



Unit 31 | Session 1

THE APOSTLES WERE ARRESTED

Acts 5

The apostles were doing many signs and more and more people believed in the Lord. People carried those who were sick into the street. All of them were healed.

The high priest and other religious leaders arrested Jesus' apostles. But an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought out the apostles. The angel told them, "Go and stand in the temple, and tell the people all about this life."

That next day, the high priest and other religious leaders ordered their servants to go to the jail. But when they went inside, the apostles weren't there. Then someone said, "The apostles are teaching in the temple!" So the religious leaders said, "Didn't we tell you to stop teaching about Jesus?"

Peter responded, "We must obey God rather than people. God raised Jesus to life after you killed Him on the cross.

The Jewish leaders wanted to kill Peter and the other apostles. But Gamaliel told them, "Men of Israel, you have to be careful. If their words are from God, you won't be able to stop them."

They beat them and told them to stop talking about Jesus. Then they let them go free. The apostles left, praising God for being counted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus. The apostles continued to preach about Jesus.

Christ Connection: Jesus calls His followers to be faithful and tell others about Him, even in times of trouble. Just as Jesus experienced rejection and suffering, so will His followers. We can have joy in suffering, knowing God uses our suffering, like Christ's, for His glory.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Number the events from today's Bible story in the correct order from 1–8. For help, review Acts 5:12-42.

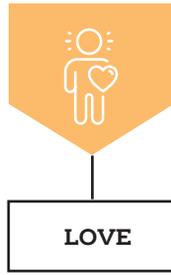
- ___ An angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail.
- ___ The religious leaders beat Jesus' apostles and told them to stop talking about Jesus.
- ___ When Peter and John were released from jail, they went to the temple to preach about Jesus.
- ___ The apostles praised God that they were worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus.
- ___ The servants of the high priests and religious leaders discovered the apostles were no longer in jail.
- ___ Gamaliel warned the religious leaders to be careful.
- ___ Peter said, "We must obey God rather than people."
- ___ The high priests and religious leaders were jealous of the apostles, so they put them in jail.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How was Jesus faithful even when He faced suffering?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus calls His followers to be faithful and tell others about Him, even in times of trouble. Just as Jesus experienced rejection and suffering, so will His followers. We can have joy in suffering, knowing God uses our suffering, like Christ's, for His glory.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

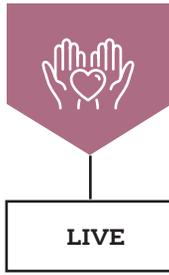
» In today's story, how did the Holy Spirit give the apostles power?

» Why can we still rejoice in suffering?

» How can we be faithful to share the good news right now?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus calls His followers to be faithful and tell others about Him, even in times of trouble. Just as Jesus experienced rejection and suffering, so will His followers. We can have joy in suffering, knowing God uses our suffering, like Christ's, for His glory.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, asking Him for perseverance to obey Him no matter what difficulties you may face.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 1:8

Romans 5:3-5

Romans 8:28

James 1:2-4

1 Peter 3:15

1 Peter 4:13



Unit 31 | Session 2

THE CHURCH HANDLED A PROBLEM

Acts 6

In the time after Jesus' resurrection and return to heaven, more and more people believed in Him. But some of the believers complained. The Greek-speaking Jews thought the widows were being overlooked when the daily food was given out.

The twelve apostles said, "It isn't right for us to stop preaching about God to take care of all these daily concerns. So, brothers and sisters, choose seven men to take care of this."

The apostles said that the men should be men of good character. These seven men would take care of the daily business of the believers. Then the apostles could devote themselves to prayer and to preaching. Both jobs were important.

Everyone agreed this was a good idea. So they chose seven men. These men stood before Jesus' apostles, who prayed for them and laid their hands on them.

So the twelve apostles kept preaching about God. More and more people heard the truth about God, and more and more people in Jerusalem believed in Him. The church in Jerusalem grew as more disciples were made.

