

WEEK 5: MORE OF THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 1: WE MUST RECEIVE, STUDY, AND USE GOD'S WORD

Acts 17:1-15

1. Hello. We are ready for another week of lessons on the second journey.

If someone asks you how to be saved, what can you answer from Acts 16:31:

2. You can answer: Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household. After the trouble in Philippi, the leaders of the city asked Paul to leave. He went on to Thessalonica and Beroea. Today we will learn from people in these cities. There are three things we must do to God's word in order to be strong Christians.

- (1) We must receive it.
- (2) We must study it.
- (3) We must use it in our lives.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 17:1 to 12. On the map facing this page find Thessalonica and Beroea. Fill in the line from Philippi to Thessalonica, then to Beroea.

3. Paul went to the synagogue in Thessalonica and began preaching. He explained that Christ had to die. He showed how he rose from the dead. He showed that Jesus was the one they were waiting for.

Acts 17:2:

And Paul went in, as was his custom, and for three weeks he argued with them from the scriptures (or writings).

From this verse, where did Paul get the things which he asked them to receive?

4. He got them from the writings. These were the writings of Moses and the prophets. They were God's word. Some of the people believed what Paul said. Later Paul wrote to the young church in Thessalonica about his visit to them.

I Thessalonians 2:13:

when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God.

Did the Thessalonians refuse God's word or receive it? _____

5. They received it. Paul and Silas gave them the word of God. They not only heard it, but they put it into their lives. They turned away from their idols. This is what Paul wrote to them about it.

I Thessalonians 1:9:

For they themselves (people everywhere) report concerning us what a welcome we had among you, and how you (Thessalonians) turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God.

What people show us by what they did that we should receive the word of God?

6. The Thessalonians show us this. Many of them received God's word and turned from idols. This caused the Jews to be very jealous. They tried to attack the missionaries. During the night the missionaries hurried to the city of Bereoa.

Acts 17:11:

Now these Jews (in Bereoa) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with all eagerness.

From what the Bereoans did, what is the first thing we must do with God's word in order to be strong Christians?

- (1) _____
 - (2) We must study it.
 - (3) We must put it into our lives.
-

7. The people in Bereoa received the word of God. They also studied it.

Acts 17:11:

they received the word with all eagerness, examining (or studying) the scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

How often did the people in Bereoa study God's word at this time? _____

8. They studied it every day. Some people think that going to church every Sunday is enough. They think that hearing God's word once a week makes us strong Christians.

Do you think that hearing God's word once a week is enough? _____

9. It is important to go to church every Sunday. It is important to hear God's word and receive it. But this is not enough. We must study it.

One day I went to a meeting for church leaders. One speaker asked how many days a week they ate food. When he asked if they ate once a week they laughed. He asked if they ate twice a week or three times a week. No one raised his hand. He asked how many ate food seven days a week. All the leaders raised their hands. Then he began to talk about the word of God.

What must we do every day to God's word besides reading and receiving it?

10. We must study God's word every day. The speaker asked the leaders what would happen if they did not eat food every day. They said they would become weak and finally die. They agreed that it is important to eat every day. Then the speaker asked, "How many of you study the Bible seven days a week?" No one raised his hand. Most of them said they study the Bible about twice a week.

Can we expect to grow spiritually if we do not study the Bible faithfully? _____

11. We cannot grow in our bodies without food. Neither can we grow in our spirit without studying the Bible every day. The people in Thessalonica and Berea showed three things we must do. We must do these things to God's word in order to be strong Christians.

What is the first thing we must do?

- (1) _____
 - (2) We must study it.
 - (3) We must use it in our lives.
-

12. First we must receive the word of God. But this is not enough.

What is the second thing we must do to God's word in order to be strong Christians? _____

13. We must study it. But this still is not enough. A person may know God's word well in his head. But he may not be doing anything with it in his life. We must also use God's word in our lives. Jesus once talked to the Pharisees about this.

John 5:39-40:

You search the scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to me; yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

Did these men use the word of God in their lives? _____

14. They did not use it. They did not find eternal life in Jesus. They did not obey God's word. James wrote about this later.

James 1:22:

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

This is the third part of becoming strong Christians. Receiving God's word is good, but it is not enough. Studying God's word is important. But by itself it is not enough.

