

Proclaiming the Gospel

Unit 9c

PREVIEW

Doctrines

- **151:** The Bible is accurate in its prophecy (Num. 23:19).
- **151:** Angels sometimes revealed God's will to people (Luke 1:13).
- **151–52:** God uses people to speak to others (Rom. 10:14–15).
- **151–52:** Members of the local church must evangelize (Acts 1:8).

Skills and Applications

- Learn Romans 10:14–15
- Realize that salvation is for both Jews and Gentiles
- Realize that imitating Christ includes loving the unlovely
- Learn to rely on the Holy Spirit's power for boldness in witnessing
- Recall facts and details
- Complete an outline
- Locate information in the Bible
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON

151

Obedience Brings Reaping

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Romans 10:14–15

Principle: God uses people to spread the gospel to other people. Locate and read aloud Romans 10:14–15 as the students read silently.

- ▶ What is the answer to the first question in 10:14? **They cannot.**
- ▶ What is the answer to the second question in 10:14? **They cannot.**
- ▶ What is the answer to the third question in 10:14? **They cannot.**

(Note: The meaning of the word *preacher* is not limited to a person speaking in front of people in a church but includes somebody who is giving information to another.)



In what ways are you giving the gospel to the unsaved?

Explain that **Romans 10:15** quotes **Isaiah 52:7**. Read aloud what Isaiah wrote, tell the students to read and study the memory verses, and then direct them to read **Romans 10:9–15**. Invite them to mark the location with their Unit 9 bookmarks and to highlight the verses in their Bibles (optional).

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Philip

The man mentioned in this account is not the apostle Philip, but a deacon in the early church (**Acts 6:5**). Philip and Stephen are the only deacons who performed miracles that are recorded in Scripture.

The Ethiopian

He was the treasurer for the queen of Ethiopia, Africa. The Ethiopian was an unsaved Gentile who had gone to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home. As he rode along in his chariot, he was reading aloud **Isaiah 53**.

Simon's Conversion

The condition of Simon the magician's heart is known only by God. Some theologians debate whether or not Simon was truly saved. Writings of second-century church leaders charge Simon with heresy and false doctrine, but Philip would not have baptized Simon unless he thought that Simon was saved. Only God truly knows whether someone believes on His Son.

Holy Spirit

The Bible does not state why the believers in Samaria had to wait for Peter and John in order to receive the Holy Spirit, but it was probably due to the similarities between Judaism and the Samaritan religion. Up to this point, the Samaritans refused to worship in Jerusalem as commanded in the Old Testament, claiming instead that God wanted them to worship on Mount Gerizim. The Samaritans who believed the message about Jesus needed to understand that they were being added to the church in Jerusalem and not the other way around. Only by forsaking their Samaritan religion could they be truly saved.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss the persecution leading to the spread of the gospel. Explain that Saul agreed to Stephen's death and after that zealously persecuted Christians in Jerusalem. Saul went from house to house arresting believers. Most of the believers in Jerusalem moved into Judea and Samaria to escape the persecution. These believers spread the gospel wherever they went. Christ's command in **Matthew 28:19** was being fulfilled.

Teach for Understanding

Read Acts 8:5–40 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **In what three ways did the Ethiopian man respond to the message of salvation? He trusted Christ as Lord; he desired to be baptized; he went on his way rejoicing.**

Obedience Brings Reaping

Philip, a deacon in the church of Jerusalem, went to the city of Samaria and preached Christ. The Samaritans heard what Philip said and saw the miracles that he did. The city was full of joy because those possessed with demons were delivered and many of the sick were healed.

There was a sorcerer in Samaria, named Simon, who had been practicing magic and presenting himself as a great person. The people of Samaria had listened to Simon, and he had led them to believe that he had power from God.

As Philip preached, the Samaritans began to believe what he said about God's kingdom and Jesus Christ. Men and women became believers and were baptized, but none of them had yet received the Holy Spirit.

Simon, the magician, also believed and was baptized. Simon was amazed at all the miracles Philip performed.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the Samaritans had received the gospel, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. Peter and John prayed for the new believers and laid their hands on them so that they could receive the Holy Spirit. When Simon saw that the apostles appeared to be giving the Holy Spirit to people, he offered them money so

that he could also have the power to lay hands on people to give the Holy Spirit.

But Peter rebuked him, saying that Simon's money would perish with him because he thought that the gift of God could be bought with money. He told Simon that his heart was not right in God's sight. Simon needed to repent of his wickedness and to beg God to forgive him for these wicked thoughts in his heart.

Peter and John preached in many of the Samaritan towns and then headed back toward Jerusalem. But the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip and told him to go toward Gaza, which is in the desert. Philip obeyed the Lord and went.

Queen Candace of Ethiopia had a treasurer who had gone to Jerusalem to worship. This Ethiopian man was returning from Jerusalem and was in his chariot reading aloud from the book of Isaiah.

The Holy Spirit told Philip to go join the man in the chariot. So Philip ran to the Ethiopian and heard him reading from Isaiah.

Philip asked him, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

"How can I," the man replied, "unless somebody helps me?" Then he invited Philip to sit with him.

They read from the passage that speaks of someone who was led as a sheep to the slaughter. The Ethiopian asked Philip, "Who is the prophet speaking about—himself or somebody else?"

Philip used that same passage to teach the man about Jesus. As they traveled, they came to some water, and the Ethiopian asked what prevented him from being baptized.

The Ethiopian stated that he believed that Jesus Christ is indeed the Son of God. Then he commanded the chariot driver to stop. Both Philip and the Ethiopian went down into the water, where Philip baptized this new Christian.

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away. The Ethiopian did not see Philip anymore, but he continued on his way rejoicing.

As for Philip, he was in Azotus, and he preached in all the cities along the coast until he came to Caesarea.



- How did the gospel reach Judea and Samaria? **Because of persecution, believers left Jerusalem for safer places and told others the gospel.**
- How did the Ethiopian come to an understanding of Jesus Christ in Isaiah's prophecy? **Because Philip obeyed the Holy Spirit's leading, he was able to explain the Scripture to the Ethiopian.**
- What did the Ethiopian have to do before being baptized? **trust Jesus**
- In what three ways did the Ethiopian man respond to the message of salvation? **He trusted Christ as Lord; he desired to be baptized; he went on his way rejoicing.**
- Do you think that the Ethiopian shared the truth of Jesus Christ with anyone? Who? **yes; probably with his traveling companions, his family, and his friends**

To Samaria

Acts 8:1–40

Name _____

Write the correct word to complete each sentence. You may use your Bible for help.

1. Persecution scattered believers from Jerusalem into Judea and Samaria (Acts 8:1).
2. Philip went to Samaria to preach about Christ (Acts 8:5).
3. After Philip spoke and performed miracles, many people believed on Christ and were baptized (Acts 8:6, 12).
4. Peter and John came from Jerusalem when they heard of the many people who trusted Christ in Samaria (Acts 8:14).
5. Simon, a man baptized with the believers, offered the apostles money to purchase the power to give others the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:13, 18–19).
6. Peter told Simon to repent of his wickedness (Acts 8:22).

Find the answers from above in the puzzle below, and circle them.



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Reading from left to right in the puzzle above, write the remaining letters in order to complete the sentence.

Throughout H I S T O R Y, persecution of B E L I E V E R S has tended to S P R E A D the gospel rather than to S T O P it!

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Redemption: God's Grand Design

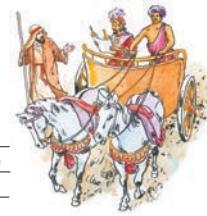
From Samaria

Name _____

Persecution in Jerusalem caused Philip to go to Samaria, where he preached the gospel. Once that body of believers was established, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, but God had other plans for Philip.

Read Acts 8:25–40 and answer the questions.

1. How did Philip know where to go? *an angel of the Lord told him*
2. Who had God prepared for Philip to meet? *an Ethiopian*
3. What was the man reading? *the book of Isaiah*
4. What was Philip able to teach him through this passage? *Answers should include that salvation is through Jesus.*



Did you know?
Candace was an Ethiopian title for the position rather than the name of the queen. The title pharaoh was used the same way in Egypt.

At this time, personal copies of Scripture were hand copied and very expensive. The Ethiopian was probably wealthy because of his position in the royal court, which made it possible to own a copy.

5. What did the Ethiopian desire to do as soon as he believed on Christ? *to be baptized*

6. Those traveling with the Ethiopian must have witnessed his bold testimony as he humbled himself in baptism. Do you think he was bold enough to tell others about Christ when he returned to Ethiopia? *yes*

Have you ever heard someone say that he has read the Bible but not understood it? Maybe you have thought the same thing about certain verses. This is the same thing the Ethiopian told Philip. But Philip was able to clearly explain Isaiah 53:7–8. How could Philip do this? Philip had studied the Old Testament and also had the Holy Spirit helping him understand Scripture.

Are you struggling to understand spiritual things when you read God's Word or hear it preached?

Read the following verses to complete the sentences.

7. 1 Corinthians 2:14 Unsaved people cannot *know/understand* the things of God.
8. 1 Corinthians 2:16 Be sure you know God so He can instruct you and you can have His *mind*.
9. 2 Timothy 2:7 *The Lord* will give you understanding.
10. Colossians 1:9 Pray for others to be filled with *wisdom* and understanding.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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How can Christians take the gospel to other parts of the world? **Wherever they are in any situation, Christians can tell the gospel to others. They can send it in written form in the mail or electronically.**

Should we wait to tell somebody the gospel until we know they have been reading the Bible? **No. Christ told us to take the initiative to speak about it.**

Worktext pages 222–23

Recall facts from the Bible account and locate information in the Bible.

LESSON

152

In Every Nation

Materials

- Chart 34 ("Palestine in Christ's Time")

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Romans 10:14–15

Practice the memory verses. Locate Romans 10:14–15 and select two volunteers to each read a verse aloud. Ask for volunteers to recite the verses.

- What must happen so that people can call on somebody else? **They must have first believed (trusted) in that person.**
- What must happen so that people can believe (trust) in somebody else? **They must have first heard about that person.**
- What must happen so that people can hear about somebody else? **Another person must first speak about that person they are to believe in and call on.**

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Clean and Unclean Foods

Old Testament law prohibited the eating of certain foods. Scripture classifies some foods as clean and some as unclean, but we are not told why God designated them as such. Gentiles ate some of the things that were forbidden to Jews. This is one of the reasons that the association of Jews and Gentiles was uncomfortable.

Caesarea

Herod the Great developed this port city on the Mediterranean

coast of Israel into a significant center of Roman civilization. Caesarea is located about thirty-five miles north of Joppa and twenty-five miles south of Mount Carmel. (This city should not be confused with Caesarea Philippi, which is inland, about twenty-seven miles north of the Sea of Galilee.)

Peter's Refusals

Peter's refusal of God's command to eat the animals before him is the third time that Peter directly resisted God's will. In **Matthew 16:22**, Peter insisted that Christ should not suffer death, and in **John 13:8**, Peter refused to allow Jesus to wash his feet.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss unclean animals. Read aloud **Leviticus 11:1–4**. Share the background information about clean and unclean foods. Remind the students that to the Jews the Gentiles were considered to be heathen and unclean.

Teach for Understanding

Read Acts 10 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **What did Peter say about Jesus in relation to the Old Testament prophets? that Jesus was the one they had been talking about**

Display Chart 34 ("Palestine in Christ's Time") pointing out the locations of the italicized places.

In Every Nation

Cornelius, a centurion (a Roman commander of one hundred soldiers) in an Italian regiment, lived in the region of *Caesarea*. He was a religious man who feared God, gave to the poor, and consistently prayed to God.

One afternoon, Cornelius had a vision of an angel of God. The angel called Cornelius by name and told him that his prayers and acts of mercy had been noticed by God. Then the angel told Cornelius to send some men to *Joppa* to get Simon Peter, who would tell him what to do. Peter was staying with a man named Simon, who lived by the seashore.