Christ Connection: The apostles believed that everyone in the church had an important job to do to serve God's people and help spread the gospel. Jesus wants us to serve others so that the message of His death and resurrection can be heard and believed all over the world.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

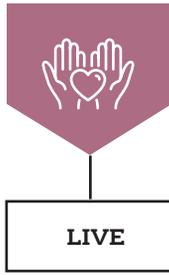
» Look up Acts 6:1-6 and write out the specific jobs of the apostles and the seven men chosen to serve. Then write one way you can serve the people of your church.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did the apostles say they needed to focus on?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The apostles believed that everyone in the church had an important job to do to serve God's people and help spread the gospel. Jesus wants us to serve others so that the message of His death and resurrection can be heard and believed all over the world.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that Jesus rescues you from sin and asking Him to help you serve others.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Matthew 5:14-16

Ephesians 4:11-12

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

1 Peter 4:10

Acts 17:11

John 12:26



Unit 31 | Session 3

STEPHEN WAS ARRESTED

Acts 6-7

Stephen was one of Jesus' followers. One day, some Jews began to argue with Stephen. The Holy Spirit helped Stephen speak with wisdom.

But the Jews lied about Stephen; they said he had spoken against God. The people dragged Stephen to the Jewish court, and told more lies.

Stephen began to preach about Jesus. He reminded the court about Abraham. He reminded them about Joseph and Moses. When God's people lived in Egypt, God called Moses to rescue His people from Pharaoh. God did not give up on His people. He was working out a plan.

The religious leaders knew these stories from the Old Testament. Stephen told them these stories to explain that Jesus was the Messiah God had promised!

Stephen's words made the Jewish leaders so angry! Stephen was filled with the Holy

Spirit. He looked up to heaven and saw Jesus standing there.

"Look!" he said. "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

The Jewish leaders screamed at the top of their lungs. They began throwing stones at him. Stephen called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then he said, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" After this, Stephen died.

Christ Connection: Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Match each description to the correct person from today's Bible story.

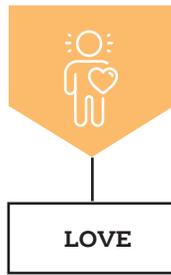
- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1) God made promises to him and his son, Isaac. (Acts 7:8) | A. Israelites |
| 2) He was sold as a slave to the Egyptians but God was with him. (Acts 7:9) | B. Abraham |
| 3) God used him to rescue the Israelites from Pharaoh. (Acts 7:36-37) | C. Joseph |
| 4) They turned against God and made a golden calf. (Acts 7:39-41) | D. Jesus |
| 5) He is the Messiah God promised. He was rejected by His people. (Acts 7:52) | E. Moses |

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Who did Stephen see as he was being stoned?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

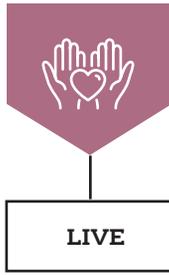
» Why was Stephen able to speak and even die with boldness and power?

» How was Stephen able to forgive those who stoned him?

» Is Jesus worth following, even if we face persecution? Why?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, asking Him to help you live for Him no matter what hardships you may face.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Romans 15:13

John 15:18

Matthew 6:15

Matthew 5:11-12

Psalm 16:11

Romans 8:35-37



Unit 31 | Session 4

THE CHURCH SPREAD OUT

Acts 8

An angel of the Lord told Philip, a follower of Jesus, to go to a desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza. So Philip went.

On the road was a man from Ethiopia. The man had come to worship in Jerusalem. He sat in his chariot, reading aloud the words of the prophet Isaiah.

The Holy Spirit told Philip to go to the chariot. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked the man.

The official replied, “How can I, unless someone explains it to me?” The official was reading these words from Isaiah: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb is silent before its shearer, so He does not open His mouth. He was treated unfairly, and His life is taken away.”

The official asked, “Was Isaiah talking about himself or someone else?” Isaiah was talking about the Messiah, so Philip

began to tell the man the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled, they came to some water. “What would keep me from being baptized?” the official asked.