Where must we use God's word? _____

15. We must use God's word in our lives. The people at Berea became Christians. They used the things Paul taught them. The believers at Thessalonica left their idols. They began to pray to God and obey him.

What is the third thing we must do to God's word in order to be strong Christians?

- (1) We must receive it.
- (2) We must study it.
- (3) _____

16. We must use it in our lives. We must find out what God's word says about us. Then we should change what we are doing so that it fits God's word.

What are the first two things we must do to God's word in order to be strong Christians?

- (1) _____
- (2) _____

17. We must receive it, and we must study it. The people in Thessalonica and Berea did this. They listened carefully to Paul. They searched the writings daily.

What is the third thing we must do with God's word in order to be strong Christians? _____

18. We must use it in our lives. The people in Thessalonica and Berea believed the word of God. They acted on it. They turned from their idols to worship God.

Let us say that a man in your village comes to church. He hears God's word and receives it. He also studies his Bible. He reads in the Bible that we should put our trust in God alone. But this man wears charms on his body to protect him from danger.

Which of the three parts of today's lesson is this man not doing? _____

19. Be ready to talk about this in class.

From the lesson of Christians in Thessalonica and Bereoa, what must we do to God's word in order to be strong Christians?

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

WEEK 5: MORE OF THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 2: MEN OF ATHENS COULD KNOW GOD THROUGH CHRIST

Acts 17:16-34

1. We have seen how the missionaries went to Thessalonica and Berea. They gave the people God's word.

From this lesson, what must we do to God's word in order to be strong Christians?

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

2. We must receive it, study it, and use it in our lives. This is what the people in Thessalonica and Berea did. But again Jews came and stirred up the people. Paul had to run away. Silas and Timothy stayed for awhile to teach the new Christians. But Paul went on to the city of Athens. There he preached about the true knowledge of God.

Paul told the men of Athens they could get the true knowledge of God only through Jesus.

Take Your Bible now and read Acts 17:16 to 26. Read verse 16 again. What did the troubled Paul do in Athens? _____

3. The city was full of idols. Perhaps you have visited a city. There are many things to see. Athens was one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Think of Paul walking down the streets. He could see the big buildings. He could see the beautiful streets. But Paul was not happy. He began to preach to the people.

Acts 17:18:

some said, "What would this babbler (or foolish man) say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities (or strange gods)" -- because he preached Jesus and the resurrection.

Whom did Paul preach about? _____

4. Paul preached about Jesus as he always did. Paul could not be happy with the beauty of Athens. He saw that something was wrong. Besides its beauty, Athens was known for its teachers. These men were trying to find the purpose of life. They were always looking for new thoughts. They asked Paul to speak to them.

Acts 17:22:

So Paul, standing in the middle of the Areopagus (one of the important places) said: "Men of Athens, I perceive (or see) that in every way you are very religious (or have many beliefs).

Did the men of Athens know the true God? _____

5. They did not know the true God. Paul did not begin by attacking their idols. If he had done this, they would not have listened. Instead Paul talked about the people. He said that they had many beliefs. They listened.

When we speak to different people, we must remember this. We must not begin by saying how bad they are. We must start with something they want to hear.

Let us say you are talking to a Muslim about Christ. You begin by telling him that he is wrong. Will he listen to you? _____

6. He will not listen. We should not begin that way. Instead we should begin with something he wants to hear. We can begin with something we agree on. With a Muslim you might say: We both believe in one God who created all things. In Athens Paul began speaking carefully. He talked about what he had seen in their city.

Acts 17:23:

For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription (or words), 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

Who were the men of Athens trying to worship, even though they did not know him? _____

7. They were trying to worship God. They built altars to every god they could think of. They thought they might have missed one. So they built an altar to the unknown god. These men spent their lives searching for the true knowledge of God. But look what Paul wrote about man's knowledge.

I Corinthians 1:21:

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

Is it possible for man to find God through his own wisdom? _____

8. **This is not possible. No matter how hard we try, we cannot find God through our own thinking. Remember what Jesus said.**

John 14:6:

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.

From this verse, what is the only way we can find God? _____

9. **The only way to find God is through Jesus. Men have tried to find God in many ways. Paul explained this more fully to the Corinthians.**

I Corinthians 1:22-24:

For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Most of the Jews wanted signs and miracles. They wanted to see God through a king who would fight against the Romans. Did they find God in this way?

