



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation
Unit 4, Lesson 17

Paul's Third Journey

Lesson Aim: To know we can encourage the church.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite thing to do at church?

GAME: Starting Churches

THE WORSHIP THE SPIRIT WHO CONNECTS US

Read Worship Scripture: Romans 15:5-6.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

THE WORD PAUL ENCOURAGES THE CHURCH

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God gave Paul friends who worked, served, and taught with Him.

Today, we will hear about Paul's third journey. Point to Paul's Third Journey (Circa 54-58 A.D.). **All three journeys began in Antioch. Paul visited and wrote letters to churches he started or visited before to help these new churches connect and grow closer to Jesus and to each other.** Show a map of Paul's Third Missionary Journey. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 18:23; 20:19-24, 35-38; 21:13. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Acts 18:23. Pray. Read Acts 18:23.

Then Paul traveled to Ephesus, where he stayed for over 2 years. Every day while he was there, he led discussions about following Jesus. Paul even did miracles in Jesus' name!

Paul left Ephesus and traveled through Macedonia and Greece. He stopped in many places on his way to Jerusalem. From a city called Miletus, he asked the leaders of the church in Ephesus to come and meet with him so he could tell them goodbye. He knew he was headed to Jerusalem and would never see them again. Let's read what Paul told the leaders that day. Read Acts 20:19-24, 35-38.

As Paul headed for Jerusalem, his friends pleaded with him to not go because they knew people were plotting against him there. Let's read what Paul told his friends. Read Acts 21:13. His journey ended when he was arrested in Jerusalem.

THE WAY ENCOURAGING THE CHURCH

Why did Paul return to the places he had been? (To strengthen the disciples—to encourage them to keep following Jesus and to grow in their faith.) **Ever since Paul's journeys, believers have been starting churches, visiting them, and writing letters to help them grow. We can encourage believers around the world even if we are not able to travel like Paul. Let's brainstorm ways we can help other churches and ministries as Paul did.**

What did the Holy Spirit warn Paul that he would face? (Hardships and prison.) **Paul compared his life to a race with a certain task Jesus had given him. What was that task?** (To testify to the gospel of God's grace. This means to tell people about God's goodness to us in giving us a way to be forgiven and have eternal life through believing in Jesus.) **Jesus has given this task to all believers. How can you tell others of God's goodness to you?**

GAME: CHURCH SEARCH

Paul connected with the churches in two ways: visits and letters.

In teams, children race to track Paul's journey on their maps. As a class, review Paul's journey on the large map.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Paul knew God wants people from all over the world to believe in Jesus and follow Him. Over 700 years before Paul's journeys, God promised to bring people to Himself. Reveal Isaiah 43:5-7. Find It First. Highlight. Read. **God brings us to close to Him by helping us believe in Jesus. Paul saw this in many lands.**

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Paul's Third Missionary Journey Map Challenge
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Paul saying goodbye to the Ephesians
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Church at Home

GAME: Return Visits

CRAFT: Paul's Letter Keeper

DISCUSSIONS: Who Is Our Paul?, Riot in Ephesus

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Love Shuffle, Do the Wave

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW