Saul of Tarsus Has Gained a Reputation
As Attacker of Followers of ‘the Way’

JERUSALEM, around 32 CE—Saul of Tarsus was seen recently at the killing of Stephen. He appears to be intent on destroying all members of the Way, a new religious group who believe in the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

Stephen, an outspoken member of the Way, was stoned to death just outside the city. He had been on trial before the council. We have learned that Saul may have been present at that trial as a member of the council. We know he stood by approvingly as the young man died at the hands of his accusers.

Student of Gamaliel
Who is this Saul, who has appointed himself chief attacker of men and women who follow the Way? We spoke with a friend of his who has known him since childhood.

“Saul and I were born in Tarsus, a Greek city in Asia Minor. His family is prominent in that city. They are prosperous tent makers and are also citizens of Rome.

“Saul and I came here, to Jerusalem, to study with Gamaliel, a Jewish teacher of great fame. We were honored to have a place in his school. The rabbi is a moderate thinker who supports the liberal path of following the Law. Saul disagreed with our teacher many times. He felt that one should be strict and rigorous in applying the Law.

“I have not talked with Saul for some time, but I am not surprised that he is now persecuting these people. I have heard they are trying to destroy the tradition of the Jews with their talk of a Messiah who has risen from the dead.”

Many of the followers of Jesus of Nazareth have fled the city to escape persecution and to spread their story to other parts of the land. Evidently, Saul has also learned of these people and their efforts to spread their beliefs.

A source within the temple offices informed us that Saul has obtained letters from the High Priest that will be recognized throughout the Empire. These letters give Saul complete authority to arrest any suspected members of the Way and return them to Jerusalem for trial.

We have also been told that Saul and his companions have set off this very day for Damascus to pursue these believers and destroy their community. If he employs the zealous efforts he has used previously, we have no doubt he will succeed in this endeavor.
Religious Parties Played Vital Role

Pharisees appear often in the New Testament. Saul may have been a member of this group who were believers in the strict interpretation of Jewish law. Their name probably means “separated out.” Pharisees took seriously the practice of religious purity and divided themselves from those who did not strictly obey the laws. They relied completely on the oral and written teachings of the Torah (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). They also foresaw the ideal society that would emerge if every family was guided totally by these teachings.

Sadducees were the ruling authority—the party in power. They led the court, ruled the temple, and interpreted the written Torah exclusively as the law of the Jews. They were the conservative members of the Jewish community and carefully maintained their power in relation to Roman rulers.

The Sanhedrin was the high court of Judaism. It was made up of seventy elders and the president of the court, usually the High Priest. It had its own police force and could order arrests on both civil and criminal charges.

Jesus was brought before the Sanhedrin, and so was Stephen. In both cases, the ability of this court (or council) to impose the death penalty depended on the Roman governor at the time. Pilate obviously reserved the right to put a prisoner to death. The governor who followed Pilate allowed the death of Stephen to be imposed by the Sanhedrin.

Hebrew Schooling Began Early for Boys

Hebrew families taught their children the laws of God as written in the Torah, beginning at a very early age. Formal schooling for boys began about age five at a school called bet hasefer. Classes would last for half a day, six days a week. For five years the students would sit at a teacher’s feet and learn Hebrew letters and words and phrases from the Torah, by rote. The oral tradition was very important because it was not deemed proper to write the words of the Torah, except for use in gatherings for worship.

At age ten, the boys would advance to the bet talmud, where the focus was not only on the written Torah but also on the more complicated tradition of the oral law.

More gifted students who wished to become scribes, priests, or teachers, would go to a larger city such as Jerusalem to study with a well-known teacher of the law. Gamaliel was one such teacher (rabbi).

Roman Citizenship Offered Privileges

The rights of a Roman citizen were frequently bestowed on people who lived in territories occupied by Rome. Therefore, it was not unusual for Paul’s family in Tarsus to have received citizenship.

The rights of Roman citizens, once granted, were then inherited by their children. Thus Paul received his citizenship from his father at his birth.

Roman citizens enjoyed full civil rights, could enter into political life, marry other Roman citizens, and receive full protection of the courts. When Paul was arrested in Jerusalem, he exercised his right of appeal to the court in Rome.
Tent Making Was an Essential Trade

Saul's family were well known tent makers in the city of Tarsus in Cilicia, a place widely acclaimed for its excellent felted cloth made from goat's hair. This cloth was used to make tents for those nomadic tribes who tended sheep and other animals that grazed the land.

The tents were also important for the Roman soldiers as they traveled from post to post or were housed on the plains outside of a city.

The making of a tent involved cutting and sewing complicated pieces of cloth or leather pieces together.

Later translators of the term used for a tent maker believe that it may also have meant leather worker. If this is the case, Paul would have been engaged in the work of making leather tents and other items such as beds, cushions, or harnesses for horses and chariots.

MEMORY CHALLENGE
Books of the New Testament

Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*

*Letters of Paul

Puzzle Answer:

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*

IV-1 Page 3
Find the words below in the puzzle. They may be up and down, across, or diagonal.

HEBREW
SYNAGOGUES
JEW
BOUND
TARSUS
PRISON
GAMALIEL
EDUCATED
TENTMAKER
ZEALOUS
DAMASCUS
TESTIFY
JERUSALEM
LETTERS
PUNISHMENT
BORN
PERSECUTED
ROMAN

Unit IV:
Learning Scripture

Session 1: Romans 1:16; 5:1
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Ephesians 2:8a;
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Session 6: 1 Corinthians 1:3;
16:23
Session 7: Ephesians 4:7;
1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

Session 1

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, . . .” —Romans 1:16 (NRSV)

“Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, . . .” —Romans 5:1 (NRSV)
Saul, Opponent of the Way, Was Struck Blind As He Came Here from Jerusalem

_DAMASCUS, around 33 CE—Earlier today, while traveling here, Saul of Tarsus was struck blind. He is the Hebrew who has been a leading persecutor of the followers of Jesus of Nazareth._

An eyewitness to this shocking event shared an account of what happened.