Then the official told the chariot to stop. He and Philip went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit took Philip away to another town, where he continued to travel and preach the gospel.

Christ Connection: The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Philip helped the Ethiopian official understand the good news of Jesus in the Isaiah scroll. Look up and read each verse and match it to the correct description of Jesus.

Isaiah 7:14

A. Jesus is the perfect, righteous King from the line of King David.

Isaiah 9:2

B. Jesus was pierced and crucified on the cross for our sin.

Isaiah 9:6-7

C. Jesus was born of a virgin and is God with us.

Isaiah 53:5

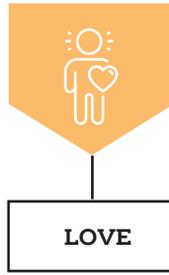
D. Jesus is the light of the world who came to save people from all nations.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why did the Holy Spirit lead Philip to the Ethiopian man?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

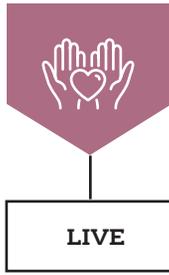
» Does being baptized save us? Why not?

» How can we understand the Bible more?

» How can we know how the Holy Spirit is leading us?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, asking Him to help you obey the Holy Spirit as He leads you to share the gospel.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 2:41

Romans 8:13-14

Psalm 119:33

Luke 4:14--19

John 14:15-17

Luke 24:47-48



Unit 31 | Session 5

JESUS SUFFERED FOR US

Philippians 2

Paul, a follower of Jesus, was living as a prisoner in Rome. The Christians in Philippi sent a gift to Paul, and he wrote them a letter to thank them. Paul told them to be humble like Jesus and to love one another, working together and taking care of one another because Jesus suffered for us.

Paul wrote, “Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus. Jesus is God, but He set aside His rights to come to earth as a man. He came as a servant and obeyed God’s plan by dying on a cross.

“This is why God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name so that out of honor for Jesus, everyone in heaven and on earth and under the earth will bow down to Him. And every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”

Jesus suffered and died for us, and He rose from the dead and is alive! God

is at work in us, changing us to be like Jesus. Paul wrote, “Do everything without grumbling and arguing so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who are faultless in a world full of wickedness. In this way, you will shine like stars in the world.”

Christ Connection: Jesus, the Son of God, humbled Himself by coming to earth as a man. Jesus never sinned, but He died on the cross to rescue people from their sins. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

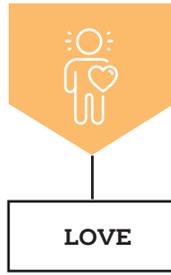
» Jesus suffered and died for our sins. Write three ways you can honor Jesus and show others what He is like.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How does the Bible say we are supposed to live as followers of Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus, the Son of God, humbled Himself by coming to earth as a man. Jesus never sinned, but He died on the cross to rescue people from their sins. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

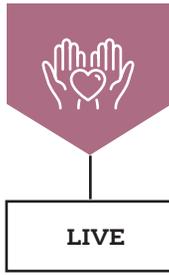
» How did Jesus show humility?

» Why is obedience to God important?

» How can we shine like lights in a dark world?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus, the Son of God, humbled Himself by coming to earth as a man. Jesus never sinned, but He died on the cross to rescue people from their sins. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Isaiah 53:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sins.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Philippians 2:3

Ephesians 4:1-3

Philippians 2:12-15

Romans 15:2-3

Matthew 5:14

Matthew 20:26-28



Unit 32 | Session 1

PETER PERFORMED MIRACLES

Acts 9

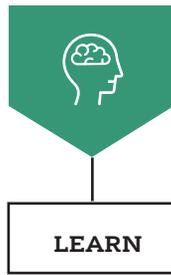
Peter was traveling from place to place. He visited the Christians living in a town called Lydda (LID uh). In that town was a man named Aeneas (ih NEE uhs). Aeneas was paralyzed. Peter said, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed,” and immediately Aeneas got up. When this happened, many people saw that Aeneas was healed and turned to the Lord.