10. **They did not find him. They refused Jesus because he did not free them from the Romans. They missed the true knowledge of God.**

The Greeks tried to find God through their own wisdom. The people of Athens were Greeks. Their teachers spent their whole lives searching for the truth.

Who showed them that they would not find the true knowledge of God through their own wisdom? _____

11. **Paul showed them this. Most of the Jews were angry when they heard about Christ and his death. To most of the Greeks this was foolish. But to the Jews who believed, Christ was the power of God. To the Greeks who believed, Christ was the wisdom of God.**

Colossians 2:2-3:

Christ, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

From this verse, what can we get through Christ? _____

12. **We can get wisdom and knowledge. We can get the true knowledge of God. Most of us in Africa believe there is God somewhere. We believe that he made all things. We try many different ways to make peace with God. But Paul's sermon in Athens shows that there is only one way. There is only one way to know God and come to him.**

What is the only way to know God and come to him? _____

13. The only way is through Christ. In his sermon at Athens, Paul began talking about the unknown god. He finished by telling them about the true God through Christ.

Acts 17:31:

he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man (Jesus) whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead.

Take your Bible now to see how the people of Athens answered Paul. Read Acts 17:32 to 34. Some of the men of Athens laughed. Some wanted to listen again. But what did Dionysius and Damaris do? _____

14. A few people in Athens believed. This was a hard place to preach. But a church was planted in Athens.

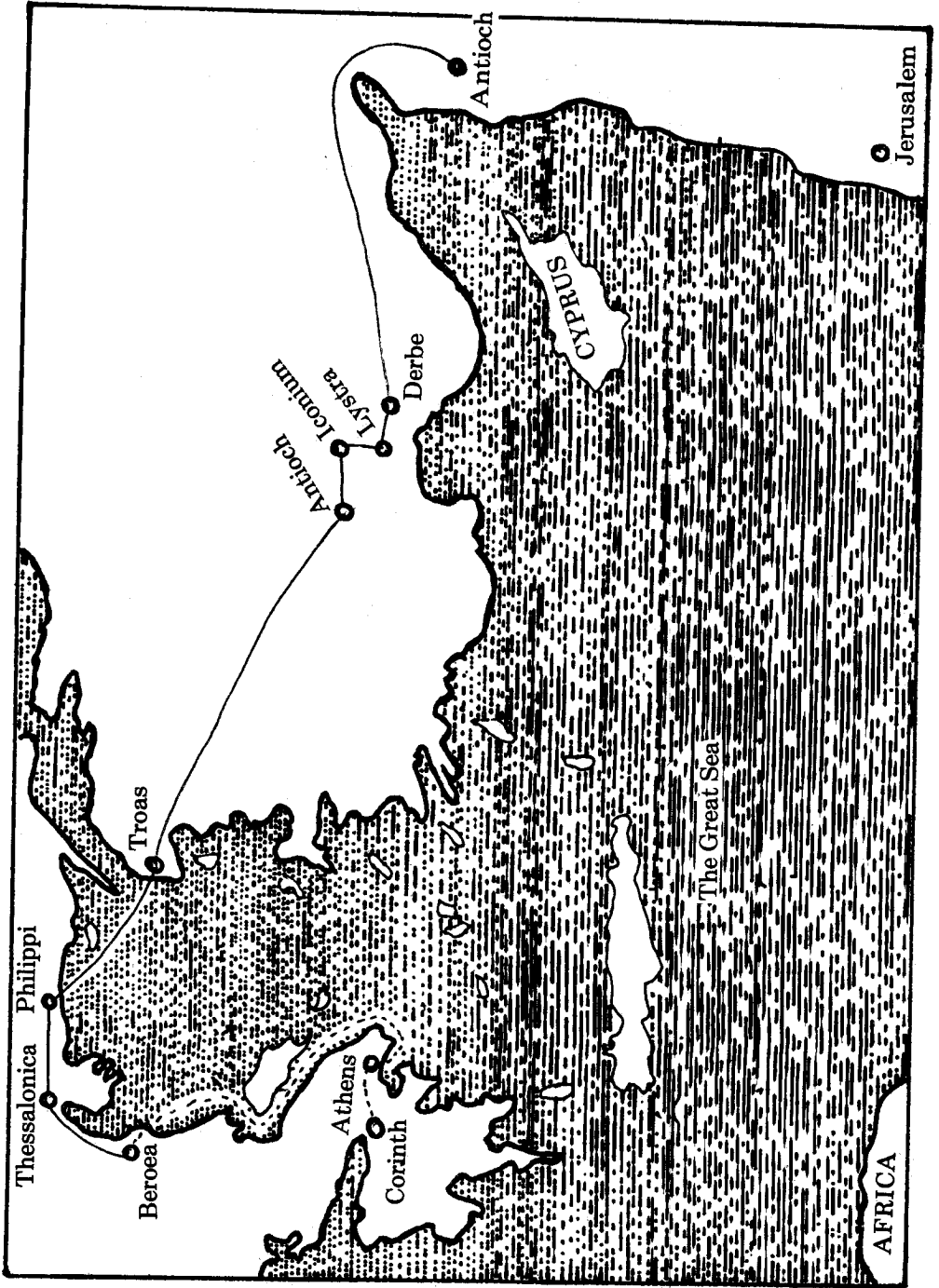
Paul preached to the men of Athens about the true knowledge of God. What did he say is the only way to know God and come to him? _____