"Saul, several others, and I left Jerusalem this morning on our way to Damascus. Our mission, led by Saul, was to seek out and arrest followers of the Way who had fled to that city and the surrounding countryside.

"Saul had obtained letters of authority from the high priest of the Sanhedrin. Such letters are respected throughout the empire. They gave us the right to seize men and women of the Way, tie them up, and return them to Jerusalem for trial.

"The party was traveling at a good pace when suddenly a bright light appeared in the road. The light was so intense that I had to shield my eyes. It was as if sunlight had turned cold. Saul seemed to be right in the middle of the light. He fell to the ground.

Group Heard Voice of Jesus

"We heard a voice speaking but could see nothing except the light. The voice said, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'

"Saul answered in a shaky voice, 'Who are you, Lord?'

"The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

"Everyone who traveled with Saul stood speechless. No one moved until Saul got up from the ground. His eyes were open, but we soon realized that he could see nothing. We assumed the dazzling bright light had caused him to become blind.

"At first we were confused about what to do. Should we return to Jerusalem?

"In the midst of our confusion, Saul spoke with a new sense of authority. He said, 'We shall go on into Damascus.'

"We took him by the hand and led him into the city. We left him there at the house of a man named Judas, on the street called Straight.'
Saul Restored and Baptized by Ananias

Ananias, a disciple of Jesus living in Damascus, received a special mission three days after the event of Saul’s encounter with the Lord Jesus on the road to that city. This is his story:

“I received a vision in which the Lord came to me and called my name, ‘Ananias.’

“I answered, ‘Here I am, Lord.’

“The Lord then told me to go to the house of the man called Judas, on the street called Straight, and look for the man from Tarsus known as Saul. He told me that this man had also seen a vision.

“In Saul’s vision, a man named Ananias would lay hands upon him and restore his sight.

“I protested. I knew about this man. He persecuted those of us who followed the Lord Jesus. He was present at the death of Stephen. He had done much evil to the saints in Jerusalem. I knew he carried letters of authority to bind all who believe in the resurrection. I thought it would be dangerous for me to meet him.

“In my vision, I was told that Saul of Tarsus had been chosen to bring the name of the Lord Jesus before Gentiles and kings.

“So I left at once and went to the house of Judas. I found Saul praying in earnest to the Lord Jesus. I laid my hands upon him and said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’

“Immediately, something like scales fell from his eyes, and Saul could see again. His eyes filled with tears of thanksgiving to the Lord. He was baptized as soon as he was able to stand.

“After taking some food and resting to regain his strength, he stayed with us in Damascus.

“Saul’s faith was so strong that he began without delay to preach the gospel in the synagogues. All who heard him were amazed at how he had changed. They remembered him as the one who only recently was persecuting the followers of Jesus. Now, with equal zeal and increasing power, he is proving that Jesus is the Messiah.”

Barnabas Welcomed Saul As a Brother

“There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means ‘son of encouragement’). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles’ feet. —Acts 4:36-37.

Barnabas, of the priestly tribe of Levi, was one of the early converts to Christianity. He may have had some wealth, since he was able to sell a piece of property and give the money to the common fund of the community.

Barnabas was in Jerusalem when Saul returned from Damascus after his conversion experience. He had heard of Saul’s encounter with the Lord Jesus on the road, and of his powerful and bold preaching of the gospel in Damascus.

Barnabas brought Saul before the twelve apostles, who were reluctant to believe that the man who had been their persecutor was now a disciple. He vouched for Saul and the validity of his conversion, helping him to be accepted among the faithful followers of Christ in Jerusalem.

Barnabas and Saul later traveled together, spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.
Saul Chose to Be Known As Paul

In Acts 13:9, we read of “Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, ...”

Saul was the Hebrew name of the man who persecuted Christ’s followers and was converted on the road to Damascus. Soon after this dramatic event, he became the Church’s apostle to the Gentiles and was known as Paul (the Latin and Greek form of his Jewish name).

We can only speculate that Saul altered his name to reflect the mighty change he had undergone in his conversion to Jesus Christ.

**MEMORY CHALLENGE**

Books of the New Testament

Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*
Galatians*
Ephesians*
Philippians*
Colossians*

* Letters of Paul
DIRECTIONS: The letters in each vertical column go into the squares directly below them, but not necessarily in the order they appear. A colored square means the end of a word. When you have put all letters in their correct squares, you will discover a quote concerning Paul's conversion.

Y I H O A A J E S Y R S W L O R I N G
O U A M R R E P U S U E C U T D ?
W E E O H O M

Unit IV:
Learning Scripture

Session 1: Romans 1:16; 5:1
Session 2: Galatians 2:20a;
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16:23
Session 7: Ephesians 4:7;
1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

Session 2
"...[A]nd it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me."
—Galatians 2:20a (NRSV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;...” —Ephesians 2:8a (NRSV)

“Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”
—Philippians 3:13-14 (RSV)
Paul Declares Himself to Be an Apostle
Dedicated to Spreading Gospel of Christ

ANTIOCH in Syria, around 46 CE—
Paul, called by God to be an apostle to the
Gentiles, has been living and preaching
here for most of the year. Everywhere he
goes, he talks about Jesus Christ.

What would cause a person to follow
this path in life? We caught up with Paul
the other day and were pleased that he
granted us an interview:

Reporter: Paul, your conversion experi-
ence on the road to Damascus is well
known. However, most people still wonder
whether anyone really makes such a dra-
matic change. What could you tell us about
this?

Paul: Well, there's a part of me that
remains the same. I have always felt very
strongly about my beliefs, and I think it is
very important to share and defend my
faith.

Prior to my conversion I was a devout
Jew, following the teachings of my people
and working very hard to keep the tradi-
tions of the Torah pure. I perceived that the
followers of Jesus were threatening to
Judaism as I understood it.

Now I know that Jesus of Nazareth is
the Christ, the true Messiah. Now I am
working very hard to spread this good
news to the world.

