle for each student
- Envelopes or small bags for puzzle pieces for each student
- Crayons
- Tape
- Play dough
- Cookie cutters



CIRCLE TIME

- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.
- Find pictures of storms at sea from the Internet or magazines to show during the lesson.

- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- Bible
- Lesson Flip Chart Page
- Pictures of storms at sea from the Internet or magazines



SHIPWRECK

- Print one copy of the Shipwreck Questions from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use.

- Shipwreck Questions
- Masking tape



WRECKED BOAT/COLORED SAND ACTIVITY

- Print one copy of the Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Make colored sand using the Colored Sand Directions from the Resource DVD-ROM.

- Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet for each student
- Colored sand
- Small cups
- Glue Sticks
- Completed activity sheet to show as example



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- Print and cut out one set of the 13 Memory Verse Flashcards from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use—preferably on cardstock. You will use these cards for Lessons 1–5.

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards
- Tape or poster putty



APPLYING GOD'S WORD/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Flip Chart for Review
- Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above with this background.

Paul completed three long, arduous missionary journeys. He knew well that the message of the Cross was foolishness to those who were perishing, but to those who were being saved it was the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18). He was steadfast in his commitment to the Lord and the gospel throughout his three journeys. In spite of being run out of town, persecuted, imprisoned, stoned, left for dead, and beaten, he persevered. Nothing mattered to him but that he would finish his race with joy and continue in the ministry of the Lord Jesus to testify to the gospel (Acts 20:24).

The third missionary journey ended in Caesarea where Paul and his companions stayed with Philip, the evangelist (Acts 21:8). While with Philip a prophet named Agabus came from Judea to speak with Paul (Acts 21:10). Agabus took Paul's belt to tie up his own hands and feet. He then warned Paul that he would soon be tied up and bound in the same way by the Jews in Jerusalem (Acts 21:11). It was clear that Paul was headed for more trouble as he returned to Jerusalem. His friends pleaded that he not go. But Paul was ready to be bound and to die for the name of Jesus (Acts 21:12–13).

Paul and his companions continued to Jerusalem. The entire city was disturbed by him. The people seized him, began beating him, and were seeking to kill him (Acts 21:30–31). At that point, Paul was rescued by the Roman soldiers who were concerned with keeping peace in the city of Jerusalem. The Roman commander took him and commanded him to be bound with two chains (Acts 21:31–33). The Jews continued to demand his life (Acts 22:22). But upon hearing that Paul was a Roman citizen, the Roman commander backed off, knowing it was illegal to treat any Roman citizen with such brutal methods (Acts 22:27–29).

Paul had desired to go to Rome for a long time (Acts 19:21). And by the amazing providence of God, he would soon be on his way. In fact, it was the Lord Himself who assured him that just as Paul had testified for Jesus in Jerusalem, he would also bear witness at Rome (Acts 23:11). So, in spite of further danger that included another plot to murder him in Jerusalem (Acts 23:12), Paul was taken by protective custody and escorted out of Jerusalem and back to Caesarea (Acts 23:31–33).

However, it would still be over two years before Paul made his way to Rome (Acts 24:27) during which time God allowed Paul to have liberty to see his friends and all who would come to visit him (Acts 24:23). Of course, Paul continued to boldly preach the gospel of Jesus Christ of which he was not ashamed! Even to the point that King Agrippa commented that Paul nearly persuaded him to become a Christian (Acts 26:28).

Finally, in God's perfect timing and according to His perfect plan, Paul set off by ship to Rome, Italy (Acts 27:1). The voyage to Rome did not go smoothly. And because of slow passage at the beginning, they found themselves in a situation where sailing further would be dangerous. But in spite of Paul's warnings to the contrary, the centurion was persuaded by the helmsman to proceed (Acts 27:10–11). It wasn't long before they found themselves in a tempestuous, violent storm (Acts 27:14). They looked for protection, secured the lifeboat, undergirded the ship, and dropped the sail. They then lightened the ship by tossing supplies and tackle overboard. In spite of all of this, danger and death looked imminent and all hope was lost (Acts 27:15–20).

But God had promised that Paul would reach Rome (Acts 23:11). And God keeps His promises! Paul and all the crew at last found safety on the island of Malta after a dramatic shipwreck that included all hands on deck jumping overboard (Acts 27:39–44).