In the city of Joppa (JAHP uh), there was a follower of Jesus named Tabitha; she was also known as Dorcas. She was always doing good works. Dorcas got sick and died. The disciples in Joppa sent two men to Lydda to get Peter.

Peter went to Joppa. He went upstairs in the house where Dorcas’ body lay. Peter prayed and then said, “Tabitha, get up.”

She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. Peter called for the disciples and friends, and they saw that Dorcas was alive! This miracle became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Christ Connection: When the Holy Spirit gave Peter power to perform miracles, people saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus’ miracles, which proved He is the Son of God who came to bring salvation to the world.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

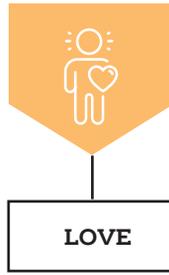
» Jesus' miracles proved He is the Son of God. Draw a picture or write out a description of a miracle Jesus performed. Look up Matthew 8:23-27; Luke 5:1-11; or Mark 2:1-12 as an example.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the Holy Spirit demonstrate God's power over sin?

CHRIST CONNECTION

When the Holy Spirit gave Peter power to perform miracles, people saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus' miracles, which proved He is the Son of God who came to bring salvation to the world.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

» How did Peter perform these miracles?

» How does the miracle of raising Dorcas back to life give us hope today?

» Why do you think God gave Peter the power to perform these miracles?

CHRIST CONNECTION

When the Holy Spirit gave Peter power to perform miracles, people saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus' miracles, which proved He is the Son of God who came to bring salvation to the world.



LIVE

THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Jesus for His power to heal and to save.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 1:8

Acts 10:38

1 Corinthians 15:52-55

Luke 8:46-48

John 20:30-31

Psalm 106:8



Unit 32 | Session 2

PETER LEARNED THAT JESUS IS FOR ALL

Acts 10

Cornelius was an officer in the Roman army who lived in Caesarea (sess uh REE uh). Cornelius always prayed to God. One afternoon, Cornelius saw an angel of God in a vision which frightened him. The angel said to him, “God has heard your prayers.” Then the angel told Cornelius to send for a man named Peter. So Cornelius sent two of his servants and one soldier to Joppa.

The next day, Peter went up on the roof of the house to pray. Peter saw a vision of something like a large sheet coming down from heaven. In the sheet were all kinds of animals, reptiles, and birds. A voice said to him, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat!”

“No, Lord!” Peter said. “I have never eaten anything that is unclean or used for sacrifices.” A voice said to him, “God has made these clean.” This happened three times, and then the whole thing was taken up into heaven.

Then Cornelius’ men arrived. They explained that Cornelius had seen a vision. So Peter went with the men to Caesarea.

When Peter got to Cornelius’ house, he explained that God had sent good news to the Israelites: Jesus is Lord of all. Peter said, “Everyone who believes in Jesus will have their sins forgiven.”

As Peter said this, the Holy Spirit came down on those who heard the message. Cornelius, his friends, and his relatives were baptized.

Christ Connection: God showed Peter that just as there is no “clean” and “unclean” food in Christ, there are no “clean” and “unclean” people. God calls believers to tell everyone the good news about Jesus, no matter who they are or where they come from. Jesus is the Lord of all.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» God showed Peter that all people are invited to trust in Jesus and be saved. Write a T for true or a F for false next to each sentence from today's Bible story.