Reporter: You are called the apostle to
the Gentiles. Tell us what this means.

Paul: I believe that God called me to
fulfill the words of the prophet Isaiah, "I
have set you to be a light for the Gentiles,
so that you may bring salvation to the ends
of the earth."

The salvation we know in Christ must
be carried to all God's people—men and
women, slave and free, Jew and Gentile. It
is my mission to reach as many people as I
can with God's message.

Reporter: You have said yourself that
you are not a great speaker and that your
physical appearance does not command
attention. How do you propose to accom-
plish your mission?

Paul: In spite of my education and my
ability to move easily among the people—
Jew, Greek, and Roman—I am not profi-
cient in the art of speaking. I know, howev-
er, that the "wisdom of God" will aid me as

Continued on page 3
Apostles Meet to Decide About Gentiles

Paul urged that the restrictions of Jewish law not be placed upon these new believers. Others disputed all that Paul said and wanted to force the Gentiles to keep the law of Moses.

As an apostle, Paul was a pioneer faced with decisions no one had ever needed to make before. Especially troublesome was the problem of what to do about Gentiles who became Christian. In time, he had to meet with the apostles about this issue.

Around 48 CE, Paul and Barnabas went to Jerusalem for a specially-arranged council meeting with apostles and elders of the Church. Peter was there, and so was James, the brother of the Lord.

We talked with someone who was present at that meeting, and this is his account:

"Paul and Barnabas had been appointed to come to Jerusalem to discuss an important question: Should Gentiles be required to follow the law of Moses in order to be saved through Jesus Christ?"

"Paul and Barnabas were greeted warmly by the apostles and the elders. They shared much good news of the joy of newly-baptized Followers of the Way in Phoenicia and Samaria.

"The debate began when some called for these new converts to be ordered to obey the law of Moses. The argument was heated and lasted for many hours. Paul urged that the restrictions of Jewish law not be placed upon these new believers. Others disputed all that Paul said and wanted to force the Gentiles to keep the law of Moses."

"Then Peter stood. Everyone stopped immediately to hear what he was about to say. 'In the early days,' Peter began, 'I was the one who was chosen to go to the Gentiles and give them the good news. God gave them the same gift of the Holy Spirit that was given to us. No distinction was made between them and us. Why should we now place upon their shoulders the burdens we have been unable to bear? On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.'

"The group remained silent as Barnabas and Paul told of the wonders God had accomplished among the Gentiles.

"When they were finished, James said that the Gentiles should not be troubled with keeping the law of Moses, but they should refrain from eating what has been sacrificed to idols, from blood, from what is strangled, and from fornication."

"Paul and Barnabas, along with Judas and Silas, returned to Antioch at once to deliver the decision from this Church council."

Peter Became the Leader of the Apostles

Peter, originally called Simon, was the son of Jonas, a Galilean fisherman. His brother Andrew was also a disciple.

Jesus called Peter "the rock"—Kepha in Hebrew, and Petros in Greek.

We have more information about Peter than we have concerning any of the other disciples. He was certainly impulsive and outspoken. He stood out and became a leader of the disciples.

Peter was married. He left his family behind to follow Jesus.

Peter denied Jesus on the eve of the crucifixion, but he regained his determination to promote the cause of Christianity after Jesus appeared to him after the resurrection. An ordinary fisherman who was comfortable mending the nets and caring for the gear of his trade, he spoke eloquently on the occasion of Pentecost. After receiving the Holy Spirit themselves, Peter and the other apostles baptized three thousand people on that day.

Although they met more than once and were both equally committed to their cause, there is evidence that Peter and Paul had arguments. Their decision to pursue different paths—Paul to preach to the Gentiles and Peter to be the apostle to the Jews—was apparently an agreement to disagree.

We know very little about Peter's death. Legend tells us that he died in Rome, by crucifixion. Feeling that he was unworthy to die in the same manner as Jesus, he asked to be crucified upside down. The symbol for Peter combines an upside-down cross and the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven given to him by Jesus.
I seek to share with all people the significance of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ.

As you can see for yourself, I am not another King David, handsome and fair of face. But just as God chose David, so God has chosen me. God's grace will be sufficient for my needs. I will receive the power to overcome my weaknesses and serve God according to his will.

**I will receive the power to overcome my weaknesses and serve God according to his will.**

**MEMORY CHALLENGE**

**Books of the New Testament**

Memorize the books of the New Testament. Work on the yellow box each time.

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Acts
- Romans*
- I Corinthians*
- II Corinthians*
- Galatians*
- Ephesians*
- Philippians*
- Colossians*
- I Thessalonians*
- II Thessalonians*
- I Timothy*
- II Timothy*

*Letters of Paul*
Directions: Circle every third letter in this puzzle. Then write the circled letters (in order) on the blanks below to reveal an important message.

Unit IV: Learning Scripture

Session 1: Romans 1:16; 5:1
Session 2: Galatians 2:20a; Ephesians 2:8a; Philippians 3:13-14
Session 3: Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 15:10a; Ephesians 2:19-20
Session 4: Romans 8:28; Philippians 4:13
Session 5: Romans 10:13; 1 Corinthians 15:57
Session 6: 1 Corinthians 1:3; 16:23
Session 7: Ephesians 4:7; 1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

Session 3

"... [B]ecause if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
—Romans 10:9 (NRSV)

“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain.” —1 Corinthians 15:10a (NRSV)

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.”
—Ephesians 2:19-20 (NRSV)
Paul Leaves Lystra After His Enemies Attack Him for His Successful Mission

LYSTRA, around 47 CE—The apostle Paul, who arrived here only recently, has been rescued along with his friend Barnabas and spirited out of the area following attacks from their enemies.

Paul and his companion, Barnabas, came to this city after having escaped crowds of non-believers in Antioch of Pisidia and in Iconium.