God continued to protect his missionary and servant, Paul. The natives on Malta showed unusual kindness to the shipwrecked crew (Acts 28:2). And when Paul was not affected by a viper's bite while on the island, the natives were convinced he was some kind of god (Acts 28:6). Furthermore, God allowed Paul to do more signs and wonders in the name of Jesus Christ, and he healed many who were sick on the island (Acts 28:8–9).

After three months on Malta, Paul sailed again and finally arrived in Rome (Acts 28:11)! In Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself with a soldier guarding him (Acts 28:16). God allowed Paul to continue in his ministry, boldly testifying to the kingdom of God concerning Jesus Christ. And just as in all the other cities of Paul's travels, some were persuaded to believe and some would not believe (Acts 28:23–24).

Paul stayed for two full years in Rome in his rented home where God continued to use him as he gladly received and taught all who came to him about the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 28:30–31).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

The Apostle Paul, without any doubt, is the most influential person in the history of the church. He was responsible for establishing and strengthening churches all around the Roman world of the first century. He wrote 13 letters of the New Testament. God mightily used Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, to expand the church.

Writing to the Corinthian church, Paul summed up his own contribution to the faith perhaps better than anyone else could: “For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me” (1 Corinthians 15:9–10). Wherever Paul carried the gospel, despite the intense opposition he faced, the church put down deep roots.

Paul was ideally equipped for the role God gave Him. As a Roman citizen, Paul understood and had entry to the entire Roman world. Steeped in Greek culture, he could relate and communicate to these people throughout the area. And as a strict Pharisee, he was an expert in Mosaic law and, no doubt, had important contacts in the synagogues of the empire.

Paul began his career as a persecutor of the church. After meeting Christ in a dramatic vision on the road to Damascus, where he was traveling to arrest Christians, his life was transformed. He spent the remaining years of his life as a bold witness for the resurrected Christ. He worked tirelessly, enduring shame and persecution for the name of his Lord.

Paul’s fourth journey brought him to Rome as a prisoner at the beginning of AD 61. And since his confinement in Rome continued only two years (Acts 28:30), he must have been freed in the early part of AD 63. Nero had not yet instigated his memorable persecution of the Church; the burning of Rome took place in the summer of AD 64. Before that date, it does not appear that Christians had been singled out as the special objects of his brutality.

While we don’t know for sure what happened after his release from prison, it is probable that Paul accomplished his wish of visiting Spain (Romans 15:28). In all likelihood he again headed toward Jerusalem by way of Corinth, Philippi, and Troas, where he left his

cloak with Carpus (2 Timothy 4:13). Passing from there to Colosse, he may have visited Antioch in Pisidia and other cities of Asia Minor, where he had ministered previously. After some time in Jerusalem, Paul must have returned to Rome by sea, leaving Trophimus sick at Miletus in Crete (2 Timothy 4:20). Upon his return to Italy around the year AD 66, Paul seems to have been immediately imprisoned again.

Paul’s condition was now very different from what it had been during his first imprisonment. This time he was deserted by his friends and treated as a criminal. When he wrote his last epistle to Timothy, Paul had already been brought before the judgment seat, and had narrowly escaped martyrdom. “At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them. But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion” (2 Timothy 4:16–17).

Despite this reprieve, Paul had no hope of ultimate escape. In anticipation of his condemnation, he wrote these words—words full of faith, hope, and heroism: “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing” (2 Timothy 4:6–8).

According to church tradition, Paul was beheaded with a sword in Rome sometime between AD 65 and 68. We don’t know the exact date of his death, but we do know that this great apostle gave his life for the faith he had once persecuted.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, you promise to guide and protect your children. Help me and my class to demonstrate the same level of confidence in your ways that Paul showed as he suffered many trials in your name. Help us to know we can trust you in all circumstances—especially the difficult ones. Use this lesson to show my students how big and capable and personal you are as you work your good purpose in every detail.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color (if appropriate) the four puzzle pieces and assemble the puzzle of Eutychus and Paul as a review of Lesson 3. You may want to help them tape the puzzles together.
- If there is time, they can play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aide/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs. Bring your Lesson Flip Chart, Bible, stuffed animal for prayer time, pictures of storms at sea, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or an appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let's pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Thanksgiving is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today let's say prayers of thanksgiving—and thank God for the many blessings He's given us.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life, and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

➤ As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart Page to keep the children engaged. When reading the lesson Scriptures, stand up, be enthusiastic, look at the children, and emphasize the answers to the questions you will be asking.

➤ Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Bible Pass Around

➤ When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

➤ Refer to Paul's Missionary Journeys Flip Chart Map Page to follow Paul's travels as you teach the lesson.