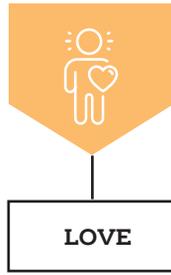
- ___ 1. Cornelius saw an angel of God in a vision which frightened him.
- ___ 2. The angel told Cornelius to send for a man named Cyrus.
- ___ 3. Peter was on top of the roof praying when he saw a vision from God.
- ___ 4. In the vision, Peter saw a something like a large ball coming down from heaven.
- ___ 5. A voice said to Peter, "Get up, Peter; but don't eat!"
- ___ 6. When Peter got to Cornelius' house, he explained to Cornelius that God does not consider some people to be better than others.
- ___ 7. Peter said, "Everyone who believes in Jesus will have their sins forgiven."
- ___ 8. Cornelius, his friends, and his relatives were baptized in the name of Jesus.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Peter's vision mean?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God showed Peter that just as there is no "clean" and "unclean" food in Christ, there are no "clean" and "unclean" people. God calls believers to tell everyone the good news about Jesus, no matter who they are or where they come from. Jesus is the Lord of all.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

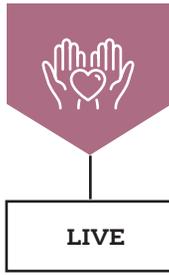
» If God does not show favoritism, should we? Why not?

» How are people made “clean”?

» Do you know people who are different from you? How can you share Jesus with them?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God showed Peter that just as there is no “clean” and “unclean” food in Christ, there are no “clean” and “unclean” people. God calls believers to tell everyone the good news about Jesus, no matter who they are or where they come from. Jesus is the Lord of all.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him that Jesus saves anyone who trusts in Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Galatians 2:5-7

Mark 7:18-23

1 John 1:9

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Romans 10:13

Hebrews 10:22



Unit 32 | Session 3

GENTILES BECAME PART OF THE CHURCH

Acts 11

God had called Peter to tell everyone the good news about Jesus. So Peter shared the gospel not only with Jews, but with Gentiles. The Gentiles in Caesarea heard Peter's message and believed. God gave His Holy Spirit to these new believers, and they were baptized.

Before long, the apostles and other believers throughout Judea heard that Gentiles had believed the good news about Jesus.

Peter explained that the gospel is for all people. Then the believers praised God and understood that Jesus had come for the Gentiles, too!

At the same time, believers who scattered after Stephen's murder had traveled to places like Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch of Syria. Some believers from Cyprus and Cyrene went to Antioch and preached the gospel to the Greeks, too. God was with them, and a large number of the Greeks

believed the good news.

The church at Jerusalem heard about these new believers, so they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When Barnabas arrived, he saw that God was gracious to these believers. He was glad and encouraged them to keep following God. Even more people trusted in Jesus.

Then Barnabas left Antioch and went to Tarsus to look for Paul. He found Paul and brought him back to Antioch.

Christ Connection: Even though some people tried to stop it, the gospel spread throughout the earth—not only to Jews but also to Gentiles. The good news about Jesus is for everyone. God calls us to celebrate when others believe and help them know and love Jesus more.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- » Unscramble each group of letters to reveal the message Peter told to the Jewish believers. Then write them in the spaces below.

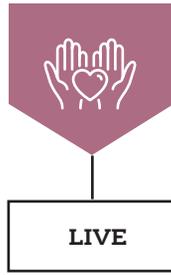
H T E L O S P E G S I O R F L A L P O L E P E

- » What does this story teach us about God?

- » Many believers were scattered to other cities because of persecution. Who did many of these believers share the gospel with?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Even though some people tried to stop it, the gospel spread throughout the earth—not only to Jews but also to Gentiles. The good news about Jesus is for everyone. God calls us to celebrate when others believe and help them know and love Jesus more.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, asking Him to help you be faithful to share the good news everywhere you go so that others may believe and be saved.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 11:17-18,21

Acts 15:7-9

Galatians 3:28

Acts 10:18

1 Thessalonians 5:14

Ephesians 1:13



Unit 32 | Session 4

PETER WAS RESCUED FROM PRISON

Acts 12

King Herod Agrippa was persecuting believers in the church. He killed James, one of Jesus' apostles. He arrested Peter too. While Peter was in prison, other believers in the church prayed and asked God to help him.

The night before his trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers. He was in chains. All of a sudden, an angel of the Lord appeared.

