

Missionaries
Lesson -12 Paul: Mission and Message

Memory Verse **Hand out Scriptures to read**

Phil. 3:13, 14, (NKJV) *Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. sake.*"

Paul's 13 letters to the believers applied faith to their lives. He touched doctrinal as well as practical topics. He counseled, encouraged, and admonished on matters of personal Christianity, relationships, and church life. Nevertheless, throughout his letters his main theme was Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2).

Greeks and Jews (Sunday)

Deuteronomy 6:22 (ESV) *And the Lord showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes.*

***Acts 7:36** (NKJV) *He brought them out, after he had shown wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness forty years.*

1 Corinthians 1:22–24 (NKJV) *For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

When talking to Jews he would reference Israel's History

Acts 13:16–17 (NKJV) *Then Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen: ¹⁷ The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He brought them out of it.*

Acts 17:1–3 (NKJV) *Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."*

When talking to Gentiles he would appeal to reason

***Acts 17:20–21** (NKJV) *For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean." ²¹ For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing.*

Acts 17:22–23 (NKJV) ²² Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³ for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you:

Acts 14:14–15 (NKJV) *But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out ¹⁵ and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them,*

Soldiers and Athletes (Monday)

Paul spent years chained to, escorted, or guarded by Soldiers.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV) *Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

***2 Timothy 2:3–4** (NKJV) *You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.*

2 Corinthians 10:3–5 (NKJV) *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
Ephesians 6:10–12 (NKJV) *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**

Athletes and Sports

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NKJV) *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. ²⁵ And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. ²⁶ Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight (Box) not as one who beats the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*

Galatians 5:7 *You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?*

2 Timothy 2:5–6 (NKJV) *And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops.*

2 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV) *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

Paul and the Law (Tuesday)

Romans 3:31 (NKJV) *Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.*

Romans 6:15 (NKJV) *What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!*

Romans 2:13 (NKJV) *(for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified;)*

2 Peter 3:15–17 (ESV) *And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, ¹⁶ as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. ¹⁷ You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.*

The Cross and the Resurrection (Wednesday)

1 Cor 2:2 (NKJV) *For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.*

1 Corinthians 1:22–24 (ESV) *For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

***Philippians 3:10** (NKJV) *that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,*

The Risen Christ, Our Hope

1 Corinthians 15:12–23 (NKJV) *Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁴ And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. ¹⁵ Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. ¹⁶ For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁷ And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! ¹⁸ Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. ²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³ But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.*

Getting Along (Thursday)

Acts 15:37–41 (NKJV) *Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. ³⁸ But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. ⁴¹ And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.*

2 Timothy 4:11 *Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.*

Romans 12:18 (NKJV) *If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.*

Hebrews 12:14 (NKJV) *Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:*