The angel left, and Cornelius called for two of his servants and one of his loyal soldiers. He told them the angel's instructions and sent them to *Joppa*.

The following day, Peter went up to the flat roof of the house to pray. Peter got very hungry, but while he was waiting for the food to be prepared, he saw a vision. In the vision, Peter saw something similar to a large sheet held together at the corners coming down from heaven to earth. Inside the sheet were all kinds of four-legged animals, crawling animals, and birds.

Suddenly a voice said, "Rise, Peter; kill, and eat" (**Acts 10:13**).

But Peter refused, telling the Lord that he had never eaten food that was unclean according to Jewish law.

The voice spoke again, telling Peter that if God had cleansed something, he should not call it impure.

This happened three times, and then the sheet went back up to heaven. Peter was trying to figure out the mean-

ing of this vision when Cornelius's three messengers arrived at the gate of Simon's house.

The Holy Spirit told Peter that three men were there to see him. Peter was to go down to talk with them and not doubt anything about what was taking place because God had sent these men with their invitation.

Peter obeyed, and the men told Peter how God had sent an angel to Cornelius to ask Peter to come and speak God's words to them. So the following day, Peter and other Christian men journeyed to Caesarea with Cornelius's messengers.

Cornelius and some of his relatives and close friends were waiting together for Peter's arrival. As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and bowed down to worship him. But Peter told him to stand up because Peter was human, just like anybody else.

Then Peter said to Cornelius and all that had gathered with him, "You know that it's unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to come in contact with people of other nations. But God has shown me that I shouldn't call anyone common or unclean. Because of that, I immediately came with your messengers and am here with you today. Now, may I ask you why you have sent for me?"

Cornelius told about the vision he had seen and how he was commanded to send for Simon Peter. "Now," he said, "we are gathered here before God to hear everything God has commanded you to speak to us."

Peter said that God does not play favorites but accepts people who fear Him and do what is right. Peter told this Gentile crowd about God's word of peace through Jesus Christ. He told how God had anointed Christ with the Holy Spirit and power. He talked about Christ's works, His death, His resurrection, and the witnesses who saw Jesus after He rose from the dead. Peter explained that God had appointed Christ to be the Judge of the living and the dead. He finished by saying that Jesus was the one all the Old Testament prophets had been talking about and that through His name whoever believed in Him would receive forgiveness of sins.

Then God poured out His Spirit on the believing Gentiles, and the Jews who were with Peter were amazed. Peter directed that these new believers be baptized.



- ▶ Why did Peter refuse the Lord's command to eat unclean animals? **Peter was obeying the Lord's previous command to the Jews. It was difficult for him to change his mind.**
- ▶ How did God respond to Peter's refusal? **He told Peter not to oppose His new command. God's command was based on new information that Peter had to accept as from God.**
- ▶ What was the next command that God's Spirit gave Peter that seemed to contradict previous commands? **Peter was to go with Gentile men to speak to more Gentiles.**
- ▶ How did Peter's obedience to God's command to follow these men result in a blessing? **Peter exalted Christ as the one anointed by God as Judge and Savior, and many people**

How Shall They Hear?

Romans 10:14–15

Name _____

Sometimes when someone looks on the Internet for the answer to a question, other questions come to his mind that need to be answered. As questions continue to arise and are answered, a broader understanding of the subject is formed.

Teachers often use a similar method to help students arrive at correct answers. If the teacher asks a question that cannot be answered by the students, then the teacher may reword the question slightly to include information the students do know. By asking a series of questions, the teacher hopes the students will come to answer the original question.

In Romans 10:13, God uses Paul to state the fact that all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. This statement is followed by a series of questions to help Christians arrive at God's desired conclusion.

Complete each sentence from Romans 10:14–15.

A **preacher** is one who proclaims and teaches God's truth. Today we think of a preacher as a pastor of a church. But any Christian who explains the gospel is a "preacher."

1. God says that for people to call on His name, they must believe.
2. For people to believe, they must have heard about Christ and salvation.
3. For people to hear about the Savior, they must have a preacher.
4. For preachers to tell others of Christ, they must be sent to the people that need to hear.



Answer the questions.

5. What message do you think God was teaching the believers at Rome? **Answers will vary but should include that salvation is for everyone, but they need to hear before they can trust Christ. The Lord wanted them to go tell others.**
6. Does this same message apply to Christians today? **yes**
7. Romans 10:15 says, "as it is written," which means that the following words are from a previous passage of Scripture. Read Isaiah 52:7. According to Isaiah, what things does a preacher do? **brings good tidings or good news, publishes (proclaims or announces) peace and salvation**
8. Why do you think God says the feet of a preacher are beautiful? **Possible answer: They are beautiful because of taking the gospel to others.**



Have you been obedient to preach the gospel of Christ? If so, how have you shared the gospel recently?

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Redemption: God's Grand Design

trusted Christ. The Holy Spirit's filling the believing Gentiles was a testimony to the other Jews with Peter.

- ➊ How does this account of Gentiles becoming part of God's kingdom fit in with God's eternal plan? **The inclusion of Gentiles in God's kingdom is a fulfillment of what God prophesied in the Old Testament (Hos. 2:23; Isa. 42:1; 55:5–6) and of what Christ said (Matt. 12:18; 21:43).**
- ➋ How can a Christian's obedience to God's Word and His Spirit bless others? **It can lead to the salvation or spiritual encouragement and growth of others, and show that God's eternal plan is being worked out.**
- ➌ What did Peter say about Jesus in relation to the Old Testament prophets? **that Jesus was the one they had been talking about**
- ➍ How is God seen as the major figure in this Bible account? **Answers may include that God (His Word) directs how we should view things, and He directs our obedience.**

Worktext page 224

Develop further understanding of the memory verses.

Worktext page 225

Complete an outline of Acts 10.

Prepared to Give and Receive

Acts 10

Name _____

Write each of the following roman numeral points in its proper place in the outline below.

The Lord prepared Peter to preach to the Gentiles. Peter obeyed God and went to Cornelius. Cornelius was seeking the Lord.

Write the number of each supporting sentence in its correct place in the outline.

1. Peter preached about salvation through Christ.
2. Cornelius prayed regularly and gave offerings.
3. God taught Peter to take the gospel to people whom the Jews considered unclean.

I. **Cornelius was seeking the Lord.**

A. **2**

B. An angel told Cornelius to send for Peter.

II. **The Lord prepared Peter to preach to the Gentiles.**

A. God gave Peter a vision and commanded him to eat the unclean animals, which went against Jewish tradition.

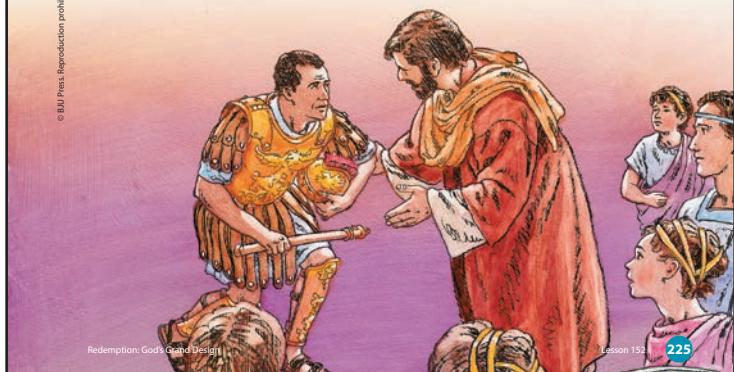
B. **3**

III. **Peter obeyed God and went to Cornelius.**

A. **1**

B. Cornelius and those who heard Peter trusted Christ and were baptized.

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Lesson 153 225

LESSON
153

Faithful Follower: James Johnson

Materials

- Chart 27 ("World Map")

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Romans 10:14–15

Practice the memory verses. Locate Romans 10:14–15 and select a volunteer to read the verses aloud; then direct the students to read the verses responsively with you, phrase by phrase. Read or recite Romans 10:9–15 together. Explain that Paul's letter to the Romans was written about twenty years after Peter began preaching to the Gentiles.

- What did God say about a person who tells somebody else about salvation through trusting in Christ? **That person has beautiful feet.**
- ➊ How would you summarize that part of 10:15? **God commands people who tell others about Jesus Christ.**
- ➋ Does a person have to be an adult to tell others about Jesus Christ? **no**

- Does a person have to hold an office in a church to tell others about Jesus Christ? **no**
- Is it a requirement for a person to have special training before he can tell others about Jesus Christ? **no**
- What are the requirements for an obedient life of explaining the gospel to others? **A person must have trusted Christ as Savior and be obedient to speak to others.**

Biographical Account

Introduce the Biography

Discuss James Johnson's burden. Explain that James Johnson had a burden for the Dani people in the interior of New Guinea. Display Chart 27 ("World Map") pointing out the island of New Guinea north of Australia. (The country of Papua New Guinea occupies the eastern half of the island.) Around sixty thousand Danis lived in that part of New Guinea, and Johnson was determined to start a mission station to reach them. However, he had to overcome some barriers in order to go into the Dani area.

Teach for Understanding

Read the following account based on the life of James Johnson. Listening question: **How did James find constant encouragement? in the promise in God's Word (Matt. 17:20)**

Faithful Witness

"Would you please repeat your request?" the official asked with one eyebrow raised.

James Johnson answered, "I wish to enter the Dani territory and establish a mission station there."

"That's what I thought you said." The man shook his head. "It's impossible."

"Why?" Johnson asked.

"It's marked as an uncontrolled area; to enter that territory would be suicide."

But James Johnson would not give up, despite the fact that the Danis were known as cruel, savage people. He kept returning to the permission office until he finally was issued a permit to go into the Dani territory.

"But the government will take no responsibility for anything that happens to you," the official told him. "You're on your own!"

The next barrier was getting into the valley. Johnson organized a group and started overland, but they had to go back because the Danis threatened to kill them.

Johnson and his group made two more attempts to go through the valley, but both times, they were driven back by the savage tribesmen.

After a lot of talking to God about this situation, Johnson decided that they needed a plane to get into the territory. The Lord provided James with not only a plane, but also a small group to go with him.

When James, the pilot, a native pastor and his family, and a missionary friend landed in the Dani territory, they

started to set up camp. "It sure is quiet," one of the men said. "Not a sign of life."

Johnson replied, "They're watching us from the jungle; I can feel their eyes on us."

Almost an entire day passed before the Danis finally came out. Tall, dark-skinned men brandished fifteen-foot spears at the group as they approached.

For several minutes they stood staring at James and his friends; then one man stepped forward.

"Naph! Naph!" he said.

Johnson turned to the native pastor. "What did he say?"

The pastor sighed in relief. "It's all right. It's their cry of welcome."

God had answered that prayer, but James and his party would face a lot of discouragement and tragedy during the first few months.

One foggy day, as the pilot was returning from a trip, he crashed into a mountain and was killed instantly. Without the pilot and the plane, Johnson and his group were now isolated.

The group found many disturbing customs among the Danis. Women cut off their fingers at funerals to show their devotion to the dead; the Danis buried their elderly alive; and when other tribes captured a young warrior, the tribe would eat the young man so that his strength would enter them.

Progress was slow because the Danis were unpredictable. One minute they were friendly; the next they were bloodthirsty.

The missionaries had a close brush with disaster when three Dani girls were accidentally killed while helping to build an airstrip. When Johnson and his men tried to console the mothers, one mother said, "White man bring trouble. If white man had not come, our girls not be dead. I say kill white men!"

The rest of the tribespeople joined in, shouting, "Kill white men!" At that moment, a loud rumble in the distance caught the Danis' attention, and they gazed up at the sky.

"Look! Large bird come!" the Danis exclaimed as they pointed.

One of the mission's planes was arriving on an emergency run.

The Danis said, "Large bird come to save white men. White men's God send bird—do not kill white men!"

James Johnson saw this incident as a means of reaching the Danis; they became more receptive to God's Word.