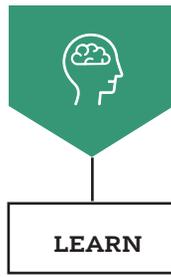
"Quick, get up!" the angel said. The chains fell off of Peter's wrists. The angel told Peter to get dressed. Then he followed the angel.

The angel led Peter out of the prison, past the guards, through the gate, and onto the streets. Then the angel left. When Peter looked around, he realized the Lord had rescued him from prison and from certain death!

Peter hurried to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where the believers had gathered to pray. When Peter knocked at the door, a servant named Rhoda answered. She heard Peter's voice and she was so happy she rushed back inside, leaving Peter standing outside. "Peter is here! He is at the door!" she announced.

But the others didn't believe her. "You're crazy!" they said. When they opened the door, they could hardly believe it. Peter motioned to them to be quiet, and he told them how the Lord had rescued him from prison.

Christ Connection: God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Use the following words to fill in the blanks below: Agrippa, angel, chains, light, Mary, Peter, prayed, rescued, Rhoda, soldiers.

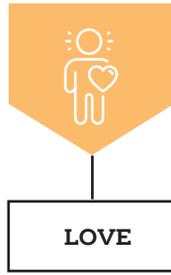
1. Believers in the church _____ and ask God to help Peter.
2. God _____ Peter from prison.
3. A bright _____ shone in Peter's cell when the angel came.
4. Peter went to the house of _____
5. The _____ could not figure out what happened to Peter.
6. King _____ killed and persecuted believers.
7. An _____ woke Peter up and helped him escape from prison.
8. The _____ fell off Peter's wrists when the angel came to him.
9. Peter knocked on the door and _____ answered.
10. _____ was arrested and put in prison.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why do you think Peter was able to sleep in prison, knowing that his good friend James had just been killed?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

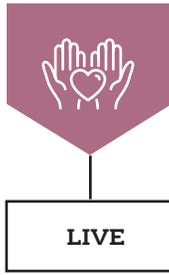
» How was Peter able to courageously face prison and even certain death?

» What if God does not answer our prayers as we hope?

» How can you be praying for others? Who do you know that needs prayer?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that He hears your prayers and wants you to talk with Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 5:24

Colossians 4:2-3

Romans 12:12

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Ephesians 6:18

1 Timothy 2:1



Unit 32 | Session 5

WE ARE PART OF ONE CHURCH

1 Corinthians 12

The apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church at Corinth. The believers there were facing problems. One problem was that the church was divided. “Is Christ divided?” Paul asked. Of course not. Jesus came to bring people together as one body.

In his letter, Paul told about the importance of the church working together like one body. Paul wrote, “Think about the human body. All the parts work together as one body.” The Holy Spirit brings together many different people, but we are all one in Christ.

“The body is not one part but many,” Paul wrote. A foot is just as much a part of the body as a hand.

“Imagine if the whole body were an eye. How would it hear? God has arranged each part of the body just as He wanted.

“In the same way, an eye can’t say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ Even if a part is weaker than another, it is still an important part of the body.”

Paul said that the church—like the body—should be unified. The members should have the same concern for one another.

“We are the body of Christ. God gives each member a specific purpose and different gifts. Not everyone is the same, but every part of the body of Christ is important.”

Christ Connection: Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the gospel. He reminded them that Jesus saves sinners. Because of Jesus and what He has done, believers from every nation, tribe, people, and language can humbly come together as one body—the church.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

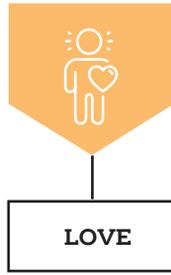
» Paul told the Corinthian church that the body of Christ is made up of many parts that work together. Describe three ways people in your church serve one another and work together.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What was wrong with the way the church in Corinth was viewing spiritual gifts?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the gospel. He reminded them that Jesus saves sinners. Because of Jesus and what He has done, believers from every nation, tribe, people, and language can humbly come together as one body—the church.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

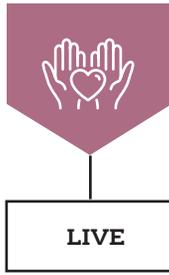
» Why does God give Christians spiritual gifts?

