

Personal weekly Bible readings to go deeper into Scripture.

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

Day 1 – Chapter 30 of “The Story”

Day 2 – Acts 21-23

Day 3 – Acts 27-28

Day 4 – Ephesians 2-6

Day 5 – 2 Timothy 1-4

Questions to consider while reading the Bible:

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a sin to avoid?

Is there a promise to rely on?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there a challenge in which to respond?



The Story: Paul's Mission

April 13-14, 2013

“The Story” Chapter 29; Acts 13:1-12

Please use this space to take notes during the message today.



While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13: 2-3

Adult and teen small group discussion points

Please use these discussion questions in your small group or with your teens.

1. One message that Paul brought as he proclaimed the Gospel is that heaven is our true home and, in Christ, our resurrection is sure. How does a daily awareness that heaven awaits all those who have faith in Jesus bring hope, encouragement, and confidence to live for God today?
2. As the early church began spreading the life-saving message of Jesus, the truth of the Gospel was declared again and again. What is the heartbeat of the Gospel in each of these presentations:
 - As Paul preached to the people in Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:13-39; “The Story,” pp. 408-409).
 - As Paul wrote to the church at Rome (Romans 1:16-17; 3-6; “The Story,” pp. 432-434).
3. What would you share with someone who came to you and said, “I have watched your life and listened to your words and I want what you have. What must I believe and do to be saved?” (Read Romans 3:23, 3:10-11, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-13, 5:1, 8:1, 8:38-39 for guidance.)
4. Paul and his companions not only face spiritual attack but also resistance from the religious and business communities (Acts 19:8-10, 23-41; “The Story,” pp. 421-423). How did they face both while they ministered in Ephesus? What are some ways we might face the same sort of resistance as we follow Jesus today?
5. As Paul wrote to the believers in Corinth, he addressed the problem of division in the church (1 Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1-11; “The Story,” pp. 424-425). What was the issue there and how can the church today guard against similar assaults by Satan?
6. The church is a body, and every member is a specific part with a specific function (1 Cor. 12; “The Story,” pp. 426-427). What is one spiritual gift God has given you and how are you developing and using it for His glory? How can your group members encourage you as you seek to use your gifts to serve Jesus?
7. Which of “the fruit of the Spirit” that Paul listed (Gal. 5:22-23; “The Story,” p. 431) do you desire to see grow in your life? How can your group members pray as you seek maturity in this area?



8. One of the great blessings of receiving Jesus is that we become children of God (Romans 8:14-17; “The Story,” p. 435). What does it mean to say, “I am a child of God?” How does your relationship with God grow and change when you learn to see yourself in this way?

Close in prayer.

Family’s with kids discussion points

Please use these discussion questions with your children.

Memory verse: He asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus.” Acts 16:30–31

1. Paul and Silas traveled around preaching about God. Some people loved them; others wanted to hurt them. One time they were arrested and chained up in jail. Instead of feeling sorry for themselves, they sang and prayed to God. Why were they doing this?
2. How would you act if you were thrown in jail? Would you sing? Would you be scared?
3. Why weren’t Paul and Silas scared?
4. A powerful earthquake opened all the jail doors and made the chains fall off. Why didn’t Paul and Silas escape?
5. The jailer nearly killed himself when he saw the prison doors open, because his punishment would’ve been death if the prisoners escaped. But Paul shouted, “We’re all here.” The jailer immediately wanted to know how to be saved and how he could serve Paul’s God. Talk about how witnessing with actions can sometimes be more effective than telling people about God with words.

Pray together: Dear God, help me to live my life in a way that leads others to you. Thank you for the gift of Jesus who lived without sin, yet took my sin to the cross. Thank you for forgiving all of my sins and for the sure hope that when I die I will spend eternity with you. Amen