Another way of reaching the Danis was through providing medical treatment for the sick. One day, a young brother of the most powerful chief in the area fell out of a tree. The boy broke his leg and suffered a severe head injury. The chief came to Johnson for help and said, "My brother is going to die. You must help save his life—witch doctor cannot help."

Johnson examined the boy briefly; then he turned to the chief. "He is very sick. Let us take him away in large bird. We will bring him back well and strong."

The chief frowned. "I not like."

What Does God Say About Witnessing?

Name _____



Christians have thrilling news to tell others!

If you won a million dollars, you would want to tell everyone about it. You would be so excited that you probably would not be able to sleep! If you are a Christian, you have even better news—you have personally experienced God's amazing forgiveness of sin. A Christian knows that God has saved him from the consequences of his sin and that he will spend eternity with God. This is exciting, life-changing news! Christians cannot help but want to tell others about how they can be right with God.

Read Matthew 28:19–20 and write God's four commands to Christians in your own words. Also include Jesus' promise to Christians.

Answers will vary, but should include going to tell others, making disciples, or teaching people about Christ, baptizing them, and teaching people to do what Jesus says. Jesus promises Christians that He will be with them forever.

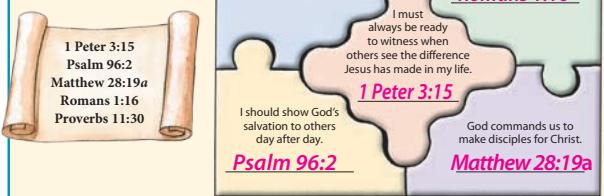
Every Christian has a God-given responsibility to tell others about the saving power of Jesus Christ. Doing this is being a **witness** to others about Jesus.

Using the glossary, write the definitions for both the noun and verb forms of witness.

Noun: **person who tells about an event he has seen**
Verb: **to tell others about Christ and the way of salvation**

Christians have suffered persecution for centuries for telling the good news of salvation. No one wants to hear that he is a sinner and on his way to hell. No one likes to admit that he is wrong. However, a Christian must respectfully and lovingly speak the truth to others, even if he is mocked and made fun of for talking about Christ.

Read the verses. Write the reference in the puzzle piece with the matching statement about witnessing to others.



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"You don't want him to die, do you?"

"All right. You take boy in bird."

In a matter of weeks, James Johnson returned with the chief's brother completely healed. The chief was so overjoyed and thankful that he opened his tribe to Johnson and his fellow workers. They were then able to preach the gospel freely to this tribe.

Eventually, several missionary families came from the United States to the mission station to help Johnson and his group. Although James faced other obstacles among his adopted tribe, he remained faithful to God. He preached the Word and worked tirelessly, not allowing circumstances or trials to sidetrack him. He found constant encouragement from **Matthew 17:20**: "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."



- **What obstacles did James Johnson meet in trying to bring the gospel to the Dani people? The government did not want to give him a permit to enter the area; when they finally granted him permission, the government offered him no protection. The Dani people themselves refused to allow the missionaries into their valley three times. The pilot was killed and the plane destroyed. The Danis' customs were disturbing, and the people were unpredictable.**

Something to Think About

Witnessing

Name _____



Have you ever witnessed to someone?

If you are a Christian, it is your responsibility and privilege to tell other people what Jesus has done for you. Can you give a good answer to someone if he asks you why you are sure you are going to heaven? What if he asks you who Jesus is? What will you say? Are you ready to tell him the good news?

Read the verses and complete the statements which help you witness to someone about Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:23	Everyone has sinned _____ and fallen short of God's glory.
Romans 6:23	Because we have sinned, we deserve death _____. However, God has provided the gift of eternal life _____ through Jesus Christ our Lord.
John 20:31	Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If we trust Jesus, we will have life _____.
Ephesians 2:8–9	You are saved by grace _____. Salvation is a gift from God. Good works cannot save anybody from sin. If they could, then people would boast _____ about being good enough to earn their own salvation.
Romans 10:9	If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe _____ in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved _____.

What kind of witness are you?

Read Matthew 5:13, 16, and 1 Peter 3:15. Then answer the questions.

Is salt always effective? **no** Should you always be ready? **yes**
Do lights always shine brightly? **no** Are you always ready? _____

What About Me?

Take time at home to consider the following questions and evaluate your current witness to others.

- Do I know how to lead someone to Christ?
- Have I memorized Scripture to help me lead someone to Christ?
- Am I ashamed to be a bold witness for Christ?
- Does my attitude give a good impression to others about Jesus Christ?
- Am I willing to suffer persecution for telling others about Christ?
- Is God pleased with my actions to win others to Christ?
- Do I pray for the opportunity to witness to others?
- Do I make myself available to disciple others?

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 153 227

► **What was encouraging to Johnson as he tried to reach the Danis for Christ? The Lord provided a pilot, a plane, a native family that spoke the language and knew the Lord, and another missionary friend. The Danis welcomed them when they first arrived. The Lord brought in a plane just when the missionaries faced the danger of being killed. The Dani people recognized God's protection. Successful medical help made the Danis want to hear the gospel more. Other missionaries came to help. God's promises in His Word encouraged James Johnson to continue working for Christ.**

► **How can Christians take courage to continue obeying God? Possible answers include spending time daily talking with God and reading and meditating on God's Word; continually reminding themselves of God's character, His promises, and His past works; continually thanking God in every circumstance.**

► **What is one verse that James Johnson lived out? Two possible answers are Matthew 28:19–20 and Acts 1:8.**

► **Where did James find constant encouragement? in the promise in God's Word (Matt. 17:20)**

► **What are some verses that God encourages you with?**

Worktext pages 226–27

(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 155 to allow time for in-depth discussion.)

Develop a biblical view of witnessing. Read page 226 and discuss what God says about witnessing. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

Evaluate your witness to others. Read page 227 and discuss the verses you might share when witnessing to someone about Jesus Christ. Encourage the students to read the “What About Me?” section at home and evaluate their witness to others. (Note: Remind the students who have questions about their salvation to talk with you, their parents, or their pastors at a specific time.)

LESSON

154

If You Were to Tell

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Romans 10:14–15

Practice the memory verses. Select a student to read aloud **Romans 10:14–15**. Direct each student to read the verses silently, in a quiet whisper to himself, and then to a partner. Lead the students in reading **Romans 10:9–15** together.

Review memory verse questions from Lessons 150–53.

Application Story

Introduce the Application Story

Discuss boldness and timidity. Point out that God uses timid people as well as bold people. A person’s personality is not the determining factor for usefulness, but rather a person’s obedience and trust in God. Select a volunteer to read aloud **1 Corinthians 1:27–31** (optional).

Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following story. Listening question: How did Libby surprise herself? She had no problem talking.

If You Were to Tell

Libby's heart pounded like it did every first Wednesday evening of the month. All the sixth-graders gathered in the usual meeting room in the basement of the church. They were going to hand out tracts in the neighborhood.

“Who has a testimony tonight?” Pastor Koons, the youth pastor, asked. “Who had an opportunity to witness to someone last month? If you had even a small part in helping someone to know about God, we'd love to hear about it.”

Finally, Tyler stood. Tyler wasn't a very outgoing guy; he was kind of ordinary—not someone that was always noticed.

“Um, well,” Tyler said. “Last time we went out, um, I gave a tract to a man. He seemed nice and kinda interested in knowing what we were up to. I was really glad that our church's address was on the back because I could hardly think to tell him how to get here.”

The rest of the young people laughed.

“Don't worry about that, Tyler,” the youth pastor said. “We're all laughing because the same thing happens to all of us too.”

“Well,” Tyler said, “the man came to church the next Sunday. He didn't get saved, but I saw other people talking to him, and he smiled a bunch. I don't think he's been back again, but I've been praying that I'd get to see him again. This time I want to tell him about Jesus myself.” Tyler sat down.

“Thank you, Tyler,” Pastor Koons said. “That was excellent. I'm so glad you approached that man with that tract. Let's pray for him right now, OK?” Pastor Koons suggested. “Tony and Marc, would you both pray for him, and for Tyler?”

Libby's heart only pounded harder as Tony and Marc prayed. “I'm too shy, Lord,” she thought. “I can't witness to people like the others do.” But then she thought about how scared Tyler had been.

“And, Lord,” Marc prayed, “please help us to trust You for the boldness we need to tell others about You. We're glad somebody told us about You, and remind us as we witness that You are with us. In Jesus' name, amen.”

“Thank you,” Pastor Koons said. “I really appreciate your praying. OK, now, who can review for us why we're going out to do this evening?”

There was silence, but then Shawn raised his hand. “My dad says that God didn't save us just to take us to heaven, but that He gives us the privilege to tell others about Him before we go to heaven.”

“That's right; that's good,” Pastor Koons interjected.

“My dad says,” Shawn continued, “that God wants people throughout the whole world to know Him. Though we'll probably never get to those places, we can do what we can where we are now. My dad takes tracts with him everywhere he goes.”

“Thank you, Shawn; that was excellent,” Pastor Koons said. “All right, let's say our memory verse for this month together.” The group quoted **Acts 1:8**: “Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Then everyone stood up to find a partner, and Libby quickly walked over to the youth pastor's wife.

“Can I go with you?” Libby asked.

Mrs. Koons smiled. “Sure.”

They both picked up a stack of tracts and headed out to the church bus. They found a seat together, and Libby sat stiffly.

“So, Libby,” Mrs. Koons said, “I don't think I've ever heard how you came to the Lord for salvation.”

Libby's heart was pounding again. “Um, no, I guess I don't talk much,” Libby said. “I'm pretty shy.”

“How old were you when you trusted Christ?” Mrs. Koons asked.

“Well, I was nine. We never went to church or anything. But when I was in first grade my dad came home from work one day and said some man from work and his wife were

coming to the house to talk with Dad and Mom. The next day Dad and Mom seemed different. They said they had trusted Christ, and they started telling us kids about God and Jesus, and then we started coming here. Dad and Mom kept telling us Bible stuff and that God offers salvation. But I thought I was OK. I tried to stay out of trouble so people here would think I was already like them. But I kept seeing how selfish and angry and jealous I was. Inside I really did want to be like them, but I was too proud. Then one day Pastor Monroe preached about self-righteousness and how that's a mask that hides what's really going on inside. That day I trusted Christ as my Savior. And wow, am I ever glad I did!"

"Well, Libby, that's wonderful," Mrs. Koons said. "But I thought you said you didn't talk much."

Libby was a little surprised herself at how much she had just said.

"You know, Libby," Mrs. Koons said, "if you were to explain that to anyone tonight, I'm sure God would use that to get them thinking. How about it? Will you give it a try?"

Libby was scared. But a memory verse raced through her mind—the one that says we can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us. "I guess I can," she said.

"I'm sure you can as you trust God," Mrs. Koons said. "He'll help you."



- ➊ Why did the youth pastor ask the young people to give a testimony? **perhaps to let others know how God is working and to encourage the others before they go out to witness**
- ▶ How did Mrs. Koons and Libby encourage each other? **Mrs. Koons asked Libby to simply tell what God had done in her own heart. Libby's testimony was encouraging to Mrs. Koons.**
- ➋ What is the major difference between the man Tyler talked with and Libby's parents? **The man Tyler spoke with did not trust the Lord (as far as we know) and Libby's parents trusted Christ right away.**
- ➋ Why should Tyler not be discouraged about his efforts? **He was being faithful to spread the gospel. The results are not his responsibility.**
- ➋ How did Libby surprise herself? **She had no problem talking to Mrs. Koons.**

Being a Witness

Matthew 28:19–20

Name _____

Being a witness for Christ means letting others know about Christ. Writing to and speaking with others are two ways we can do that. When speaking with others, a Christian can explain from the Bible why people need to trust Christ, and then offer them the opportunity to trust Christ. A Christian will also enjoy telling others the circumstances in his own life that brought him to trust Christ. A tract, a leaflet written for a specific purpose, is also an effective means to let others know about Christ. These are handy when you have limited time to talk with someone and when you want the person to have something he can read later.