» Why do we need different spiritual gifts?

» What gifts do you have that you could use to worship and serve Jesus in the church?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the gospel. He reminded them that Jesus saves sinners. Because of Jesus and what He has done, believers from every nation, tribe, people, and language can humbly come together as one body—the church.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that every person has an important role in serving the church.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Ephesians 4:11-16

Romans 12:4-5

1 Corinthians 12:19-21

Romans 12:6-8

1 Corinthians 1:4-8

1 Peter 4:10



Unit 33 | Session 1

PAUL BECAME A CHRISTIAN

Acts 9

People in Jerusalem who believed in Jesus were persecuted. Stephen was even killed. A man named Saul had watched in approval when Stephen was killed. Saul wanted to put an end to the church.

Saul headed to Damascus to arrest believers there, but on the way, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. Saul fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”

“Who are You, Lord?” Saul asked.

“I am Jesus,” He replied. “Get up and go into the city.” Saul got up and opened his eyes, but he couldn’t see! So the men who were traveling with Saul led him by the hand into Damascus.

Ananias (an uh NIGH uhs), a disciple of Jesus, lived in Damascus. The Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision. The Lord said, “Go! I have chosen this man to take my name

to Gentiles, kings, and Israelites.”

Ananias obeyed. He found Saul and told Saul that Jesus had sent him to help. Ananias put his hands on Saul, and Saul could see again. Saul got up and was baptized. He began to go to the synagogues to preach about Jesus.

Saul told the people, “Jesus is the Son of God!”

The Jews planned to kill him, so one night Saul left the city. The disciples helped Saul escape by lowering him down the city wall in a basket.

Christ Connection: Jesus appeared to Saul and changed him inside and out. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15) Jesus called Saul, who was once an enemy to Christians, to spend the rest of his life telling people the gospel and leading them to trust in Jesus.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Number the events on the timeline in the correct order of today's Bible story. Look up Acts 8:1 and Acts 9 if you need help.

___ Saul persecuted the church and approved of Stephen's death.

___ Saul began to preach in the synagogues and tell people that Jesus is the Son of God.

___ Saul could not see, so his men lead him by hand to Damascus.

___ Ananias found Saul and put his hands on Saul. Then Saul could see.

___ Saul was baptized.

___ A bright light appeared and Jesus spoke to Saul on the road to Damascus.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What happened to Saul after his encounter with Jesus?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus appeared to Saul and changed him inside and out. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15) Jesus called Saul, who was once an enemy to Christians, to spend the rest of his life telling people the gospel and leading them to trust in Jesus.



LIVE

THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that He saves anyone who trusts in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Acts 20:23-24

1 Timothy 1:15-16

Romans 15:7

1 Corinthians 15:9-10

Romans 1:16

Ephesians 3:7-10



Unit 33 | Session 2

PAUL BECAME A MISSIONARY

Acts 13-14

Saul, who was also known by his Roman name, Paul, was with the church in Antioch. The Holy Spirit chose Paul and another believer, Barnabas, for a special work. So they obeyed and left Antioch. God led Paul and Barnabas to tell the good news about Jesus to not only the Jews, but the Gentiles—or people who were not Jews.

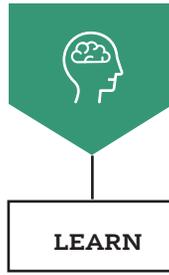
Paul and Barnabas traveled to Lystra (LISS truh). Paul healed a man there who had never been able to walk. The people thought Paul and Barnabas were gods! Paul and Barnabas shouted, “No! We are not gods. We are men just like you! We want to tell you the good news of God.”

Then some people showed up from Antioch and Iconium (igh KOH nih uhm). These people caused trouble so that the people in Lystra turned against Paul and Barnabas, too. They threw stones at Paul and dragged him out of the city. They thought he was dead, but the believers in

Lystra gathered around Paul, and he got up.