I'll start. Dear God, you are always good and provide for our needs. I want to thank you for . . . *(insert personal prayer).*

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer telling God thank you for something special in their lives.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

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.*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark today's passage before you begin.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number* *choose a number. You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.* **We'll start right here.** *Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you—remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin.* *You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it. Continue with the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page. **So far, Paul has had three long journeys! He visited so many cities! And he traveled so far.**

How did Paul get around? How did he travel? *Allow discussion.*

He walked and took boats. Travel in those days was hard and took a long time.

- ? **Who did Paul talk about when he went on these journeys?** *Jesus!*

? Refer to the map and the Lesson 1 Flip Chart Page. On journey one we learned that Paul was in Iconium. Paul preached to the people. How did the people act there? How did they treat Paul? Look here at this picture. *Some people listened to Paul, but others got mad at him and wanted to kill him.*

Some people believed Paul and others did not! Some of the people got so angry, they picked up stones to throw at Paul. That could have killed him! But Paul left that city when he found out how angry the people were.

He went to the city of Lystra! Here is Lystra on our map. Paul did something amazing there.

? Refer to Lesson 1 Flip Chart Page. Do you remember what he did for this man? He healed the man who couldn't walk!

Yes! God gave Paul power to heal—that was special power!

? Paul did great things in this city. But did all the people like Paul in the city of Lystra? Do you remember what happened after he helped the man to walk? Look here at this picture! *Allow discussion.*

The people in Lystra tried to kill Paul, too. They stoned Paul. Then they dragged him out of the city. They thought he was dead. But he wasn't! The next day, Paul left that city and kept on going!

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page and the Lesson 2 Flip Chart Page. Then we talked a little about Paul's second journey. On this journey, he took a friend with him named Silas. They went to a city called Philippi.

? Can you say that? Philippi? *Repeat the word several times.*

Here is Philippi on the map.

? Who did Paul and Silas talk to the people about in Philippi? *Jesus!*

? What happened to Paul and Silas after they talked about Jesus? *They were put in jail!*

Yes! They were put in jail. But then God sent an earthquake. The prison doors opened. And all the prisoners were free. But no one ran away! The guard would have been in big trouble if the prisoners escaped. The guard was amazed!

? Do you remember what the guard asked Paul and Silas? *Allow discussion.*

The guard wanted to know what he must do to be saved. Paul and Silas told him about Jesus and the Cross. The guard believed and was saved!

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page and the Lesson 3 Flip Chart Page. And then we read about Paul's next journey. It was journey three! Paul was in the city of Troas! He was teaching the people about Jesus. It was very late at night!

? Something happened to a young man named Eutychus. Look at the picture. Can you tell me what happened to him? *He fell out of the window.*

► Show the cities on Paul's Missionary Journeys Flip Chart Map Page. And refer to the Lesson Flip Chart Pages as you review.

? Was he hurt when he fell out of the window? *Yes! He died.*

Young Eutychus died. But God gave Paul special power! And Eutychus came back to life! God sent Paul on all these journeys. We learned about journey one, then journey two, then journey three.

? Which journey do you think we are going to talk about today? *Journey four!*

Yes! God sent Paul on journey four! Now Paul was always in trouble. And people wanted to kill him! But God wasn't finished with Paul yet. No! God would send Paul on one more long journey—Journey four! *Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page.* Journey four is in PURPLE on the map. This journey would take him from here in Jerusalem all the way over here to Rome!

? Now how do you think Paul traveled on this trip? Can you tell by looking here? *Allow discussion. By ship!*

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page. Paul had to travel by ship! This trip took him a very long way, and he traveled over lots of water! Once they got started, it seemed like things were going pretty well. They got to the city of Fair Havens. It is right here on this little island. *Point it out on the map.* You can see that they still had a long way to go to get to Rome!

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 27:14a

Well, trouble started soon after they left Fair Havens. That is what I am going to read about today! Listen to this! *Read Acts 27:14a emphasizing "tempestuous head wind."*

The Bible says the ship sailed into a "tempestuous wind."

? Does anybody want to guess what a tempestuous wind is? *Allow discussion.*

Refer to storm pictures you brought in. A tempestuous wind is a very strong wind that very soon became a horrible storm. The men on the boat were tossed and turned around in the sea! The Bible even says that it was dark for several days. That is because the clouds from the storm were blocking out the sunshine—even during the day!