Read Luke 2:42–49 and answer the questions.

1. How old was Jesus when He talked with the scholars in the temple? **twelve**
2. What was Jesus' message when He was here on earth? ***He was here to do His Father's business (do His will).***

Read the verse(s) to complete each sentence.

3. Matthew 4:19 Jesus told His disciples to be ***fishers of men***
4. John 15:8 Witnessing is one activity that brings ***glory to God***
5. 2 Corinthians 5:14 The ***love of God*** compels me to witness.
6. Galatians 6:9; Luke 10:2 God promises that Christians will ***reap*** if they are faithful.
7. 2 Corinthians 5:20 Christians are ***ambassadors*** for Christ.

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228 Lesson 154

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Worktext page 228

Understand the importance of being a witness for Christ.

Train the students how to explain the gospel.

- What are some ways Christians can spread the gospel to others? Possible answers include giving their testimonies, either verbally or through electronic means, and handing out tracts or other written material.

Present the following suggestions if they were not already included in the ideas discussed.

- Realize that everyone is different. God may lead you to present the gospel differently to certain individuals. Christ did this Himself (e.g., to Nicodemus [John 3:1–21], to the woman at the well [John 4:5–42], and to the multitudes that followed Him for personal gain [Luke 6:17–49]).
- You can use a tract as a guide or starting point. Ask whether the person has a few minutes for you to explain the main points of the tract to him.
- Look for ways to bring Christ into a conversation. For example, if you are playing a game where the participants hide, at some point you might state that you are glad that God can see you all the time no matter where you are. Next, you could say that God knows all things—not just where you are, but even your thoughts, both the good and the bad. You could admit that you think bad things sometimes, and ask whether the listener does the same. You might tell him that you are bothered by your sin because you know that it displeases God; then you can tell the person how Christ died to pay for our sins.
- Invite your neighbor to your house for a meal, celebration, or Christian media presentation.
- Invite your neighbor to church services or a Bible club. If your church does not have any kind of program for children, talk to someone about helping to start one.
- Visit the sick and elderly in the hospital, at home, or in nursing homes.
- Pray daily for specific unsaved people you know and people you may meet. Remind yourself that every day people are dying without Christ.
- Memorize the following verses:
Romans 3:23: All have sinned.
Exodus 20:3–17 (portions): Breaking any of the Ten Commandments is sin.
James 2:10: Committing only one sin means a person is guilty.
Romans 6:23: Death is the result of sin.
John 3:16: God loves the world and gave His Son.
1 Corinthians 15:3–4: Christ died for our sins and rose again.
Ephesians 2:8–9: Salvation is a gift from God.
Romans 3:20: Salvation cannot be earned.
Romans 3:28: Good works cannot be added to faith.
Romans 10:9–10, 13–14a: Trust in Christ and pray to Him for salvation.
- Remember that the Holy Spirit lives within every person who has trusted in Jesus Christ to save him. The Holy Spirit will give you the power to speak to people about their need for Christ (**Phil. 4:13; 2 Cor. 9:8**).

Fulfilling the Mission

Unit 9d

PREVIEW

Doctrines

- **157:** Officers of the local church must preach the Word (2 Tim. 4:2).
- **158:** Members of the local church must evangelize the lost (Acts 8:1–4).

Skills and Applications

- Learn Matthew 28:19–20
- Learn to maintain joy and endurance even when people reject the gospel message
- Develop a concern for missions
- Develop a biblical view of money
- Develop a personal budget
- Calculate income and expenditures
- Calculate a tenth of an amount
- Read a timeline
- Read a map
- Recall facts and details
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON
156

Paul's First Journey: Blazing the Trail for Missions Today

Materials

- Chart 35 (“Paul’s First Route”)

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Matthew 28:19–20

Principle: God commands His followers to teach and baptize all nations and promises His presence. Locate and read aloud Matthew 28:19–20 as the students read silently.

How could all nations be discipled? by the spreading of Christ’s teaching verbally and in written form

How do you think Christ’s constant presence is a comfort to those who teach others about Him? Many times they face difficulties that only Christ can help them to overcome.

Starting at the front of the classroom, select students to read the memory verses aloud phrase by phrase; then repeat the activity by starting at the back of the classroom. Direct the students to mark the location with their Unit 9 bookmarks and to highlight the verses in their Bibles (optional).

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

First Missionary Journey

The record of Paul’s first missionary journey concludes with Acts 14. Paul’s journey lasted about two years and involved traveling more than a thousand miles by both land and sea.

Barnabas

Joses, a Levite from Cyprus, was nicknamed *Barnabas* by the apostles (Acts 4:36). *Bar* means “son of,” so *Barnabas* means “son of consolation or encouragement.” Barnabas lived up to

his name by being the one who presented the evidence of Saul's conversion to the apostles so that Saul would be accepted as a believer. Barnabas told the apostles about Saul's bold preaching in the name of Jesus in Damascus (**Acts 9:26–28**). Barnabas was also an encouragement to John Mark by taking him on another missionary trip after Paul would not take him.

Antioch

The Christian church in Antioch of Syria began when men from Cyprus and Cyrene came and preached to the Gentiles. A great number of people in Antioch believed and turned to the Lord, and the church grew quickly. The disciples of Christ were first called Christians in Antioch. After the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, Antioch became the leading city of Christianity. (*Note:* There are two Antiochs on the map.)

John Mark

John Mark, Barnabas's nephew, wrote the Gospel of Mark. His mother Mary, a Christian, was the one in whose home the believers were praying when Peter was released from prison (**Acts 12:12**). Since Mary's home is thought to have been a frequent meeting place for Christians, John Mark was probably acquainted with many apostles and heard their teachings.

Saul or Paul

In the account of the first missionary journey, it is noted that Saul (a Hebrew name) is also called Paul (a Greek name). After **Acts 13:9**, the writer of Acts always calls him Paul.

Introduce the Bible Account

Review Saul's conversion and the start of his ministry from Acts 9:1–22. (*Note:* Read or retell **Acts 9:1–22** if your students are unfamiliar with Saul's conversion and the beginning of his ministry.)

- ▶ What did Saul do to Christians before he was saved? **He persecuted them.**
- ▶ Where was Saul heading with permission to arrest more believers? **Damascus**
- ▶ How did Christ reveal himself to Saul? **in a vision; by speaking through a blinding light**
- ▶ How did Saul recover his sight? **A disciple named Ananias laid hands on him.**
- ❸ How did Saul demonstrate that he was converted? **He no longer desired to arrest and kill believers but to preach about Christ as God and Savior.**
- ❸ How do missionaries today choose a mission field? How do they know what to do when they get there? What do they do when they return home?

Explain that God's record of Paul's ministry in Acts is a model for missionaries today.

Teach for Understanding

Read Acts 13–14 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **What was one result of Paul and Barnabas's obedience and trust in God? Many people trusted Christ; many new churches were started.** Display Chart 35 ("Paul's First Route"), pointing out the locations of the italicized places.

Paul's First Journey: Blazing the Trail for Missions Today

The church leaders at *Antioch* were actively ministering to the Lord when the Holy Spirit told them that God had called Barnabas and Saul to do a work for Him. Before sending the two men on their way, the church at Antioch prayed and laid hands on them.

Barnabas and Saul followed the leading of the Lord to *Cyprus*. John Mark joined them in their work, and they traveled throughout the island, preaching to Jews in the synagogues. As they continued to share the gospel, they faced false teaching. While they were witnessing to a government official in the city of *Paphos*, a sorcerer tried to turn the official from the truth that Barnabas and Saul were proclaiming. Saul, now called Paul, rebuked the sorcerer and told him he would be made blind for a time. The official trusted in the Lord when he saw that the sorcerer was made blind and needed the help of others to lead him away.

From Cyprus, they sailed to *Perga in Pamphylia*, where John Mark left them and returned to Jerusalem. Paul and Barnabas, however, went north to *Antioch in Pisidia*. As in Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas first went to the synagogues to hear the reading of the Scriptures. Paul was invited to speak. Knowing that those listening were Jews, Paul began recounting the history of God's working in Israel. He reminded the people of God's promises to Abraham and used quotations from Psalms to show how these promises had been fulfilled through Jesus. Paul told the Jews that "through [Christ] is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: and by him all that believe are justified from all things" (**Acts 13:38–39**), which the law of Moses could not justify them from.

The people at the synagogue, including some Gentiles, invited Paul and Barnabas to speak again the next Sabbath. Some of the Jews also encouraged the men to "continue in the grace of God." Nearly everyone in the city came to hear Paul on the next Sabbath. The Jewish leaders became jealous because so many people were interested in Paul's message. When these Jews openly criticized Paul's preaching, he boldly told them that since they were rejecting everlasting life, he and Barnabas would go to the Gentiles. This was good news for the Gentiles. Many of them believed as the Word of the Lord was preached throughout the whole region. But the criticism and persecution from the Jews continued.

As Paul and Barnabas left the city, "they shook off the dust of their feet" as a sign against the Jews who had rejected salvation (**13:51**). The Holy Spirit was with Paul and Barnabas and gave them joy as they traveled on to *Iconium*.

In Iconium, many Jews and Gentiles believed. But once again the Jewish leaders stirred up the people against Paul and Barnabas until the whole city was divided. The anger of the Jewish leaders grew until they convinced the people that they should stone Paul and Barnabas. But God protected Paul and Barnabas by letting them find out about the plot and escape to the cities of *Lystra* and *Derbe* before any harm could come to them.

The people in Lystra and Derbe believed in many gods. When they saw Paul heal a lame man, the people cried aloud in the Lycaonian language, "The gods are come down to us in the form of men." The people called Barnabas *Jupiter* (or *Zeus*), and they called Paul *Mercury* (or *Hermes*) because he was the main speaker. Jupiter's priest then brought oxen and wreaths, planning with the people to make sacrifices to Paul and Barnabas.

Paul and Barnabas were immediately grieved about this misplaced honor. Once again Paul preached what the people knew about the world around them; then he showed them the true and living God through creation.

Some of the Jewish leaders from Antioch and Iconium followed Paul and Barnabas. These men caused the people to turn against Paul and stone him. The Jews thought Paul was dead and left his body outside the city. However, when the believers found him, he was alive. He returned to the city and left with Barnabas the next day. They continued preaching the Word and encouraging the believers to remain faithful.

Paul and Barnabas helped start many churches and saw the number of believers grow. Before they left the area, they ordained elders in every church. As Paul and Barnabas made their way back to *Antioch in Syria*, they stopped in many cities to preach the Word.

When they returned to the church at Antioch, they gave a report of their missionary efforts, telling about God's great work through them, and how the gospel was spreading among the Gentiles.



- How did the believers react to Saul's conversion? **Some helped him and encouraged him; others did not trust him.**
- Who was Paul's companion in his travels and in preaching the gospel? **Barnabas**
- What did Paul and Barnabas do when they encountered false teachers? **rebuked them and continued to preach the truth**
- How did Paul and Barnabas react to being kicked out? **They shook the dust off their feet and took the gospel to another place. They continued, filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.**

Remind the students that Satan does not get tired of trying to stop the spread of the gospel.

- ❖ What was one result of Paul and Barnabas's obedience and trust in God? **Many people trusted Christ; many churches were started.**
- What did they do when they returned home? **They reported to the church in Antioch, which had sent them out and prayed for them, about all that God had done.**

Explain that missionaries and church planters desire to have converts grow into leadership positions before they move on to start a work in another area or return home. Some people more easily accept the gospel from a national pastor than from a missionary of another nationality or culture.

Persecutor to Missionary

Acts 9, 13–14

Name _____

Answer the questions.

