

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)*

### Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God's Will</i>	The Holy Spirit sent the apostles Paul and Barnabas on a missionary journey to preach to all people, Jews and Gentiles alike, in distant regions.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God established the plan of salvation so that men can be saved through belief in the gospel. God desires for all men to be saved.
<i>Good Work</i>	Understand the commission that the Lord has commanded; equip ourselves with general and spiritual knowledge; share the gospel wherever we go.

### Introduction

Antioch in Syria was populated by diverse groups of people and was an important junction of trade routes between Damascus, Palestine, Egypt, and the Aegean. It was also a center of architecture and learning. It was at this strategic city that Paul began and ended his missionary journeys.

#### A. In the Footsteps of Paul

Paul's first missionary journey was far-reaching, and full of many obstacles and challenges. Eventually, however, he made it safely back to Antioch in Syria, establishing and helping churches as he went.

#### B. The Challenges and Obstacles of Preaching

Belief in the gospel opens the inner eyes of men so that they are no longer slaves to darkness but walk as children of light. But preaching the gospel is not easy. Satan will not surrender a soul without a fight, and he seeks to prevent people from receiving and accepting the truth.

#### C. Why Do We Encounter Obstacles?

1. We belong to different realms
2. The people of the world do not want their wrong deeds exposed
3. Different faiths
4. If we desire to live a godly life, we will suffer persecution

### Life Application

#### 1. The Reasons We Preach

Despite the many hardships, Paul willingly persisted in the work. What can compel us to do the same? Know the Lord Jesus and His sacrifice of love; be convinced of God's calling; understand the gospel's power; see our deliverance from Satan and sin; and our deliverance from death into God's kingdom.

#### 2. Preparing to Preach

- a. General Knowledge
  - i. Learn different languages (Acts 21:37–40)
  - ii. Understand the world around us (Acts 17:16–31)
- b. Spiritual Knowledge
  - i. Know the Bible (Acts 17:1–4; 8:26–35; 2 Cor 10:4)
  - ii. Develop excellent spiritual character (1 Tim 4:12; 1 Pet 2:12)
  - iii. Experience God (Acts 26:12–18)

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## Lesson 7 Homework Assignment

### Paul's First Missionary Journey

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Romans 1:16):

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1. According to the memory verse, what kind of power does the gospel hold?
2. What made Antioch of Syria a significant city?
3. Name three obstacles that Paul and his companions faced during their missionary journey.
4. What are two reasons we encounter obstacles?
5. Name at least three different tools that we should have in order to preach.
6. How can you personally prepare yourself to answer God's calling and contribute to His missionary work?