15. The only way is through Christ. We believe this lesson will help the people of your church. They need to hear about the men of Athens. They need to hear about the true knowledge of God.

Prepare a sermon to preach from this lesson. On another paper write the big things you will say. Preach the sermon if you can. Bring your paper to class.

16. Paul preached to the men of Athens about the true knowledge of God. What did he say is the only way to know God and come to him? _____

The Second Missionary Journey



WEEK 5: MORE OF THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 3: PAUL WORKED WITH AQUILA AND PRISCILLA AT
CORINTH

Acts 18:1-8

1. We have seen that Paul waited in Athens for Silas and Timothy. While he waited, he preached.

He preached to the men of Athens about the true knowledge of God. What did he say is the only way to know God and come to him? _____

2. Paul preached that the only way is through Christ. From Athens, Paul went on to Corinth. Here he found some friends! Instead of driving him out, some Jews took Paul into their home. This was a great help to Paul. Today we will learn:

(1) In Corinth, Aquila and Priscilla joined Paul in the Lord's work.

(2) Paul made tents with them so he would not be a burden to the new churches.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 18:1 to 8. Find Athens and Corinth on the map facing this page. Fill in the line from Beroea to Athens, and then to Corinth.

3. Corinth was also a very big city. It was full of idols. And it was full of sin. It seems there were many Jews here since there was a synagogue. One Jew and his wife became Paul's friends.

Acts 18:2:

And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, lately come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome.

What Jew and his wife became friends of Paul in Corinth? _____

4. The Jew was Aquila, and his wife was Priscilla. Perhaps they were already Christians, or perhaps they heard the gospel from Paul. When Paul arrived in Corinth he found them. They took him into their home. It is good to think that Paul had friends in this city. Later Aquila and Priscilla went with Paul for awhile.

Acts 18:18:

After this Paul stayed many days longer, and then took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila.

They went to Syria. But in what city did Aquila and Priscilla begin to work with Paul? _____

5. They began to do this in Corinth. They had been driven from Rome by the king. Perhaps they found it hard to leave Rome. But now they saw that God had work for them to do. In Corinth they met Paul. They began to work with him. Later they were able to help a man named Apollos.

Acts 18:26:

He (Apollos) began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him and expounded (or explained) to him the way of God more accurately (or clearly).

Who helped Apollos understand the message of God in a better way? _____

6. Aquila and Priscilla did this. God sent them from Rome to Corinth. There they heard about Jesus and began to serve him. Later from another place, Paul wrote that they were sending greetings from the church in their house.

I Corinthians 16:19:

Aquila and Priscilla, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord.

Who did Aquila and Priscilla begin to work with at Corinth? _____

7. They began to work with Paul. Still later they moved back to Rome again. This was where their home was in the beginning. They had been driven from Rome. God allowed this for a purpose. When they came back they again started a church in their house. This is what Paul said when he wrote to the Romans later on.

Romans 16:3-5:

Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I but also all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks; greet also the church in their house.

Why do you think God allowed Aquila and Priscilla to suffer and be driven from Rome? _____

8. I can see many reasons. They learned about Christ. They became church planters. They were able to help Paul. They helped many other Gentile churches. They started a church in Rome.