1. How does Acts 9:1 describe Saul before his conversion? **Answers may include that he threatened and desired to kill Christians.**
2. How does Acts 9:20 describe Saul after his conversion? **He preached that Christ is the Son of God.**

Complete the sentences.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| A | 1. The believers in ___ were worshiping the Lord and fasting when God told them that He was calling Barnabas and Saul to do a work for Him (Acts 13:1–2). |
| K | 2. As they entered each city, Barnabas and Saul, now called Paul, went to the ___ to speak of Christ to the Jews (Acts 13:5, 14; 14:1). |
| G | 3. When Paul spoke to the Jews, he showed them that the prophecies given by God were fulfilled in ___ (Acts 13:32–33, 38–39). |
| I | 4. ___ worked with Barnabas and Saul while they were in Cyprus. He went back to Jerusalem rather than continuing with Barnabas and Saul as they sailed to Pamphylia (Acts 13:5, 13). |
| F | 5. In Lystra the people thought Paul and Barnabas were ___ because they healed a lame man (Acts 14:11). |
| D | 6. A government official believed on Christ after Paul rebuked a ___ prophet and the prophet was made blind (Acts 13:6–12). |
| B | 7. When the apostles would not believe that Saul had become a Christian, ___ took Saul to the apostles and told them of his conversion and preaching about Christ (Acts 9:27). |
| C | 8. After they returned to Antioch, Paul and Barnabas gathered the ___ together and gave a report of what God had done (Acts 14:27). |
| H | 9. Because many people followed the preaching of Paul and Barnabas, the ___ and other leaders often stirred the people against them until they left their cities (Acts 13:50; 14:2). |
| J | 10. Some Jews led the people to turn against Paul, and they ___ him. The believers helped Paul until he left for Derbe with Barnabas (Acts 14:19–20). |
| E | 11. Paul quoted the Old Testament when he told the Jews that God wanted His Word to be a light to the ___ (Acts 13:46–47). |



Before Paul and Barnabas were called by God, they and the Antioch believers were being obedient to what they knew God desired all Christians to do. They were faithful and obedient where they were, and God sent them to faithfully and obediently share the gospel with others. Are you faithfully and obediently doing what you know the Bible says for you to do? What have you done to obey God today?

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 156 **229**

Timeline

Add Paul to the timeline. Select a student to attach the card for Paul (ca. 5 BC–AD 67) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the picture of Paul to his individual timeline.

Worktext page 229

Recall details about Paul's first missionary journey.

Paul, the Missionary Example
Acts 13–14

Name _____

Most missionary programs today follow the example set by Paul on his first missionary journey.

Write the letter of the reference of Paul's example in Acts next to the correct sentence about modern missions.

C 1. God calls missionaries to His service.
A 2. Most missionaries have a home church that sends them to the field.
E 3. Before missionaries leave for their fields, pastors and spiritual leaders may commission or dedicate them for service.
D 4. Missionaries follow the direction of the Holy Spirit as they choose a place of service.
B 5. When they return home, missionaries visit their sending churches and report on God's working in their ministry.

Christians can learn three main aspects of the ministry of a missionary from Paul.

A. Like someone blazing a trail, a missionary prepares the way for other missionaries and pastors to follow. All Christians, a missionary should not needlessly offend others as the gospel is presented. His desire should be to leave people open for future witnessing opportunities.
B. As missionaries broadcast the gospel, they tell all who will listen about Christ and the salvation found in Him. Missionaries use a variety of methods to gain opportunities to talk with people about salvation. Believers may share salvation through tract distribution, visitation, singing, playing music, giving puppet shows, and so on.
C. After a missionary leads someone to Christ, he begins the ministry of helping the believer to grow in Christ. Missionaries help new believers study their Bibles and learn more about Christ so they can start explaining the gospel to others. Those at home can help missionaries by praying for them, writing to them, helping with their physical needs, or actually going to help them with special projects.

Answer the question.

6. What does God command all Christians to do in Mark 16:15?
preach the gospel or good news to every creature or all creation

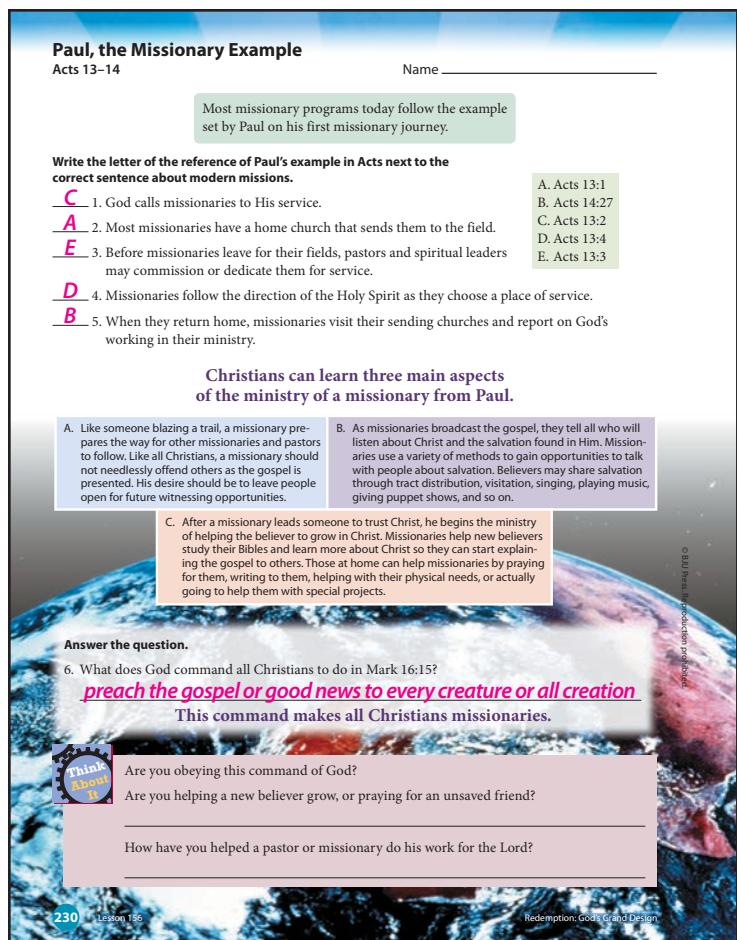
This command makes all Christians missionaries.

Think About It:
Are you obeying this command of God?
Are you helping a new believer grow, or praying for an unsaved friend?

How have you helped a pastor or missionary do his work for the Lord?

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Worktext page 230

Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life.

LESSON 157 Paul's Second Journey: Building Believers

Materials

- Chart 36 ("Paul's Second Route")

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Matthew 28:19–20

Practice the memory verses. Locate Matthew 28:19–20 and choose a volunteer to read the verses aloud. Direct the students to read and study the memory verses.

How are you obeying Christ's command to spread the gospel in your neighborhood?

What are your fears about telling the gospel to others in your neighborhood?

(Note: Help the students to understand the difference between legitimate reasons for possible concern and sinful fear. Legiti-

mate reasons for concern may include being alone around strangers or being in an unfamiliar area where they could get lost. Sinful reasons for being afraid of telling others about Christ may include fearing that people will not like them, will think they are foolish or wrong, or will treat them badly.)

Bible Account

Preview Background Information

Timothy

He was part Jewish and part Greek. His name in Greek was *Timotheos*.

Jews Gathering at the River on the Sabbath

When Jews were in cities that did not have synagogues, they still gathered together for Sabbath worship according to Jewish law. A group had to have at least ten men faithfully attending before a synagogue could be formed. Although not required by the Jewish law, the people often met at rivers or bodies of water as they worshiped. The group in Philippi consisted of women only, so a synagogue had not been started.

Asia

The Asia that the Holy Spirit would not let Paul and his companions enter was not the continent of Asia but the Roman province of Asia, which is in modern Turkey. The seven cities that John mentions in **Revelation 1:11** were all in that province.

The Penalty for Letting Prisoners Escape

The jailer's penalty because of escaped prisoners would have surely been death. He would rather have committed suicide than to face public shame for allowing prisoners to escape.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss good men disagreeing. Remind the students that Christians can disagree, but all will give account to God for their thoughts, words, and actions. Challenge the students to make sure their thoughts about others are pleasing to God. Each one needs to be sure that his attitude is Christlike. Paul and Barnabas disagreed and parted ways, but they continued ministering to others. The Lord continued to fulfill His mission through them.

Teach for Understanding

Read Acts 15:36–18:22 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **What did Paul tell the idol worshippers in Athens? God does not live in manmade temples.** Display Chart 36 ("Paul's Second Route") pointing out the locations of the italicized places.

Paul's Second Journey: Building Believers

It was not long before Paul and Barnabas decided to visit the believers in the churches that had been started on their first trip. Barnabas thought that they should give John Mark another chance, but Paul strongly disagreed. This disagreement could not be resolved, so Barnabas took John Mark to

Cyprus and Paul chose to take Silas with him to the churches in the north.

After traveling to *Derbe*, Paul and Silas came to the believers in *Lystra*. Here they met Timothy, a young man whose father was a Greek and whose mother was a Jewish Christian. The believers gave Paul many good reports about Timothy. Paul decided to take Timothy with him as he traveled.

As Paul ministered in the churches, he told them about the decision of the apostles and elders in Jerusalem regarding Jewish laws and how they applied to Gentile believers. Through Paul's teaching, the churches were strengthened in their faith and grew in number every day.

Paul continued to follow the Holy Spirit's leading as he traveled. He obeyed as God led him through the regions of *Phrygia* and *Galatia*. But God would not permit him to preach in *Asia*. When Paul was in the vicinity of Mysia, the Holy Spirit told him not to go into *Bithynia*. Instead of going where he wanted, Paul obeyed God and headed west to the city of *Troas*.

One night, God gave Paul a vision that clearly told him to go to the region of *Macedonia*. At the city of *Philippi*, Paul preached to a group of Jewish people who were worshiping by a river on the Sabbath.

Present the background information about Jews gathering at the river.

While Paul and his companions were ministering in *Philippi*, a slave girl possessed with an evil spirit followed him. The spirit in her immediately recognized that Paul, Silas, and Timothy were servants of the true God and that they taught the way of salvation. The girl continued to follow Paul for several days. Finally, Paul turned to her and in the name of Jesus Christ commanded that the spirit come out of her. The evil spirit left immediately. Since the girl's masters made money because of the spirit that was in her, they took Paul and Silas to the magistrates and complained that the missionaries were causing trouble by teaching customs that were illegal (**Acts 16:20–21**).

The magistrates stripped Paul and Silas and ordered that they be beaten and taken to prison. At midnight, in the prison cell, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God. God sent an earthquake that loosened their shackles and opened the locked doors. The jailer, who had been sleeping, woke up and realized that the prison doors were open. Assuming that the prisoners had escaped, he took his sword out to kill himself!

Share the background information about the penalty for letting prisoners escape.

But Paul called out to him, "Don't hurt yourself. We're all here." The jailer then asked for a light and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas and asked what he needed to do to be saved.

They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and [you will] be saved, and [your] house" (**Acts 16:31**). That night, the guard and his whole household trusted Christ. He took care of the prisoners' wounds and gave them food.

The next day, after the magistrates released Paul and Silas, Paul said, "They have publicly beaten us and thrown us in prison even though we're Romans." Paul was protesting that they were being let go secretly after such public shameful treatment. The magistrates themselves came to release them after Paul demanded that they do so. They begged Paul and Silas to leave the city so there would be no more trouble. Paul and Silas visited Lydia's house and comforted all the believers before traveling to *Thessalonica*.

In *Thessalonica*, Paul taught in the synagogue for three Sabbaths, preaching about Christ's death and resurrection. Many people, both Jews and Greeks, trusted Christ. But once again, some of the Jews caused other unbelievers to turn against the message of Jesus and to threaten Paul and those with him.

The believers secretly sent Paul, Silas, and Timothy to *Berea* before anybody could hurt them. There they found people in the synagogue who "were more noble than those in *Thessalonica*, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily" (**Acts 17:11**) to see whether the things preached were true. Because of the Bereans' desire to know the truth, many of them trusted Christ as Savior. The Jews from *Thessalonica* soon heard that Paul was preaching in *Berea*, so they came once again and stirred up trouble. Immediately the believers sent Paul to *Athens*, but Silas and Timothy stayed in *Berea*.