Well, the Apostle Paul was on this ship! Would he die in the storm at sea? No! God told him he would get to Rome someday, and God always keeps His promises. Paul KNEW he wouldn't die! God sent a messenger to tell him so! Who was it? Listen as I read. *Read Acts 27:23 emphasizing the answers to the questions below.*

? What did Paul see? Who stood by him? *An angel of God!*

? What did the angel say to Paul? *Do not be afraid!*

The angel told Paul not to be afraid! The angel of God told Paul that he would get to Rome and so would EVERYONE on the ship with him! God would protect them!

Refer to storm pictures. But the storm still raged around them! They thought they were all going to die! Then finally they saw some land! Maybe they could get to that land and be saved! But the Bible tells us that they crashed on a big sand bar in the sea before they got to the land. They were stuck. They couldn't move! The ship was beginning to break apart! Now they all might drown!

But God had promised to protect all of them. Remember? The angel of God came to Paul and told him not to worry. How would God save them all? Listen as I read this! *Read Acts 27:43–44.*

Acts 27:43–44

? A centurion is a guard or a soldier. Who did the centurion want to save? *Paul.*

? Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart Page. The centurion told the people on the ship who knew how to swim to do something. What was it? *Acts 27:43. Jump overboard and swim to land!*

? And what about the other people? How did they get to land? *Acts 27:44. They floated on boards and parts of the ship.*

That's right. Now listen one more time, and tell me who made it safely to land. *Re-read Acts 27:44b. "They ALL escaped safely to land."*

? Who made it safely to land? *All of them.*

Refer to Lesson Flip Chart Page. They ALL made it safely to land. Some of them swam, and some of them floated on boards and parts of the ship.

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page. Take a look here at the map. Remember at the beginning of this journey, they landed here in the city of Fair Havens. But after they left, the storm hit. The storm took them a long way! And this is the island they swam and floated to. This island is called Malta.

? Can you repeat that with me? *Have students repeat Malta.*

Everyone was safe for now! The Bible tells us that they stayed on this little island until it was safe to go on. The storms were over. Another ship was leaving the island. Paul went on that ship, and he finally traveled the rest of the way to Rome.

? Paul had seen an angel of God. What did the angel tell Paul? *He would be safe.*
The angel said that Paul and EVERYONE on the ship would be safe.

? Who protected Paul from the storm? *God!*

God keeps His promises. He told Paul he would be safe in the storm. And Paul was safe! God told Paul that one day he would get to Rome. Paul finally arrived in Rome! God keeps His promises!

Once Paul got to Rome, he began talking to everyone who would listen to him.

? What do you think Paul was telling the people in Rome about? *Jesus!*

That's right! It seems like Paul never stopped talking about Jesus! And when he was in Rome, many people came to hear him teach.

God sent Paul on journey four—all the way to Rome. Paul's journey was very scary. But God protected him. He was in a huge storm that destroyed the ship. But Paul made it to Rome just as God promised.

? What did Paul do once he got to Rome? *He told people about Jesus.*

Paul told many people about Jesus. In every city Paul traveled to, some believed what Paul said about Jesus. But others did not. Paul kept traveling and preaching. He would not stop.

Refer to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Many people thought the message of the Cross—the gospel about Jesus—was foolishness. Those people were perishing. They did not believe. Their sins were not forgiven. But to all the people who were saved—who believed in Jesus—the message of the Cross was the power of God!

➤ Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page and Flip Chart Memory Verse Page during this part of the lesson.

➤ You can sing about all four journeys by adapting the "God Sent Paul" Song to include the second, third, and fourth journeys.

➤ Lyrics can be found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the end of this Teacher Guide.

SONG TIME

Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page. Things looked bad for Paul and everyone aboard the ship. Everyone had given up hope of being saved. But God sent an angel to comfort Paul and to promise him that no one would be lost at sea! God kept His promise, and everyone was safe! We are going to sing a song about Paul in the storm. Let's learn it now. *Sing "Paul Was in a Storm" together while clapping.*

Refer to Lesson 1 Flip Chart Song Page. God sent Paul on many journeys. He had to walk a lot! But Paul didn't mind! He wanted to go wherever God wanted him to go. He told everybody about Jesus—even if it got him in trouble! **Now let's sing our song called "God Sent Paul."** *Sing together while marching around the circle.*

Repeat songs as time allows. You may want to add hand motions, stomping, marching, or instruments.