As soon as they entered Lystra, Paul began to speak to a crowd, proclaiming the faith of Jesus Christ crucified. He healed a crippled man and became a major sensation. An onlooker described the scene:

"Paul was preaching near the gates of the city. Seated nearby was a man who could not use his feet and had never walked. He had been crippled from birth. The man listened, engrossed, as Paul spoke of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

"We saw Paul look intently at the crippled man. I don't know what he was thinking, but all of a sudden Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' Everyone looked around to see. We saw the man spring up and begin to walk for the first time in his life!

"The crowd went crazy. They shouted, 'The gods have come down to us in human form! Zeus! Hermes!'

"Some hurried to the priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city. The priest and his followers quickly returned to the scene with oxen and garlands to offer in sacrifice.

Paul and Barnabas Shocked

"Perhaps because the people were speaking in the Lycaonian language, Paul and Barnabas did not, at first, understand what they were saying. But when the priest arrived, it became clear to them what was going on. They were horrified!

"Paul and Barnabas tore their clothes in their distress and ran out into the crowd, shouting, "Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals!"

"I couldn't hear any more of what they said. It had no effect, though, as the people could scarcely be restrained from offering the sacrifices."

We learned that shortly after this mob scene, some of those who opposed Paul in Antioch and Iconium arrived and won over the crowds. They stoned Paul, dragged him outside the city, and left him for dead.

Paul and Barnabas were rescued by Christian believers who have taken them to an undisclosed destination.
Travel Was Hazardous in Paul's Time

Paul traveled by land and sea throughout the Mediterranean region. Because of the Roman occupation, there was an abundance of trade within the area he visited.

Travel along land routes was dangerous, especially in desolate areas where thieves could hide in nearby hills and caves. Traders and other travelers were frequent victims of attacks.

Travel by sea was along established trade routes by cargo vessels. Passenger ships did not exist. Anyone wishing to travel would have to wait for a merchant ship that had room to accommodate passengers.

Travelers lucky enough to obtain space aboard a ship had to supply all their own provisions, including bedding and enough food for the entire trip. Sleeping was on deck—out in the open, or under a tent-like canopy.

Since sea travel was dangerous even in the best weather, it was avoided in the winter months. Sailors had many superstitions that could affect voyages. For example, a ship would not sail on Friday, the 13th. There could be no dancing, blasphemies, or clipping of hair and nails, until a trip ended. Sneezing while walking up a gang plank, a crow or magpie in the ship's rigging, or a glimpse of a shipwreck on the shore—all these were considered bad omens for a journey.

When a ship was in danger, everyone (including passengers) cooperated to save the ship. Paul is said to have been in three shipwrecks.
Use of ‘Christian’ Originated in Antioch

The followers of Jesus, were first called “Christians” in Antioch. Previously they were called Followers of the Way, Believers, or Nazarenes.

The word Christian is derived from *christos*, Greek for “anointed one.” This is equivalent to the Hebrew word, *messiah*.

There is some speculation that “Christian” may have originated as a negative term used by Roman soldiers to refer to members of the early church. This is supported by the Latin ending, *ian*.

**MEMORY CHALLENGE**
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- I Corinthians*
- II Corinthians*
- Galatians*
- Ephesians*
- Philippians*
- Colossians*
- I Thessalonians*
- II Thessalonians*
- I Timothy*
- II Timothy*
- Titus*
- Philemon*
- Hebrews

* Letters of Paul
Paul was the first Christian _______.

Find the word to fill the blank above by solving the puzzle with the clues provided. The word will appear in the shaded boxes.

Clues:
1. Paul set out on three major ____ to preach and share the Christian story.
2. After his conversion, Paul ____ to many cities.
3. ____ supported Paul before the other apostles did, and often joined him on his trips.
4. Paul made many ____ who welcomed him into their homes.
5. Paul spoke to the people in ____.
6. Paul traveled by ship across the ____.
7. Paul is called the apostle to the ____.
8. We say that Paul was the first great ____, who preached the good news of Christ in faraway places.
9. In Antioch, one of the places Paul visited, the followers of Jesus were first called ____.
10. People who gave up their religion to follow Jesus were called ____.

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Learning Scripture

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1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

LEARNING SCRIPTURE

Session 4

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." —Romans 8:28 (NRSV)

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
—Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)
We spoke with Lydia last week, concerning this big change in her life.
She said, "It has been my custom, on the sabbath, to go to the river bank with several other women to pray. I have long believed in the one true God, although I do not belong to the synagogue.
"On that particular sabbath, we went to the river as usual. During the morning, two men joined us and began to speak of Jesus of Nazareth, the risen Christ. They introduced themselves as Paul and Silas, believers of the Way.
"I had never heard such words before. The Lord opened my heart as I listened eagerly to what was said. I decided right then that I, too, wanted to follow Jesus.
"I was baptized, with my whole household, on that very day."

**Hospitality for Paul**
Lydia is a seller of purple cloth in this region known for its richly-dyed fabric. She often wears purple clothing to advertise her trade.
Her business has grown and flourished, even though she must deal mostly with men in a world where women are considered inferior in ability and skill.
Lydia owns a large house in the city. She invited Paul and his companion to stay with her during their visit here.
Lydia is now taking a leading part with other Christians in a newly-organized church in Philippi.
The disciples here are pleased to be the first Christian community established anywhere in Macedonia. They plan to gather for worship weekly on what they call the Lord's Day.
Paul has left to begin new churches in other parts of the Mediterranean region, but he has promised to write and plans to return soon to encourage the faithful.
Women Honored for Church Leadership

Besides Lydia, many other women played important roles in the life of the early church. Many were leaders and organizers of Christians in the cities visited by Paul. Some were prophetesses.

Phoebe was a minister of the church at Cenchreae. Paul asked the church in Rome to "welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints." She had helped others who were Christian and may have taught and prophesied as well.

It seems that Phoebe traveled alone or with only a servant—a courageous and dangerous thing for a woman to do. Paul appreciated her generosity toward him and other Christians.

In Corinth, Paul met Aquila and his wife, Priscilla, who worked together in the making of tents—a profession Paul knew well. Priscilla’s name appears before her husband’s in Paul’s writings, breaking with the custom of always referring to women last. This may indicate that Priscilla was the active member of the family in church affairs. She was involved in starting Christian communities in both Corinth and Ephesus.