What husband and wife began to join Paul in the Lord's work at Corinth? _____

9. It was Aquila and Priscilla. They worked for the Lord with Paul. Paul also worked with them. When Paul went on a missionary journey he liked to work with his hands. This was because he did not want to be a burden to the new churches. He did not want to trouble them for food.

Acts 18:3:

and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them (Aquila and Priscilla), and they worked, for by trade they were tentmakers.

What kind of work did Paul do with his hands so he would not be a burden?

10. He made tents. Tents are small houses made of heavy cloth. These houses can be moved easily. Some people in Paul's time lived in tents. Paul knew how to sew tents. He worked for his own food so he would not be a burden to people.

2 Thessalonians 3:7-9:

For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, we did not eat any one's bread without paying, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you.

From this verse, when did Paul work so he would not be a burden on new churches?

11. He worked night and day. Paul did not become a missionary so he could get money. He wanted to tell people about Christ. He wanted to plant new churches. But doesn't the Bible teach that a pastor should be paid for his work? Yes, it does. Paul knew this. He also knew that in some places this would be hard. New churches would not understand. If the Christians were few they would not be able to care for him all the time.

On whom did Paul not want to be a burden or trouble? _____

12. He did not want to be a burden on new churches. When we go to a new place, we should not expect the young church to support us. We should not complain about our lack of money. If we do this, they will think we are working just for money. Paul worked with his hands while he planted churches.

Why did Paul make tents with Aquila and Priscilla and pay for his own food?

13. He did not want to be a burden on the new churches. We see this clearly in Corinth. Paul sewed tents and paid for his own food.

What husband and wife joined Paul in the Lord's work at Corinth? _____

14. Aquila and Priscilla began to work for the Lord in Corinth. They took Paul into their home.

Why did Paul make tents with them and pay for his own food? _____

15. He did not want to be a burden on the new churches. Sometimes it is hard for a Christian worker to get food and clothes. It is hard to get money to live while working for the Lord. The church should help its pastor and workers. But the workers should not put a burden on the church.

Think about these questions, but do not write answers. How do you get your money to live? Do some people in the church complain about the money you get? Are you a burden to the church? What can you do to help yourself so you are not a burden?

16. We will talk about these questions together.

What husband and wife joined Paul in the Lord's work at Corinth? _____

Why did Paul make tents with them and pay for his own food? _____

WEEK 5: MORE OF THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

DAY 4: GOD SHOWED PAUL THAT HE WAS WITH HIM

Acts 18:9-22

1. Yesterday we saw how Paul moved on to Corinth. Silas and Timothy met him there. When they came, they found him busy preaching in the synagogue. What husband and wife joined Paul in the Lord's work at Corinth? _____

Why did Paul make tents with them and pay for his own food? _____

2. The husband and wife who joined Paul were Aquila and Priscilla. Paul made tents because he did not want to be a burden on the new churches. Paul had been preaching hard. He had been working hard. He had been driven from place to place. In Corinth, God spoke to Paul to encourage him. This is what we will learn today.

From God's message to Paul in Corinth,
we should not be afraid in the work of
the Lord because God is with us.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 18:9 to 17. Read verse 9 again. What did God say Paul should not be because he was with him? _____

3. Paul should not be afraid. We remember that Paul was troubled when he visited Athens.

Acts 17:16:

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked (or troubled) within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.

What was it that troubled Paul in Athens? _____

4. He was troubled because Athens was full of idols. From Athens Paul came to Corinth. Corinth was even worse than Athens. It was a city full of sin. When Paul wrote to the Corinthians he made a list of the kinds of sin in their city.

I Corinthians 6:9-10:

Do not be deceived; neither the immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor sexual perverts, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God.

What was it in Corinth that troubled Paul? _____

5. It was the sin which he found there. But Paul went to the synagogue and began to preach.

Acts 18:6:

And when they opposed and reviled (or laughed at) him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be upon your heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.

Did the Jews in Corinth accept Paul's message? _____

6. They did not accept it. In every place, Paul went first to preach to the Jews. A few of them believed. But we have seen that in each city the Jews turned against Paul. They argued with him and persecuted him. This was hard for Paul.