As Paul walked around *Athens*, he was grieved at all the idol worship in the city. Since Paul was preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, he was taken to a group of men who discussed religious matters for them to decide the meaning of his preaching. Paul told them that he had seen their altars to an unknown god. He clearly told them that it was God who had made the world and everything in it and that the Lord of heaven and earth does not live in manmade temples. Paul went on to tell them about God the Creator and Sustainer of all things and about the judgment and resurrection that would come. Some of the men mocked Paul, but some wanted to consider it further, and some others believed.

From *Athens*, Paul went to *Corinth*, where Silas and Timothy met him. Paul spoke regularly in the synagogue, but most of the Jews didn't believe that Jesus was the Christ. When the chief ruler of the synagogue believed, many other *Corinthians* also trusted Christ and were baptized.

One night, the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and encouraged him to continue his bold preaching. Christ reminded Paul that He was with him and would protect him. Paul stayed in *Corinth* almost two years with little persecution or trouble from Jewish leaders.

As Paul made his way to *Antioch*, he stopped briefly at *Ephesus* and spoke in the synagogue. Some of the Jews wanted him to stay, but he assured them that if it was God's will, he would return. After landing at *Caesarea* and making a short visit to the church in *Jerusalem*, he arrived back in *Antioch*.

Encouraging Believers

Acts 15:36–18:22

Name _____

Answer the questions.

- Who traveled with Paul on his second missionary journey? (Acts 15:40) **Silas**
- Why did Paul report the decisions of the apostles and elders in Jerusalem to the elders of the new churches? (Acts 16:4–5) **to help establish or strengthen the churches in the faith**
- Did God always permit Paul to go to the places he wanted? (Acts 16:6–7) **no**
How did Paul know where to go? **He obeyed the leading of the Holy Spirit.**
- What did God use to tell Paul to go to the region of Macedonia? (Acts 16:9–10)
a vision or dream
- When Paul and Silas were in prison, what did they do that might have helped the jailer know they knew the way of salvation? (Acts 16:25)
They prayed and sang praises to God.
- What promise did God give Paul while he was in Corinth? (Acts 18:9–10)
God would be with him, so he was to speak boldly and not to be afraid.



How are you to know what to do each day?

read God's Word and pray for wisdom

How do we know what God is saying through Scripture?

The Holy Spirit will make it clear as we pray or talk to someone with wisdom.

Remember, in the Old Testament, how Joseph recognized that God used the difficulties in his life for good? How did God use the difficulty between Paul and Barnabas for good? (Acts 15:39–40)

Often when Paul preached, he told the people about a familiar aspect of their religion and how it lacked truth from God. Paul showed them how Christ is the answer to their needs. What can you learn from this as you share the gospel with others?

Two groups of missionaries went out instead of only one.**Answers will vary.**

- What was Paul's purpose for his second trip? **He wanted to visit the church he started on his first trip.**
- How did Paul and Barnabas's plan for this journey change? **They went separately in different directions. Barnabas took John Mark, and Paul took Silas.**
- Who did Paul and Silas meet in Lystra and take with them when they departed? **Timothy**
- Why did Paul decide to go farther on this trip than he did on his first trip? **He was following the Holy Spirit's leading.**
- Paul usually preached to the Jews in the synagogues. How was the situation in Philippi different? **Paul found the Jews worshiping near a river since there was no synagogue there.**
- What did Paul and Silas do whenever unbelieving Jews caused problems for them? **They continued doing what they knew God wanted them to do.**
- What did Paul tell the idol-worshipers in Athens? **God does not live in manmade temples.**
- How did Paul know he would return to Ephesus? **He did not know for sure. He said he would return if it was God's will.**

Worktext page 231

Recall details about Paul's second missionary journey.

LESSON

158

Paul's Third Journey: Broadcasting the Gospel**Materials**

- Chart 37 ("Paul's Third Route")

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Matthew 28:19–20

Practice the memory verses. Choose a volunteer to read aloud **Matthew 28:19–20**. Ask for volunteers to recite the verses. Ask for volunteers to restate the verses in their own words.

What do these verses mean?**How are you obeying Christ's command to spread the gospel beyond your hometown?**

Ask the students to identify any sinful reasons they have for not telling others about Christ, as discussed in Lesson 157. Encourage them to talk with a spiritual authority in their lives about trusting the Lord regarding those fears.

Bible Account**Preview Background Information****Diana, the Ephesian Goddess**

Diana was the Roman name for this goddess, and *Artemis* was her Greek name. Believed to have fallen from Jupiter, Diana was a fertility goddess who was worshiped as a source of life by her followers. Since the Ephesians worshiped the goddess Diana, the silversmiths and other craftsmen had a profitable business making and selling idols and statues of her. Christianity, which was sweeping through the region, was drastically reducing the market for these statues as the people turned from idolatry to the true God.

Introduce the Bible Account

Discuss the power of the gospel.

What are some positive spiritual effects of preaching the gospel? People trust the Lord, make decisions to change sinful patterns in their lives, cultivate right relationships, and end sinful and destructive relationships.

Remind the students that the gospel has the power to change lives. Encourage them to listen to find out how lives were changed among the Gentiles as Paul and his companions preached the gospel throughout the Gentile world.

Teach for Understanding

Read Acts 18:23–21:19 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: What was Paul's attitude toward the warnings he received concerning his return to Jerusalem? **He was willing to be arrested and even die for the Lord Jesus.**

Display Chart 37 ("Paul's Third Route") pointing out the locations of the italicized places.

Paul's Third Journey: Broadcasting the Gospel

Paul was in *Antioch* only a short time before he set off again to encourage believers.

Once again he traveled throughout the regions of *Galatia* and *Phrygia*. When he returned to *Ephesus*, he found some believers who had never heard of the Holy Spirit. Paul stayed about three months teaching in the synagogue. When he was no longer welcome in the synagogue, Paul began meeting daily with the believers in a lecture hall. This went on for about two years until both Jews and Greeks throughout the region of *Asia* had had the opportunity to hear the message of salvation. God used Paul to perform miracles such as healing and casting out evil spirits. Some of the unsaved Jews tried to copy Paul's miracles by using the names of Jesus and Paul. As their sin and error were revealed, many turned from their wicked practices. The influence of the gospel grew and prevailed over sin.

Paul planned to head back toward Jerusalem after traveling through the region of *Macedonia*. He sent Timothy and Erastus to minister there while he remained in Asia a while longer.

Then there was trouble in Ephesus. Most Ephesians worshiped the goddess Diana. The silversmiths were angry because the people were not buying as many statues of Diana and worshiping at Diana's temple because so many of them had trusted Christ. Crowds grabbed two Macedonians who were with Paul and took them into the amphitheater.

Paul wanted to go and speak to the crowd, but the believers thought it was too dangerous. The city was in so much confusion that most of the people did not even know why the crowds had formed! The silversmiths and others who had started the uprising caused the crowds to shout, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." Finally, a city official convinced the mob that Paul and his companions had not done anything illegal against the silversmiths, so the men were released.

Paul left right away for the region of Macedonia and then traveled on to *Achaia* (Greece). After preaching there for three months, Paul wanted to sail directly from Greece to *Syria*. But Paul heard that some Jews were waiting to harm him, so he changed plans and went back through Macedonia. Several believers accompanied Paul and Timothy as they sailed from *Philippi* to *Troas*. At least two other believers had gone ahead and were waiting for them at Troas.

The day before they were to leave Troas, Paul preached to the believers and spoke through the night. About midnight, Eutychus, one of the young men, dozed off and fell from his seat on a third floor windowsill. Those who reached him first found that the fall had killed him. Paul went down and embraced the young man, saying that he was alive. The people were greatly encouraged by seeing this miracle of God.

From Troas, Paul traveled on foot to Assos and joined his companions on a ship traveling down the coast. Each day the ship stopped at a different port city. At *Miletus*, Paul sent for the elders of the Ephesian church. Paul didn't have much time to spend in the area but wanted to meet with the church leaders. He told them that his ministry included preaching the entire message of the Scriptures to the Jews and the Greeks. Not knowing if he would ever return to them, Paul challenged these elders to "feed the church of God, which [Christ had] purchased with his own blood" (**Acts 20:28**). He warned them that some people would come in like wolves, trying to turn believers away from God. After Paul knelt and prayed with them all, he boarded the ship and left.

Paul and his friends sailed along the coast to *Patara*. From there they sailed directly to *Tyre*, where some of the group left and headed to their own homes. The disciples who met Paul in Tyre warned him against going to Jerusalem at that time. Paul went as far as Caesarea and stayed in the home of Philip for several days.

While in *Caesarea*, Paul was once more warned that if he went to Jerusalem, he would be arrested. Paul boldly told the believers that he was ready not only to be taken into custody but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus (**Acts 21:13**).

When Paul finally arrived in *Jerusalem*, he met with James and the other elders. As Paul greeted them, he told how God had used him to minister to the Gentiles.

- ▶ **What did Paul teach the Ephesians when he returned to them? *He told them about the Holy Spirit.***
- ▶ **How long did Paul preach in the province of Asia? *a little over two years; long enough that both Jews and Greeks in that area had opportunity to hear the gospel***
- ▶ **Did harm come to any of the believers in Ephesus because of the uprising about the goddess Diana? Why? *No. The mob was dismissed.***
- ▶ **What was the reaction of the believers to the miracle at Troas after the accident (of the man falling from the window)? *They were encouraged.***
- ▶ **What was Paul's attitude toward the warnings he received concerning his return to Jerusalem? *He was willing to be arrested and even to die for the Lord Jesus.***

"I Am with You"

Matthew 28:19–20

Name _____

After His death and resurrection, Jesus appeared to the eleven apostles before returning to heaven. Jesus reminded them that He had been given all the power and authority in heaven and on earth. Then He gave them a command.

Read Matthew 28:19–20 and answer the questions.

1. Where were the apostles to go? (Matt. 28:19) to all nations
2. What two things were the apostles to do as they went? teach or make disciples and baptize
3. What were the apostles to teach the new disciples? (Matt. 28:20) to observe or obey all the things Christ had commanded them
4. As Jesus finished the command, what promise did He give the apostles? "I am with you always, even to the end of the world or age."
5. How did the apostles know Jesus would keep His promise? Answers will vary but could include that throughout the Bible, God kept His promises; Jesus had always done what He said; and Jesus is God, and God cannot lie.

Christians are reminded of God's command to witness, so when people trust the Lord, what are Christians to do next? Jesus told the apostles to teach the new believers. You may wonder, "How can I teach someone?" Since every situation is different, there is not a specific set of steps to follow. Here are some suggestions you may choose to use.

Write one of your own ideas for each section.

6. If the new believer is someone in your neighborhood or someone you see frequently.
 - have a Christian parent or adult talk with him.
 - take him to Sunday school or church with you.
 - ask your pastor to visit him.
 - _____
7. If the new believer is someone you may never see again,
 - give him a tract with the address and phone number of a church printed on it.
 - _____
8. For any new believer,
 - encourage him to find a Bible and start by reading the Gospel of John.
 - encourage him to begin attending a Bible-believing church.
 - _____

Take time to discuss with your parents and other Christian adults what you should do, so you are ready when the time comes. Be careful about giving your own address and phone number to strangers. Giving the name and address of your church is safer.

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232 Lesson 158

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Name _____

Traveling Once More

Acts 18:22–21:19

Name _____

Answer the questions.

1. Where did Paul's third missionary journey start? (Acts 18:22–23) Antioch
2. Even though Paul did not give the name of anyone starting the trip with him, who does he mention being with him before he left Asia for Macedonia? (Acts 19:22) Timothy and Erastus
3. What goddess did many of the Ephesians worship before they became Christians? (Acts 19:22–27) Diana (or Artemis) How did the conversion of so many affect business in the city? Answers may include that those who sold idols of Diana were now losing money.
4. What accident and miracle took place as Paul preached one night in Troas? (Acts 20:7–12) A man fell asleep and fell from a window. He died and Paul raised him up.
5. What two challenges did Paul give the Ephesian elders when they met together in Miletus? (Acts 20:28–31) Feed the church of God. Watch out for those who will try to turn believers from God.
6. Paul was warned that he would suffer harm if he returned to Jerusalem. What was Paul's response to these warnings? (Acts 21:13) Paul was willing to suffer or even die for the name of the Lord Jesus.

Use the maps of Paul's second and third missionary journeys on pages 294 and 295 to complete each sentence.

7. Paul headed north as he left Antioch at the start of his second and third journeys.
8. Paul traveled by land (or on foot) for most of the first half of each trip.
9. Paul's return trips were both by boat or sea.
10. During the return trip of his third missionary journey, Paul was probably on a cargo ship since Acts records their stopping daily at ports along the coast and major islands. What advantage to the spreading of the gospel might this boat ride have had over the boat trip of Paul's second missionary journey? Answers may include that Paul and his coworkers would have more opportunities to tell about Christ because they were in more cities and meeting more people.



To the uttermost parts of the earth . . .

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 158 233

Worktext page 232

Develop further understanding of the memory verses and apply Bible knowledge to everyday life.

Worktext page 233

Recall facts and details about Paul's third missionary journey and read a map.

Materials

- Timeline and picture of Martin Luther

Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

Memory Verses: Matthew 28:19–20

Practice the memory verses. Locate **Matthew 28:19–20**, directing the students to read the verses silently. Ask volunteers to summarize the main idea; then ask for volunteers to recite the verses.

Biographical Account

Preview Background Information

Diet of Worms

Martin Luther stood before the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V at this special hearing in the city of Worms (vôrms), Germany, in April 1521. A secondary meaning for the word *diet* is “a meeting of rulers of the Holy Roman Empire.” After Luther refused to recant (denounce his beliefs), the emperor declared Luther to be an outlaw. To protect him, Luther’s supporters hid him in the Wartburg Castle, where he spent a year writing letters and books and translating the New Testament into German.

Introduce the Hero of the Faith

Discuss fulfilling God’s mission. Select a volunteer to read aloud **1 Corinthians 4:2**. Remind the students of the importance God places on faithfulness. Read aloud **John 17:4** and **John 8:29**, pointing out that Christ was faithful in fulfilling the work that God had given Him to do because that pleased the Father.

Teach for Understanding

Read the following account based on the life of Martin Luther. Listening question: How did Martin Luther fulfill God’s mission to advance the cause of Christ? **He upheld the Bible rather than human teachings or traditions; he would not deny God or His Word. He translated the Bible into German. He wrote hymns such as “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” and wrote books to help people study the Bible. He remained faithful to God.**

Advancing the Cause of Christ

Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, Germany, in 1483. His parents were devout Catholics and prayed often that their son would advance the cause of true religion. When Martin was very young, his parents sent him away to school. Discipline in German schools was severe, and sometimes Martin received up to fifteen whippings in one day at school. When

Luther was fourteen his father wanted him to get further training. But because he had to support himself and pay for his own education, Luther often begged in the streets. The following year, Luther attended a school near relatives. He studied hard even though the temptation was strong to quit school and return home to work with his father in the mines.

When Luther was almost eighteen, his father sent him to the university in Erfurt to study to become a lawyer. One day Luther noticed an unfamiliar book in the library. It was titled *Biblia Sacra* (Latin for *Holy Bible*). Martin read it eagerly and found truths he had never heard of before. Whenever he had spare time, he returned to the library to read the Bible.

Martin received his master’s degree in 1505 and began to study law. But he was not content. He realized that his relationship with God was not right. One evening as he was returning from a visit with his parents, there was a severe thunderstorm, and Luther feared for his life. “Help, St. Anne,” he prayed. “And I will straightway become a monk.” Luther survived the storm, and he prepared to follow through on his promise. His friends and family tried to persuade him against it, but he entered the monastery.

Martin spent many hours studying God’s Word and trying to follow the monastery rules. Yet he still was not content. He finally read **Romans 1:17**, in which Paul quotes **Habakkuk 2:4**: “The just shall live by faith.” Luther realized that it was not by works that he could be saved—but through faith in the finished work of Christ.

Two years later Luther was ordained as a priest and left the monastery. He accepted a job as a university professor and began preaching to large crowds. In 1512, Luther was made a doctor of divinity and solemnly promised to proclaim the Scriptures and to defend the Christian faith from all false teachers.

Luther lectured, preached, wrote, and contended against the false philosophies of the Catholic Church. In 1517, he condemned the selling of indulgences (payment to the Church to receive forgiveness of sins). In response to this practice, Luther posted his now-famous “Ninety-Five Theses” on the church door at Wittenberg. In these statements, Luther defended the Scriptures and spoke against the false teaching of the Catholic Church, more firmly convinced than ever that the Bible alone was the sole authority for the Christian faith.

In 1521, Luther was summoned to a special hearing in Worms, Germany, and asked to retract, or recant, his writings. After prayer and Bible study, with firmness of conviction, Luther gave his memorable declaration: “Unless I am convicted of error by the testimony of Scripture or (since I put no trust in the unsupported authority of pope or of councils, since it is plain that they have often erred and often contradicted themselves) by clear reason, I stand convicted by the Scriptures to which I have appealed, and my conscience is taken captive by God’s word, I cannot and will not recant anything, for it is neither safe nor right to act against the conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me! Amen.”

Luther then left the city. Soon after, the emperor declared Luther an outlaw, banned his writings, prohibited anyone from helping him, and allowed anyone to kill him who wanted to. Despite the edict, Luther's friends abducted him and hid him at the Wartburg Castle.

In 1534, Luther finished his translation of the Bible into German. He spent many years preaching and writing. He wrote not only books of theology but also hymns. One of his hymns translated into English is "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." God used Martin Luther to advance true Christianity—the cause of Christ.



► **How did Luther react when he first read the Bible? He read it eagerly; he considered it truth though he had not heard it before; he read it whenever he had a spare moment.**

Challenge each student to privately evaluate how his enthusiasm for the Bible compares to Luther's treatment of and desire for God's Word.

► **How did Martin Luther fulfill God's mission to advance the cause of Christ? He upheld the Bible rather than human teachings and traditions; he would not deny God or His Word. He translated the Bible into German. He wrote hymns such as "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" and wrote books to help people study the Bible. He remained faithful to God.**

➲ **How can Christians today advance the cause of Christ? Possible answers include witnessing to others by word of mouth, written communication, passing out tracts, and living a life that gives a clear testimony for Christ.**

Timeline

Place Martin Luther on the timeline. Select a student to attach the card for Martin Luther (1483–1546) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the Martin Luther picture to his individual timeline.

Language Connection (optional)

Learn about the word **Protestant**. Share the following information with the students.

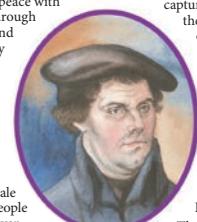
The term *Protestant* dates back to the early days of the Reformation. In Germany in 1529, Roman Catholics tried to stop the spread of the Reformation under the leadership of Martin Luther. One law was passed requiring Lutheran princes to guarantee the rights of Roman Catholics living under their rule even though the Roman Catholic princes denied the religious liberties of Lutherans living in their territories. The Lutheran princes opposed the law, saying that they would "protest and testify publicly before God" that they would agree with "nothing contrary to His Word." It is from this courageous protest that the word *Protestant* comes. Today, the term refers to anyone who holds to the biblical teachings of the Reformation in contrast to Roman Catholicism.

Hero of the Faith Martin Luther 1483–1546

Name _____

Martin Luther was persecuted for his faith in Jesus Christ. As a devout Catholic, he found that good works could not gain him peace with God. Then he trusted Christ. Through his testimony, princes, monks, and nuns were saved. However, many religious leaders tried to get rid of Luther.

Luther was given a promise of safety if he would come before the emperor of Germany at the Diet of Worms. Many tried to persuade Luther to renounce the truth he believed from the Bible. Luther refused to agree with the sale of indulgences, which deceived people into thinking their sins were forgiven. The religious leaders called Luther a heretic and asked that his promise of safety be revoked. Luther left the city of Worms with friends who promised to protect him. After several days of travel they came to a forest. As they were riding in the forest, armed and masked horsemen seized Luther and left his friends. The men continually changed course through the forest until dark.



when they headed toward the castle of Wartburg. Throughout the land his enemies rejoiced in his capture, and his friends mourned. Luther was a prisoner. His clothes were changed, his beard grew, and he was called "Knight George." But Luther was safe. Frederick, the elector of Saxony, had planned Luther's abduction to protect him from religious enemies. Luther lived at the castle for almost a year.

During this time, he wrote letters and books and translated the New Testament into German. Two years later, his translation of the complete Bible in German was published.

Throughout the last years of his life, Martin Luther preached, wrote, and spoke at religious meetings. He wrote hymns and books of theology. Several of his hymns have been translated into English, including "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." On a monument in Luther's memory, these words testify of his life: "If it is of God, it will last; if it is of man, it will pass."

Answer the questions.

1. How did Martin Luther react to being told to renounce his faith? *He remained faithful to God and loyal to the truth. He refused to renounce it.*
2. What types of ministries did Luther participate in during his lifetime? *writing letters, theological books, and hymns; speaking at religious meetings; preaching; translating the Bible into German; etc.*
3. Why was Luther persecuted? *because of his faith in Jesus Christ and his opposition to false doctrine (including the indulgences)*



Wartburg Castle

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304 Lesson 159

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Worktext page 304

Learn about Martin Luther, a hero of the faith.

What Does God Say About Money?

Name _____



The pursuit of money is a dangerous quest in our world.

Everyone wants it. Everyone wants to spend it. Money is obviously a necessity for survival in our culture. What does God say about money? What should a Christian who wants to please God do with it? God's Word gives advice for the proper attitude you should have toward money.

Read 1 Timothy 6:10 and fill in the blanks.

1. The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. **sorrows or grieves**
2. Many people who have coveted money have pierced themselves with many or grieves.

Money is a resource given to you by God to accomplish His will.

You are responsible to be a faithful steward of the money God has given to you. You might hear someone argue that the money he earns belongs to him, not to God. After all, he worked for it, didn't he? Such an attitude reveals the selfish, greedy outlook of that person. Who provided the job for him? Who gave him a healthy body so that he could work? God is our ultimate provider and our trust should be in Him, not in money.

Read Luke 14:28–30 and answer the questions. *Answers will vary.*

3. Why is it important to plan ahead? **If you don't plan ahead, you won't know whether or not you can fully accomplish a task.**

4. What will be the response of people who find out that you did not plan ahead?
They will ridicule and mock you.

The key to wise financial planning is budgeting.

A budget is a simple written plan of how the money you earn will be spent. Wise spending demands wise planning. As you budget your money, it is necessary that you establish priorities. In other words, you must think biblically about the way you spend your cash.

Read each verse or passage and match it to the correct statement about money.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| B 5. Proverbs 15:27 | A. I am robbing God if I do not give a tithe to Him. |
| D 6. 2 Corinthians 9:7 | B. Greedy people cause problems for their families. |
| C 7. Proverbs 28:19 | C. Hard work leads to God's provision. |
| E 8. Proverbs 23:4 | D. I should give generously with a cheerful heart. |
| A 9. Malachi 3:8–10 | E. Getting rich should not be my purpose for working. |

Every Christian should express his gratefulness for God's provision.

A Christian should show gratefulness for God's provision by giving back to God a part of what God has given to him. This offering given with a cheerful and thankful heart is called a tithe, or ten percent of all you earn. Matthew 6:21 tells us that how we use or value our treasure shows our heart condition.