While in Ephesus, Priscilla and Aquila met Apollos, described as an eloquent man who knew the Scriptures well. Although he was a follower of Jesus, Apollos knew only the baptism of John. Priscilla was instrumental in instructing him in the "Way of God."

Other women mentioned by Paul are Mary from Corinth; Tryphaena; Tryphosa; the mother of Rufus; Julia; Chloe; Eunice; and Lois.
Sea Snail Provided Precious Purple Dye

Purple cloth like that sold by Lydia was prized in Macedonia. The dye came from a sea snail called a murex and ranged in color from a reddish purple to a true rich purple. Because of the cost in producing the dye and the process of dying the cloth, only wealthy or privileged citizens could afford it. Roman rulers or other high officials purchased the beautifully-colored wool.

The murex shellfish was abundant along the coast and may have been the reason for the name of the ancient land of Canaan. The literal meaning of "Canaan" is Land of the Purple.

Wool or linen was spun into a fine yarn that was then dyed in large vats heated by fires. The yarn was placed in the vats that contained a dye solution. Wooden paddles were used for stirring.

The length of time the wool or linen was left in the dye would determine the depth of color. The whole process took a long time and often involved secret ingredients or techniques that might give one merchant an advantage over others in the trade.

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MEMORY CHALLENGE
Books of the New Testament

Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*

Galatians*
Ephesians*
Philippians*
Colossians*

I Thessalonians*
II Thessalonians*
I Timothy*
II Timothy*

Titus*
Philemon*
Hebrews

James
I Peter
II Peter

*Letters of Paul
**PAUL THE MISSIONARY**

Word Search: Find the people and places Paul visited. The words may be across, up and down, or diagonal.

<table>
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<th>CORINTH</th>
<th>GALATIA</th>
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**Unit IV: Learning Scripture**

**Session 1:** Romans 1:16; 5:1
**Session 2:** Galatians 2:20a; Ephesians 2:8a; Philippians 3:13-14
**Session 3:** Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 15:10a; Ephesians 2:19-20
**Session 4:** Romans 8:28; Philippians 4:13
**Session 5:** Romans 10:13; 1 Corinthians 15:57
**Session 6:** 1 Corinthians 1:3; 16:23
**Session 7:** Ephesians 4:7; 1 Timothy 4:14a
**Session 8:** Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
**Session 9:** Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

**Session 5**

“For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”
—Romans 10:13 (NRSV)

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
—1 Corinthians 15:57 (NRSV)
Apostle Writes to Thessalonian Church With Thanks and Kind Encouragement

THESALONICA, about 50 CE—Members of the Christian community here are excited about a letter that arrived today from the apostle Paul.

The letter was too long for inclusion in this article, but one of the leaders of the church here shared the reason for the letter and some of its highlights. We quote from her report:

"As you may know, Paul visited us in Thessalonica for several months. During his time here, we were able to establish a strong community of believers. We also grew very fond of Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy. They became members of our family, and we have missed them greatly since they left. Paul was like a father to our members.

"A short time ago, Timothy returned for a brief stay. We welcomed him back warmly. When he left to rejoin Paul, we sent our greetings and love along with assurances that the faith was alive and flourishing here.

"We are delighted to have a letter from Paul even though we had hoped he would return in person.

"The letter is an expression of love and peace. Paul understands the difficulties we face from those who oppose what we believe. He has suffered much to spread the good news of Jesus to many people.

Duty to God Explained

"Paul reminded us of our duty to God—to remain strong in the faith, to keep our bodies and desires under control, to love one another, and not to use others for our own gain.

"While Timothy was here, some of our brothers and sisters died tragically. We were concerned that they would not join us in the day of the Lord. Timothy has obviously shared our grief with Paul. Paul's letter has assured us that we will all be together in Christ at the time of his coming.

"We do not know when the Lord Jesus will return, but Paul has encouraged us to be patient and to work hard for the church and for one another.

"Here, I will read you some of his words: 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of the prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every evil.'

"We hope to hear from Paul again by letter, and perhaps he will come for another visit. He is our apostle in the Lord.'
There was no postal service except for official government documents. Individuals had to hire a courier or give a letter to a traveler who was going to the place where it was to be sent.

In New Testament times, letters would be written by an individual or dictated to a secretary. The messages were mostly on papyrus, although sometimes poor people would use broken pieces of clay pottery. A letter was inscribed on one side of a sheet of papyrus. The sheet was rolled or folded, and sealed with wax or clay. The seal of the sender was impressed upon the wax. The address would be simple, such as "To Cyrus, my brother."

There was no postal service except for official government documents. Individuals had to hire a courier or give a letter to a traveler who was going to the place where it was to be sent.

Letter writing was an art in the Greek culture. A specific pattern was followed. The ancient form had four parts:

1. Opening Formula—This part of the letter was not an address, like the one on the outside. The opening sentence gave the name of the sender(s) and of the person to whom the letter was to be sent, along with a short greeting. Paul's letters most often began with his special words of greeting: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Thanksgiving: The second section of the letter expressed a religious or non-religious sentiment of thanksgiving. Paul's letters often extended this section beyond the usual length, and he included blessings and prayers.

3. Message: The body of the letter gave the main information the writer wished to share. The messages Paul wrote were early versions of Christian preaching. He usually divided this part into two sections. The first discussed the truths of Christian teachings. The second gave instructions concerning the behavior of the people who received the letter.

4. Final Greeting: The closing or goodbye appeared at the end. If the letter was dictated to a scribe, the writer would often add a personal closing. Paul's closings would sometimes contain personal news or specific advice to certain individuals. The final sentence would be "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

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Paul's Letters Followed the Greek Form
Canon Established in Fourth Century

Unlike the books of the Old Testament, which took hundreds of years to be written down, the books of the New Testament were written in a fairly short time. Paul was the earliest author. His letters were written about ten years before the first Gospel.