How would you have felt if you had been in Paul's place and faced idols, sin, and persecution? _____

7. Most of us would have been discouraged. We would have been ready to stop preaching. I think Paul was beginning to wonder what would happen to him. The fighting of the Jews was getting stronger. Just when Paul needed it, he got help.

Acts 18:9-10:

And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man shall attack you to harm you; for I have many people in this city."

Who was with Paul when he was discouraged? _____

8. It was the Lord. God was with him. He told Paul not to be afraid. He said that he would not be hurt in Corinth. We remember that before Jesus left the earth, he gathered the disciples around him. He spoke to them.

Matthew 28:20:

lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

What promise does God give those who work for him? _____

9. He says, "I am with you." He promises to be with us always. Paul knew this, but he needed to be reminded of it in Corinth. Look what happened after God spoke to him.

Acts 18:11:

And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Did Paul leave the work in Corinth after God spoke to him? _____

10. He did not give up. The work was still hard, but Paul knew God was with him. He knew he was doing what God wanted him to do.

Acts 18:12:

But when Gallio was proconsul (or governor) of Achaia (the province where Corinth was), the Jews made a united attack upon Paul and brought him before the tribunal (or the court).

In what city was Paul when God told him not to be afraid because he was with him?

11. Paul was in Corinth. This was a difficult time. But later Paul wrote about his trust in God with these words.

Romans 8:31:

What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us?

Can we also take the promise that God is with us when we are discouraged?

12. The promise is for us too. Paul learned that God is on our side. When this is true, no power on earth can stop our work. God does not call us to work that is too big for us. Sometimes it seems that we cannot do the work. But God will help us.

From God's message to Paul in Corinth, why should we not be afraid in the work of the Lord?

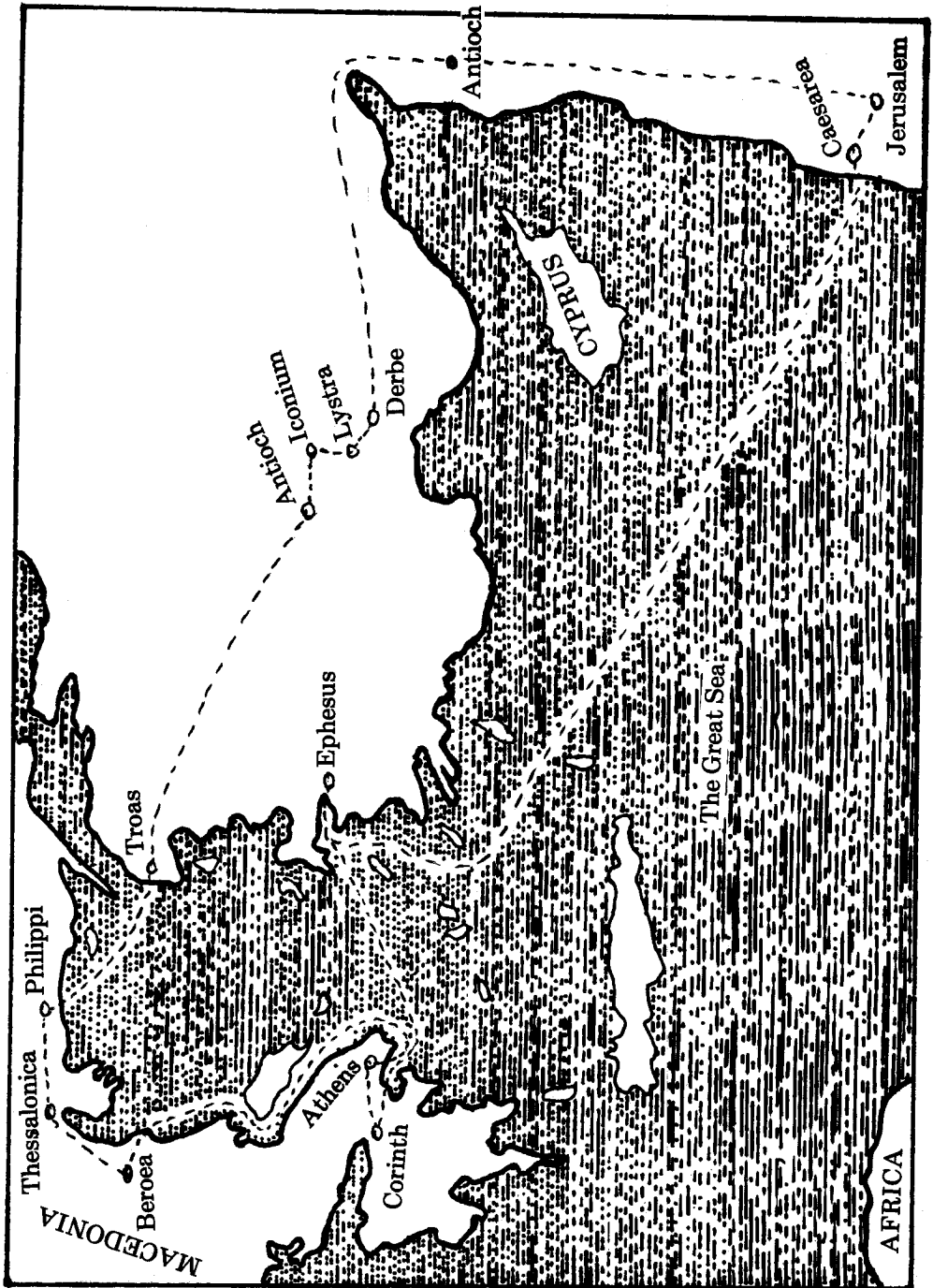
13. We should not be afraid because God is with us. Paul was sure of this in Corinth. He stayed there a long time. Then he went to one more new city on this journey. He went to Ephesus. He stayed there only a short time, but he promised to come back if God would let him.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 18:18-22. Was this the end of the first missionary journey, or the end of the second journey?