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Redemption: God's Grand Design

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Something to Think About

My Money

Name _____



Background Information

Jenna's parents have decided to teach her how to budget money. They know that Jenna wants to go to youth camp at the end of the summer with the church and that she will also want to buy new clothes for the next school year. To teach her the value of money and budgeting, they have decided to give Jenna \$3.00 each week for the ten weeks before camp. They have also given Jenna permission to work for the Clark family, a family in their church, twice each week for one hour each time. The Clark family will be paying Jenna \$4.00 each hour to groom and walk their dog.

Jenna's family has been witnessing to their next-door neighbor, an elderly widow named Mrs. Yoneida. Mrs. Yoneida has asked Jenna to do some gardening

work twice each week for her. Jenna's parents have given her permission and encouraged her to demonstrate responsibility and be a good testimony to their neighbor. Mrs. Yoneida has told Jenna that she will pay her \$15 each week for her work.

Jenna wants to figure out how much money she will be earning this summer and how much she will save each week to pay for camp and her clothes for next year. Summer camp costs \$155. Jenna's mom suggested that she plan on saving \$100 for her new clothes. Jenna is thankful for the opportunities God is giving her to earn money, and she wants to give God a tithe each week. She is also wondering whether she will have any money to spend on other things.

Using the background information, follow the instructions and answer the questions below. Fill in the blanks on page 236 to help Jenna create a successful summer budget. (You can use a separate sheet of paper to do the math.)

Instructions:

- 1 Using the background information, fill in Jenna's Weekly Income, Designated Weekly Expenditures, Total Savings Goal, and her Weekly Savings Plan.
- 2 Calculate the amount Jenna needs to save each of the ten weeks for camp and for clothes and write the amount. ($\text{Total Savings Goal} \div 10 \text{ weeks} = \text{Weekly Savings Plan}$)
- 3 Add the sum of the Designated Weekly Expenditures and Weekly Savings Plan to find out how much of each week's money is designated for a specific purpose. Write it in the Weekly Total of Designated Money blank.
- 4 Subtract the Weekly Total of Designated Money from the Weekly Income to find out how much money Jenna has left to spend each week. This is her Weekly Total of Undesignated Money.

Questions:

1. Jenna's parents have told her that she is free to spend her Undesignated Money as she wishes. If Jenna buys a milkshake for \$1.29 after she does yard work one day each week, how much money will she have spent on milkshakes by the end of the summer? **\$12.90**
2. When Jenna was moving some flowerpots in Mrs. Yoneida's yard, she accidentally broke one. The flowerpot costs \$7.00 to replace. If Jenna uses her Undesignated Money to pay for it, how many weeks will it take her to pay it off? **3 weeks**
3. Jenna's grandparents surprised Jenna and sent her \$50 for her birthday in July. Decide the amount you think Jenna should put into each category. (Some money should go into each category.)

Tithe	Clothes Savings	Camp Savings	Undesignated
\$	\$	\$	\$

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 159 235

Worktext pages 234–37

(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 160 to allow time for in-depth discussion.)

Develop a biblical view of money. Read page 234 and discuss what God says about money. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

Learn how to fill out a budget planning sheet. Read the scenario on page 235; then complete the rest of the page and page 236 together.

Develop a personal budget. Encourage the students to think about how they spend the money that God entrusts to them. Suggest that they work with their parents to develop their own personal budgets on page 237.

Something to Think About
My Money Name _____

Use this budget to answer the questions from the previous page.

Jenna's Ten-Week Summer Budget

Weekly Income:	Designated Weekly Expenditures:
From Parents: \$ 8.00	Tithe: \$ 3.10 (10% of total weekly income multiply by 0.1)
From Mrs. Yoneida: \$ 15.00	
From the Clarks: \$ 8.00	
Total (add): \$ 31.00	

Total Savings Goal:

Camp: \$ 155.00	Divide by the number of weeks she has to save. (Divide by 10.)
Clothes: \$ 100.00	
Total (add): \$ 255.00	

Weekly Total of Designated Money: \$ 28.60 (includes weekly expenditures and weekly savings plan money)
Weekly Total of Undesignated Money: \$ 2.40 (difference of weekly income and total amount of designated money)

What About Me?

God laid it on Jenna's heart to give \$20 toward someone else's camp expenses. Although this lowers her savings and spending money, she feels blessed for helping another camper. This gift was in addition to tithe. What do you think about her generosity?

Take time at home to answer the questions.

Answers will vary.

1. Would God say that you are wise in the way you spend your money? YES NO SOMETIMES
 2. Do you faithfully tithe the money God allows you to receive? YES NO SOMETIMES
 3. Do you make sacrificial choices when spending your money? YES NO SOMETIMES
 4. Are you generous, looking for ways to meet others' needs? YES NO SOMETIMES
 5. Are you able to save money for a specific purpose rather than just spending it on little things?

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236 Lesson 159

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Something to Think About
My Money Name _____

Every time you make a financial decision, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Have I expressed my gratefulness to God by giving my tithe to Him before I spend anything?
2. Will God be pleased about how I am using the money He has entrusted to me?
3. Is the choice I'm about to make a selfish choice?

It is never too soon for you to develop good budgeting habits. Remember, you are responsible for how you spend the money God has given to you. Pray and ask God to help you make wise decisions! God will bless you for obedience to Him!

Use the following budget form to evaluate your personal spending habits and formulate a plan to please God by becoming a wise steward of God's money. You may want to refer to Jenna's budget for help.

My Personal Budget

Weekly Income:	Designated Weekly Expenditures:
_____ : \$ _____	Tithe: \$ _____
_____ : \$ _____	
_____ : \$ _____	
Total (add): \$ _____	Total: \$ _____

Total Savings Goal:

_____ : \$ _____	Divide by the number of weeks you have to save.
_____ : \$ _____	
Total (add): \$ _____	Total: \$ _____

Weekly Total of Designated Money: \$ _____ (includes weekly expenditures and weekly savings plan amounts)
Weekly Total of Undesignated Money: \$ _____ (difference of weekly income and total amount of designated money)

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237 Lesson 159

Redemption: God's Grand Design

LESSON
160 **Unit 9d Review**

Materials

- Five or more copies of the same tract [E]

Become familiar with the message of a tract. Give each student at least five copies of a tract. Explain that the class will read through the entire tract. Encourage the students to highlight statements that they think are significant and then discuss why. Ask them if they can think of other verses that would be important to include. Ask what kind of person this tract would be most effective for. Is there a place or time that it would be better to hand out this tract? Ask students to name people they would like to give tracts to. Encourage them to share the gospel verbally with those to whom they give tracts. Ask students to write a short report on their tract-distribution activity to read on a selected day next week.

Unit 9c–9d Review

Name _____

Circle the letters of the correct answers.

1. Circle each of the events that took place as part of Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian man who trusted Christ. [Lesson 151]
 A. God told Philip to talk with the man.
 B. Philip went to get a friend to help him talk.
 C. The man was already thinking about the Messiah.
 D. Philip knew the answers from the Bible the man needed to know.
 E. The Ethiopian man and Philip were baptized.
2. Peter gave the gospel to a Gentile named Cornelius. What is the main lesson to be learned from that Bible account? [Lesson 152]
 A. You should always go soulwinning in a group.
 B. Every gospel conversation should include people from multiple nationalities.
 C. God desires that people in all nations of the world hear the gospel.
 D. The best gospel conversations take place after eating a new kind of food.
3. Which is the correct order of events for spreading the gospel (so someone trusts Christ) as presented in Romans 10:14–15?
 A. trust Christ, speak the gospel, hear the gospel
 B. hear the gospel, trust Christ, speak the gospel
 C. speak the gospel, hear the gospel, trust Christ
4. Circle the letter of each statement that is true about Paul's travels? [Lessons 156–58]
 A. People trusted Christ.
 B. People disagreed with him.
 C. To encourage Paul, God took all his enemies away.
 D. Churches were planted and encouraged.
 E. Being a missionary was easy.
 F. Paul hated being a missionary.
5. Which of the following are teachings from Matthew 28:19–20?
 A. You should wait until people come to you to talk to them about Christ.
 B. God wants the whole world to hear the gospel.
 C. Christians are supposed to present the gospel to others.
 D. New Christians should be baptized.
 E. You can be an obedient Christian even if you do not tell others the gospel.
 F. Christians should obey what Christ says.

Unit 9c–9d Review

Lead a review of Lessons 151–60. A reproducible copy of the review questions (without answers) is available on the Teacher's Toolkit CD under Half-Unit Reviews. Answers are also available on the Teacher's Toolkit CD.

Unit Review

Materials

- Copy of "Unit 9 Review" [E]

Guide a review of Unit 9. Review the people and events in preparation for the Unit 9 test (optional). Answers may be found on the Teacher's Toolkit CD.

Unit 9 Review

To the Ends of the Earth

Name _____

Write the letter of the correct word(s) next to each description.

- C 1. the name used after the Resurrection for the men who had been closest to Christ
 A 2. the name used for believers of Christ
 F 3. someone who represents another
 D 4. someone who proclaims and teaches God's truth
 B 5. a witnessing tool that usually includes verses of Scripture
 E 6. a Bible study tool that includes background information, definitions, and explanations

Answer the questions.

7. What command did Jesus give believers after the Resurrection? to preach or be witnesses

8. What promise did Jesus make when He gave this command? He would be with them or they would receive power from the Holy Spirit.

Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

9. On what special feast day did the Holy Spirit first come to believers?

Passover Pentecost Day of Atonement

10. What was seen above the heads of the believers when the Holy Spirit came?

fire water wind

11. When unbelievers came near believers who had received the Holy Spirit, what unusual thing were the unbelievers able to hear that led to their salvation?

the laws and the prophets read by priests the gospel spoken in their own languages Jesus preaching

- Write the letter of the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence.
- C 12. _____ preached at Pentecost, and many were saved and baptized.
 D 13. Peter and John were put in jail after they healed a(n) _____.
 A 14. Peter and John were released from jail by a(n) _____.
 F 15. Peter boldly spoke of Christ as Savior at his _____.
 E 16. Gamaliel told the council that if Peter's preaching was of God, there was _____ they could do to stop it.

- A. angel
B. one thing
C. Peter
D. lame man
E. nothing
F. trial before the council

Unit 9 Review (continued)

Name _____

Write T if the sentence is true and F if the sentence is false.

- F 17. Christians should learn to live with sinful practices in their lives.
 T 18. When Stephen was taken to trial for preaching, false witnesses were told to lie and say that he had spoken blasphemies against God.
 F 19. Stephen prayed that God would punish those who stoned him.

Write the letter of the correct answer.

- D 20. What difference does God see between people?
 C 21. What caused believers to be scattered to other regions?
 E 22. What effect did this scattering have on Christianity?
 F 23. What was the Ethiopian reading that Philip helped him understand?
 A 24. What did the Ethiopian know to do after hearing Philip?

- A. believe and be baptized
B. the Book of Psychology
C. persecution
D. Their souls are either saved or unsaved.
E. The gospel was spread to other people and nations.
F. the book of Isaiah

Write B if the sentence describes Saul before his conversion and A if the sentence describes Saul after his conversion.

- A 25. Saul preached that Christ is the Son of God.
 B 26. Saul threatened and tried to kill Christians.
 A 27. Saul was called Paul.
 A 28. Saul went to work with the believers.
 B 29. Saul witnessed the stoning of Stephen.

Write the letter of the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence.

- D 30. _____ set an example for modern missionaries to follow.
 E 31. Some people accepted the truth Paul preached about Christ, but _____.
 B 32. Like Paul, Christians today should _____ to guide them to their places of ministry.
 F 33. Paul used difficulties in his life _____.
 A 34. Paul and Silas were a testimony to the jailer by _____.
A. praying and singing praises to God
B. follow the leading of the Holy Spirit
C. pointed them to Christ, the Savior
D. Paul
E. others rejected his message
F. as opportunities to witness

Answer the question.

35. What are two things that prepare Christians for witnessing?

prayer and Bible reading