Paul’s letters showed the growth of the early Church and the struggles the first Christians encountered as they came to know and understand God in an entirely new way.

These letters (books) came to be included in the Bible by a process that is called canonization. The term canon comes from a Greek word that means cane or rod. It came to mean a rule or guide. Not all Christian writings were included in the New Testament. Some were included in early versions and excluded from the Bible we know today.

The twenty-seven books of the New Testament were finally established as the canon by the councils of the Church in 393 and 397 CE.

MEMORY CHALLENGE
Books of the New Testament

Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*

Galatians*
Ephesians*
Philippians*
Colossians*

I Thessalonians*
II Thessalonians*
I Timothy*
II Timothy*

Titus*
Philemon*
Hebrews

James
I Peter
II Peter

I John
II John
III John

* Letters of Paul
Use the code to discover the way Paul often began his letters.
The code is made up of Greek letters. (The code is not the same as a real Greek alphabet.)

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \rho \alpha \chi \varepsilon & \rightarrow TO \psi O\theta \alpha \nu \Delta \pi \varepsilon \alpha \chi \varepsilon \\
\Phi \rho \omicron \mu & \rightarrow G\omicron \Delta \omicron \omicron \theta \rho \Phi \alpha \tau \eta \varepsilon \rho \alpha \nu \Delta \\
\tau \eta \varepsilon & \rightarrow \Lambda \omicron \rho \Delta \omicron \varepsilon \zeta \theta \zeta \chi \eta \rho \iota \Sigma \tau.
\end{align*}
\]

NOTE: The actual Greek words do not look like the coded puzzle.
Here is how they appear in the Bible:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{χαρίς υμίν καὶ εἰρήνη ἀπὸ θεοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν καὶ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.}
\end{align*}
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**Unit IV: Learning Scripture**

Session 1: Romans 1:16; 5:1
Session 2: Galatians 2:20a; 
Ephesians 2:8a; 
Philippians 3:13-14
Session 3: Romans 10:9; 
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Session 6: 1 Corinthians 
1:3; 16:23
Session 7: Ephesians 4:7; 
1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

**Session 6**

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
—1 Corinthians 1:3 (NRSV)

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you." —1 Corinthians 16:23 (NRSV)
CAESAREA, around 58 CE—Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles and well-known leader of the Followers of the Way, has appeared before Festus, the new Roman governor of Judea, and Agrippa, king of Judea.

It has been more than two years since the incident occurred that caused Paul's imprisonment here. He was accused of taking Gentiles into the temple and was being beaten by the crowds when Roman soldiers intervened. They also began to flog him to discover the cause for the disturbance. At that point he declared his rights as a Roman citizen.

He was then brought before the Sanhedrin, where Ananias was the high priest. A conspiracy to kill Paul in ambush was uncovered, and the tribune was informed. During the night, Paul was secretly taken to Felix, then the Roman governor. On the journey he was accompanied by two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen.

Festus called for a hearing. Ananias, some elders, and an attorney came and presented the case against Paul. Felix and his wife knew something about the Followers of the Way and were therefore sympathetic toward Paul. However, Felix was frightened by the Jews, so he kept Paul in prison.

Festus Sympathetic

When Porcius Festus succeeded Felix as governor, he went up to Jerusalem. There he encountered the Jews who still desired Paul's death. In fact, they had planned another ambush to take place along the road to Jerusalem. To this end, they requested that Festus bring Paul to Jerusalem for trial.

Festus, perhaps suspecting the plot, held the second hearing in Caesarea. Again the Jews were not able to prove their case against Paul. Festus then asked Paul if he wished to go up to Jerusalem for trial. Paul appealed to his rights as a Roman citizen, and asked to be tried before the emperor.

Continued on page 2
Paul's Leadership Led to the Expansion Of the Christian Faith in His Lifetime

As a chief leader in the early Church, Paul did much to establish Christianity and promote the teachings of Jesus Christ. He wanted the believers to seek first to know God and God's will.

Paul was convinced that Jesus was God in human form, reaching out to people in a new way. Only by grace does God offer salvation to humankind. There is nothing we can do to earn our salvation. (See Romans 5:1-5.)

Paul also believed that nothing can separate us from the love of God. He said that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (See Romans 8:38-39.)

He Taught As Jesus Did

Many of Paul's teachings emphasized Jesus' concept of unconditional forgiveness. Jesus had said that when someone strikes you on the left cheek, you are to turn the other cheek. In a similar way, Paul said that we should not repay wrong with wrong but instead do our best to live peacefully with one another. (See Romans 12:9-20.)

In Ephesians 4:32, Paul advised, "... be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

For Jesus, each person is a unique child of God whom God loves dearly. If persons are lost, God will go to great lengths to find them and bring them back. This idea is expressed repeatedly in Jesus' parables of the lost sheep, the prodigal (lost) son, and the good shepherd.

Paul also spoke of the importance of everyone in the plan of God. He wrote that God has given different gifts to various people. They all work together to build up the body of Christ in the world. (See Ephesians 4:11-13.)

Paul often named individuals in his letters, praising them and blessing them for the efforts they gave to the spread of the gospel.

Even while praising individual efforts, Paul supported the idea of community. He

... Continued on page 3
Continued from page 2

gathered Christians together, just as Jesus had gathered his disciples, to share prayers, support, and meals—especially the Eucharist. Paul wrote, in Romans 12:4-5, “For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another.”

Paul was telling us that if we all do what we can do well—in cooperation with others—the work of God will be carried out in a much greater way than we could ever imagine.

CHI RHO WITH GREEK CROSS

MEMORY CHALLENGE
Books of the New Testament
Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts
Romans*
I Corinthians*
II Corinthians*
Galatians*
Ephesians*
Philippians*
Colossians*
I Thessalonians*
II Thessalonians*
I Timothy*
II Timothy*
Titus*
Philemon*
Hebrews
James
I Peter
II Peter
I John
II John
III John
Jude
Revelation

* Letters of Paul
The vowels in the verse below are mixed up. Put the right vowels in the right places to read Paul's message.