Shipwreck

MATERIALS

- Shipwreck Questions
- Masking tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Make an outline of a boat on the floor using masking tape. Have students stand in the boat. Each student will be allowed to “jump” out of the boat and “swim” toward land after answering a question from today’s lesson.

Today we’re going to pretend that we are in the same boat as Paul during the big storm! You will need to answer a question from the

lesson before you can get out of the boat and swim to dry land. Are you ready? Let’s go! *Play the game.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

It must have been frightening to be on the boat during a bad storm! Things didn’t look good for Paul and the other passengers on the boat. The boat was sinking! But God made a promise that Paul would be safe and would get to Rome. In Rome, Paul would keep telling people about Jesus.



Wrecked Boat/Colored Sand Activity

MATERIALS

- Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet for each student
- Colored Sand Directions from the Resource DVD-ROM
- Colored sand in cups
- Glue sticks
- Completed Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet to show as an example

INSTRUCTIONS

Print one Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Help students use their glue sticks to cover their picture with glue. They may use the colored sand to decorate the picture.

Today we will use sand to color a picture from today’s lesson. Here is what my sand picture looks like. *Show completed Wrecked Boat Activity Sheet.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

There was a very big storm at sea. Paul was on a ship headed to Rome. He was tossed and turned on that ship. The storm was so bad that the ship broke. But God promised Paul that he would be safe. God promised that Paul would one day be in Rome. And God kept His promise! Paul made it to dry land, and later, finished his journey to Rome!



Memory Verse Review and Activity

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.

MATERIALS

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards printed on cardstock (Cards will be used in Lesson 1–5)
- Tape or poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Print, preferably onto cardstock, and cut out one set of the Memory Verse Flashcards. Tape the cards in order on the wall or board as you recite the verse together. Review the verse as you point to each card. Choose a student to remove one card from the wall. Recite the verse again with the class. Continue to choose students to remove cards one at a time reciting the whole verse after each card is removed.

We're going to practice our memory verse. Let's say it first. *Point to each flashcard as you say each word and have the students repeat.*

Good job! Now I'm going to ask one of you to come up and take one of our cards down. Then we'll say the verse without that card! Do you think we can do it? Of course we can! **Ok let's do it!** *Call on a student to take down one card then recite the verse together. Help the students to recite the verse after each card is removed. Continue until the cards are gone.*

You may want to sing the Memory Verse Song instead of saying the verse. When finished, see if anyone can say the verse using the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God has used the message of the Cross to change people's lives! Anyone who believes the gospel of Jesus will be saved from his sins! Those who do not believe the message of the Cross think it is foolish and silly. They will not be in heaven with God.



Applying God's Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review today's lesson using the Flip Chart.

God sent Paul on one last journey—his journey to Rome! This was a very dangerous trip for Paul! He was a prisoner on a ship headed to Rome. He was a prisoner because he was telling people about Jesus! But Paul's ship was having problems. It was in a big storm! An angel of God promised Paul that everyone on the ship would make it safely to land. And they did! God kept His promise!

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

It must have been scary to be on that ship in such a big storm. But Paul did not need to be afraid. God promised him that everyone would be safe. God's plan was for Paul to go to Rome, and that's just what happened. God always keeps His promises. His plans are always good, even if things look bad at the time (like during the big storm!)

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for His Word and the promises in it.
- Praise God that we can trust Him and His promises.
- Pray that God will open the eyes of those who think the message of the Cross is foolishness.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

(To the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

For the message of the Cross,

(Twinkle, twinkle little star,)

Is foolishness to those,

(How I wonder what you are.)

Who are perishing,

(Up above the world so high,)

But to us who are being,

(Like a diamond in the sky)

Saved it is the pow'r of God.

(Twinkle, twinkle little star)

1 Corinthians 1:18.

(How I wonder what you are.)

PAUL WAS IN A STORM

(To the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Row, row, row the boat,

(Row, row, row your boat,)

Paul was in a storm.

(gently down the stream.)

Think of fun ways to sing. Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction. Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out! Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.

He was tossed and turned around,

(Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,)

In the giant sea.

(Life is but a dream.)

God protected Paul,

He knew he would be saved.

An angel of the Lord was there,

He said, "Don't be afraid!"

GOD SENT PAUL

(To the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

God sent Paul to preach the Word

(Mary had a little lamb)

On journey one *(two, three, four)*, on journey one

(two three, four).

(Little lamb, little lamb)

God sent Paul to preach the Word

(Mary had a little lamb)

To tell about Jesus!

(Its fleece was white as snow.)