



# *The Story @ Home*

PK-2<sup>nd</sup>

## **Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**

Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2019-2020)

## **Lesson #2-33**

Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

### *Last Week*

Last week Peter and John proved to be the witnesses Jesus said they would become in this week's story as they heal a man lame from birth in the name of Jesus. (Acts 3:1-10).

### *This Week*

We move from Jerusalem and Palestine to follow Paul and Silas as they start the church in Thessalonica. Just as Peter healed in the name of Jesus, Paul will preach in his name (Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10).

### *Story Summary*

Jesus turned the world upside down and offended people with his teaching. As Paul and Silas enter Thessalonica to proclaim the good news they, too, are met with mixed reactions. Paul and Silas are accused of treason for naming Jesus as king rather than the ruling emperor. When they are bailed out of their troubles in Thessalonica, they simply move on to other places. Paul and Silas fondly remembered their visit and sent a letter back to Thessalonica to encourage the new believers, reminding them that they have been chosen by God and have the gift of Jesus Christ.

### *Practice: Prayer*

Paul practiced a powerful form of relationship building by noticing and encouraging the strengths that were evident in a community. Noticing people's gifts and strengths requires truly paying attention to them. It means not taking them for granted. Thanking God for one another's gifts builds up and supports the community. Write letters to God this week and share them during your family prayer time.

### *The Point*

We are called to be examples of God's love to those around us.

### *Bible Nuts & Bolts*

#### *Maps of Paul's Travels*

Paul helped spread Christianity throughout the Mediterranean. Paul took three mission trips to share the message of Jesus with the gentiles. The first trip was to Asia Minor, what we call Turkey today. Paul took a second trip to Greece and Asia Minor. His third trip was also to Greece and Asia Minor. Paul helped found churches in many of the major cities he visited. Paul took a final trip to Jerusalem and was imprisoned. He then was transferred to Caesarea, before his voyage to Rome. Tradition has it that Paul was beheaded while in Rome around 62 CE. Many Bibles include maps in the appendices, which provide visual guides of Paul's missionary travels.

### *Next Week*

Next week will bring the story of Paul with another congregation, this one in Corinth. Paul has a much more contentious relationship with this group (Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18).

### Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about the theme that God Works through Us?
- ✚ What does this scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

**Sunday—Read Acts 17:1-9**

The church at Thessalonica.

Find out the story of how your congregation started.

**Monday—Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

Paul's letter to the Thessalonians.

Paul thanks God for the people he writes letters to. Write a thank you letter to God as a family.

**Tuesday—Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

Leading a life worthy of God.

List positive traits that young children possess. How can these traits relate to your faith?

**Wednesday—Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16**

Suffering for Christ.

Share one way that you try to imitate Christ.

**Thursday—Read Acts 17:10-15**

Paul and Silas in Berea.

Use a Bible map or search online to trace Paul's journeys.

**Friday—Read Acts 17:16-28**

Paul speaks in Athens.

Find Athens on a map or globe.

**Saturday—Read Acts 17:29-34**

Athens responds to Paul.

How would you respond to Paul? Share your speech.