THO GAFTS HO GUVO WORO
THUT SIMO WIELD BO
UPISTLOS, SIMO PRIPHOTS,
SIMO OVVUNGOLASTS, SIMO
PUSTIRS UND TOUCHORS, TI
OQEAP THO SUANTS FIR THO
WIRK IF MANAstry, FIR
BEALDANG EP THO BIDY IF
CHRAST.

Answer: Ephesians 4:11
Slave Returns to His Master As Paul Sends Compassionate Letter About Him

**COLOSSAE, around 60 CE**—Early today, a slave named Onesimus unexpectedly returned here to the home of his master, Philemon. We understand that Onesimus has been in Rome and that Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, has sent a letter about him to Philemon.

We spoke to a member of Philemon's household to get more details and also to ask what would happen to Onesimus now. He reported:

"Some time ago, Onesimus ran away from Philemon. At the same time, several valuable items disappeared, but Onesimus' connection with that has never been proven. In any case, his escape was costly to Philemon. We had not heard a word from him until today.

"And yes, Philemon did receive a letter about Onesimus from his friend, Paul, whom he knows very well. Paul holds a place of honor among all the Christians, including the church here to which Philemon belongs.

"Paul is currently under house arrest in Rome where he is waiting to be tried by the emperor. Evidently, Onesimus went to Rome and sought help and refuge from Paul.

"Paul treated Onesimus like a son and taught him the ways of the Lord Jesus Christ.

"In the letter, Paul has told Philemon of Onesimus' conversion to the Christian faith. Paul said that Onesimus had been of great help to him.

"The letter also appeals to Philemon to accept Onesimus as a Christian brother, not a slave. Paul has even offered to repay any debt Onesimus may have incurred. It is said that Paul believes Jesus Christ has made us all one. In Christ, he says, there is neither slave nor free, male nor female, Greek nor Jew."

We asked how Philemon had received this runaway, but our source did not know what had happened after the letter was read. Will Philemon follow the suggestions from Paul and accept Onesimus as a free

**Continued on page 3**
Young Timothy Served with Paul

Timothy was a young and valued Christian missionary and definitely one of Paul's most trusted and reliable companions.

The letter to Philemon was sent from Paul and Timothy. Timothy was a young Christian from Lystra, where he had lived with a Jewish mother and Gentile father. Although his mother, Eunice, was a Christian believer, she had seen to it that Timothy had some training in the Scriptures.

Perhaps Timothy served as a kind of trouble shooter. Paul often sent him to Christian communities they had established, to support the faithful and give help where it was needed. He was sent to Thessalonica and later to Corinth to strengthen the churches there. He was quite successful in Thessalonica but did not fare as well in Corinth.

Timothy was a young and valued Christian missionary and definitely one of Paul's most trusted and reliable companions.

Paul wrote two letters to Timothy that are pastoral in nature. In the second one, Paul offered support to Timothy in his work on behalf of the gospel. Paul gave thanks for the sincere faith of Timothy's mother, Eunice, and his grandmother, Lois.

Paul Likely to Have Opposed Slavery

The Letter of Paul to Philemon is a personal letter quite unlike the ones written to the churches. Why would such a letter be included in the New Testament? Some people believe it was included specifically because it deals with the slavery issue.

Slavery was a very old institution, dating to the days of Abraham. The Hebrews were freed from slavery by Moses, but that did not cause them to stop obtaining slaves through battle or purchase. Many free citizens became slaves because they failed to pay their debts, or the poor might sell themselves into slavery to keep a family from starving.

Paul stated clearly that in Christ there is no slave or free person—all are one under the Lord Jesus Christ. The letter to Philemon supports Paul's view. Paul did not choose, however, to disobey the custom of the times. Once he discovered that Onesimus belonged to Philemon, he returned him to his master. However, Paul does appeal to the teachings of Christ and asks that the slave be set free.

Perhaps Paul knew that it would be impossible to change such a deeply entrenched institution as slavery, yet he sought to work quietly to abolish it.
member of his household? Is it possible that he might even allow Onesimus to return to Rome to serve Paul in the work of spreading the Gospel?

Today the answers to those questions remain unanswered, as Philemon reads and rereads Paul’s compassionate letter. We can only hope that the love of Christ for all people will prevail and that justice for all will be achieved.

What Did Happen to Onesimus?

We do not know what actually happened to Onesimus. There is some speculation that he was freed and that perhaps he returned to be with Paul, and continued to work for the Christian church. A bishop of the same name is mentioned by Ignatius in Ephesus about 107 CE.

Could it be that Philemon responded favorably to Paul’s appeal? It is nice to imagine that this could be so.
Use the clues provided to solve the puzzle and discover the word in the shaded boxes. If you get stuck, the answers are in *Philemon*.

1. The recipients of this letter had a _______ in their house.
2. _______ was with Paul when he wrote this letter.
3. Paul appealed to his brother in Christ to give freedom to his slave, rather than _______ him to do this.
4. Paul always gave thanks to God in his _______.
5. Paul wanted Onesimus to be _______.
6. from _______.
7. Paul wrote this letter during his _______ for the gospel.
8. This letter was addressed to Paul's fellow worker, _______.
9. Paul was _______ of Philemon's (continued in 10., below)
10. _______ and felt quite certain that Onesimus would be freed.

**Blue Boxes:** Paul asked Philemon to show ____________

**Unit IV: Learning Scripture**

**Session 1:** Romans 1:16; 5:1
Session 2: Galatians 2:20a; Ephesians 2:8a; Philippians 3:13-14
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Session 7: Ephesians 4:7; 1 Timothy 4:14a
**Session 8:** Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
**Session 9:** Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

**Session 8**

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, . . ."
—Ephesians 5:1 (NRSV)

"Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints."
—Ephesians 6:18 (NRSV)
Disciples of Jesus Christ Had Amazing Experience During Feast of Pentecost

JERUSALEM, about 27 CE—On the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, in the heart of the city, the followers of Jesus of Nazareth began speaking in many different languages. This produced a lot of confusion among the bystanders.