14. This was the end of the second journey. From Ephesus Paul sailed to Caesarea and went on to Jerusalem. Then he returned to Antioch. Paul had visited many places. He had worked hard for the Lord. He had planted many new churches.

From God's message to Paul in Corinth, why should we not be afraid in the work of the Lord?

The Second Missionary Journey



15. We should not be afraid because God is with us.

Acts 18:22:

When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church (at Jerusalem) and then went down to Antioch.

Look at the map facing this page. Put your pencil on the first Antioch north of Jerusalem. Fill in the line going to all the cities of the second journey. Come all the way back to Antioch again.

16. From God's message to Paul in Corinth, why should we not be afraid in the work of the Lord?

WEEK 5: MORE OF THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 5: REVISION

Today we will go over what we have learned the last two weeks. It is all about the second missionary journey. If you can answer these questions you have learned well. Try to answer all of them. Then go back and find the answers. Be sure you have the right answer written for every question.

Questions from Week 4.

1. What lesson can we learn from the argument between Paul and Barnabas over Mark?

2. What three things in Timothy's life prepared him for God's work?
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____
3. After they began the second missionary journey, what two kinds of things did the Holy Spirit show Paul and his helpers?
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
4. Where did the Holy Spirit send Paul so he would begin to preach the gospel in Europe?

5. From Paul's witness to Lydia in Philippi, what two things must a Christian worker be willing to do?
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
6. If someone asks you how to be saved, what can you answer him from Acts 16:31?

Questions from Week 5.

7. From the lesson of Christians in Thessalonica and Berea, what must we do to God's word in order to be strong Christians?
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____

8. Paul preached to the men of Athens about the true knowledge of God. What did he say is the only way to know God and come to him? _____

9. What husband and wife joined Paul in the Lord's work at Corinth?

Why did Paul make tents with them and pay for his own food? _____

10. From God's message to Paul in Corinth, why should we not be afraid in the work of the Lord?

When you know all these answers, go back to page 70. Hide the answers you have written. Try to answer all the questions.

It is good to know all these teachings. But we must also obey them. You have been praying about sending missionaries from your church. You have helped others to pray and talk about it. Now it is time to find people to send and places to go.

Remember that Paul witnessed to people who would listen. You have been thinking about people who need Christ. Now meet together with other leaders who want to send missionaries. Plan a short journey to find people who will listen. Perhaps you should be one who goes. Let the group choose one or two others.

You will not stay long on this journey. You just want to find places where people do not know Christ. You want to find people who will listen. Some people will ask you to come back again. These are the people who must have missionaries.

Write the names of those who will take this journey.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

When you have found places where people want missionaries, write the names of the places.

(1) _____

(2) _____

The Third Missionary Journey