The next day, Paul and Barnabas went to the city of Derbe (DUHR bih). They told people there about Jesus, and many people believed. Then Paul and Barnabas went back to Lystra and to Iconium. They encouraged the believers there to continue in the faith.

Christ Connection: God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles he faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel spread so that people all over the world could be saved from their sins by trusting in Jesus.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Paul was willing to suffer for the sake of the gospel. Number the events in the correct order of the Bible story. Read Acts 13:2; 14:6-21 if you need help.

___ Many people in Derbe believed in Jesus.

___ Paul and Barnabas traveled to Derbe.

___ Paul and Barnabas told the people not to worship them.

___ The Holy Spirit chose Paul and Barnabas to share the gospel with the Gentiles.

___ Paul and Barnabas traveled to Lystra.

___ People from Antioch and Iconium started trouble in Lystra.

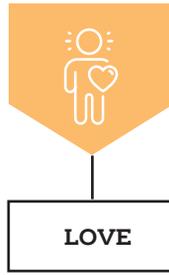
___ People threw stones at Paul.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What were some challenging circumstances Paul and Barnabas faced?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles he faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel spread so that people all over the world could be saved from their sins by trusting in Jesus.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

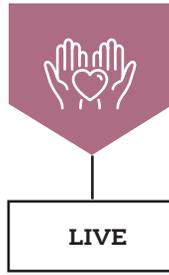
» Why does God call missionaries?

» Do you know any missionaries from your church or from the past? Who?

» Do you think being a missionary can be challenging? Why?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles he faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel spread so that people all over the world could be saved from their sins by trusting in Jesus.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for sending Paul to share the gospel with the Gentiles.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Romans 15:20-21

Romans 10:13-15

1 Thessalonians 3:1-2

Acts 13:47

2 Corinthians 12:10

Luke 10:2



Unit 33 | Session 3

JESUS CAN FORGIVE ANYONE

2 Corinthians 5

In his second letter to the church at Corinth, Paul wrote to encourage the believers. Paul reminded them that because of Jesus, God forgives our sin and invites us into His family forever. He loves us, and He calls all of us to tell people about Jesus so they might believe and become part of God's family too.

Paul used to be an enemy of God, but Jesus saved him! Apart from Jesus, all sinners are enemies of God. Paul wanted to share the good news that Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.

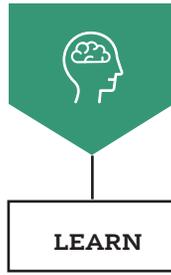
Paul wrote, "We know this truth: Jesus died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the one who died for them and was raised."

Jesus changes everything. Paul wrote, "Once we follow Jesus, we see the world differently. If anyone is in Christ, he is a

new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!"

Jesus gave up His life to rescue sinners, and God was pleased with Jesus' sacrifice. Paul said that Christ has made us acceptable to God, and He gives us the mission of bringing others to Him through Christ. God can use us to reach other people. We can tell others, "Be made right with God. He made Jesus—who never sinned—to be sin for us, so that in Jesus we might become the righteousness of God."

Christ Connection: Jesus can forgive anyone. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and invites us into His family. He calls us to tell others about Him so they might believe in Jesus and be saved.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

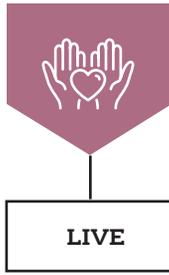
» Jesus calls us to share the gospel with others. On the space below, write a message of how you would share the good news of Jesus with a friend.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» When we trust in Jesus and believe He died for our sin, we are forgiven and our lives are never the same. How do our lives change?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus can forgive anyone. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and invites us into His family. He calls us to tell others about Him so they might believe in Jesus and be saved.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find John 3:17 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for the forgiveness of your sins and asking Him to give you courage to live for Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 5:14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 5:10-11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 5:20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6:4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 10:42-43 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 14:7-8 |