We talked with one of the disciples later in the day to determine what had really happened.

He said, “We had seen Jesus ascend into heaven. He had told us to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon us. Not knowing exactly what was to happen, we simply waited. We gathered together daily to pray and talk about our future.

“Suddenly there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind. It filled the entire house where we were sitting. The force of the wind was so great that none of us could move. When the wind had passed, tongues of fire appeared in the room and divided themselves until one rested above the head of everyone there.

“We were all filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit. Soon we noticed that everyone was speaking in a different language. It was only through the Spirit that we were given this ability, for we had never spoken these languages before.

“We went outside and began speaking to the people assembled. It was the Jewish Feast of Weeks and many had come to Jerusalem from far-off lands.”

Visitor Shares Details

A visitor from Mesopotamia told us about his experience with the followers of Jesus. He said, “I was in the street with

Continued on page 3
Pentecost Comes 50 Days After Easter

The Feast of Pentecost, also known as Whitsunday, is celebrated fifty days after Easter. On this day, churches read from Acts, ch. 2, the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples as they waited and prayed together.

The color of the altar hangings is red to symbolize the tongues of fire that rested upon the disciples' heads. Many people wear red items of clothing to church on the Day of Pentecost to add to the festival spirit.

Pentecost is also a day set aside for baptisms, in remembrance that 3,000 persons were baptized after the disciples' experience at Pentecost.

Usually the Gospel is read in the language of the people who are members of the congregation. On Pentecost Day, it may be read in different languages to simulate the ability of the apostles to speak in the tongues of many lands as a result of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Sometimes red and white streamers are hung where they will catch a breeze, to show that the wind is present. The Spirit is often compared with the wind. (As wind blows through the branches of trees, we cannot see it, but we can feel it and see the effects of it.)

The Spirit was sent by God to be a Comforter. The symbol for the Comforter is the same sign that descended upon Jesus at his baptism—the dove. Doves are frequently used as decorations on Pentecost.

Jewish Feast Marked End of Harvest

At the end of the long and difficult task of harvesting the grains, Jewish families celebrated Shavout (also known as the Festival of Weeks). This occasion fell on the day following the end of seven weeks after the beginning of Passover. It was also known as Pentecost—the Greek word for 50th day.

This feast honored the revelation to Moses of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. To celebrate, Jews would make a pilgrimage to the temple in Jerusalem, bringing with them two loaves of leavened bread made from the freshly-gleaned grain. This was called "the first fruits of the harvest," and it was given to the glory of God according to the law.

This was a joyous festival coming at the end of a long period of hard work in which every member of the family took part. The grain had to be gathered from the fields at just the right time. It was then taken to the threshing floor—usually a high spot near the town where a large round court of pounded earth provided a solid work surface. The sheaves were brought to the threshing floor where the grain was separated from the long stems.

Once the grain had been threshed, it had to be winnowed, and for this a farmer needed a strong breeze. The grain would be tossed up into the air with a winnowing fork, and the heavy grain would fall to the ground. The straw was blown a little way and saved for cattle feed, or for making bricks. Lighter chaff was blown farther away and later burned.

Remaining grain was sifted again to get rid of any unwanted materials. It was stored to be ground into flour and traded or sold as needed.
many other people from foreign lands when we heard a tremendous noise. As we headed for the house where the sound came from, we met these people who, for the most part, looked like Galileans. They began speaking.

"I was amazed! I did not have to translate what they were saying into my own language. I understood them perfectly as if I were in my own country. They were speaking of God's powerful deeds and about the wonder of the man called Jesus of Nazareth. I thought to myself and heard others saying, 'What does this mean?' "

"There were some who sneered and said the speakers were drunk with new wine. "A man they called Peter addressed the crowd in a loud voice. He said they were not drunk. He then quoted from the prophet Joel, saying that the Spirit would come upon all flesh. I wish I could remember all he said. He spoke of King David, and of this Jesus as the Messiah."

We have heard that as a result of this morning's events and the speech by Peter, three thousand persons were baptized and became followers of Jesus and the twelve apostles.

**MEMORY CHALLENGE**

**Books of the New Testament**

Memorize the books of the New Testament.
Work on the yellow box each time.

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<td>Mark</td>
<td>Romans*</td>
<td>Ephesians*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>I Corinthians*</td>
<td>Philippians*</td>
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<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>II Corinthians*</td>
<td>Colossians*</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Thessalonians*</td>
<td>Titus*</td>
<td>James</td>
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<td>II Thessalonians*</td>
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<td>I Peter</td>
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<td>I Timothy*</td>
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<td>II Timothy*</td>
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<td>Jude</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>II John</td>
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<td>III John</td>
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<td>Revelation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Letters of Paul
PENTECOST

Directions: Fill in the blanks to complete the quote from John 20:19-23.

It was _______ of the _____ day of the week.
Jesus _______ and _______ among them.
He said, "_______ be with you. As the _______ has sent me,
so I _______ you."
Then he _______ on them and said, "_______ the Holy _______.
If you _______ the sins of any, they are _______ them.
If you retain the _______ of any, they are _______"

Answer: See John 20:19-23.

Unit IV: Learning Scripture

Session 1: Romans 1:16; 5:1
Session 2: Galatians 2:20a;
Ephesians 2:8a;
Philippians 3:13-14
Session 3: Romans 10:9;
1 Corinthians 15:10a;
Ephesians 2:19-20
Session 4: Romans 8:28;
Philippians 4:13
Session 5: Romans 10:13;
1 Corinthians 15:57
Session 6: 1 Corinthians 1:3;
16:23
Session 7: Ephesians 4:7;
1 Timothy 4:14a
Session 8: Ephesians 5:1; 6:18
Session 9: Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4

LEARNING SCRIPTURE

Session 9

"Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions." —Joel 2:28 (NRSV)

"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." —Acts 2:4 (NRSV)