

WEEK 4: THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 1: GOD USED PAUL AND BARNABAS AFTER THEIR
DISAGREEMENT

Acts 15:34-41

1. We are happy that you are with us to study the second missionary journey. We will see how God used Paul again in his work. We will see how the church spread.

In what two ways did the letter from the Jerusalem Council help the church?

(1) _____

(2) _____

2. The letter helped them keep the truth of the gospel. It allowed the church to go on growing. After this, Paul and Barnabas stayed for a while at the first Antioch. Then they decided to visit the churches again. But they had a disagreement. They argued with each other. This was wrong, but we learn something from it.

God uses people for his work even though we fail him sometimes.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 15:35 to 41. Read verse 36 again. What did Paul want to do?

3. Paul wanted to visit the brethren again. He wanted to visit the churches they had planted. Paul and Barnabas had been in Antioch for some time. But they did not forget the new churches.

Acts 15:37-38:

And Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn (or gone back) from them.

What two men had an argument? _____

4. Paul and Barnabas had an argument. Barnabas wanted to take Mark again. But Paul did not want to take him. They were just ready to start their second journey when this trouble came.

Acts 15:38:

But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn (or gone back) from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work.

Why did Paul not want to take Mark with them?

5. He did not want to take him because Mark had gone back. You may remember that Mark started the first journey with Paul and Barnabas. But he did not stay with them.

Acts 13:13:

Now Paul and his company (or those with him) set sail from Paphos, and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John (or Mark) left them and returned to Jerusalem.

Because of this, what happened between Paul and Barnabas at the beginning of the second journey?

6. They had an argument. Barnabas wanted to give Mark another chance. Paul did not think this was good. The argument became so bad that they decided to separate. Perhaps Paul was thinking of Jesus' words.

Luke 9:62:

"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

But was it right for Paul and Barnabas to argue in this way? _____

7. It was not right. As Christians we should be united. God does not want us to argue. When this happens, we need to confess it openly to God. We need to pray for strength to work together.

Acts 15:39:

And there arose a sharp contention (or argument), so that they separated from each other.

What did Paul and Barnabas do after they argued? _____

8. After they argued, they separated.

Acts 15:39-41:

Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and departed ... through Syria and Cilicia.

Did God refuse to use Paul and Barnabas or did he still use them?

9. God still used them. He gave them another chance to do right. But what about Mark? Mark had failed. He had not been willing to suffer in God's work. Paul was a man who suffered much and worked hard. He did not accept weakness in others. God's work needs men who are willing to suffer. We cannot turn and run when things are hard.

But what does God give us after we fail him? _____

10. He gives us another chance. This is what God did for Mark. It is true that Mark had failed. But one of the missionaries wanted to help him. Mark was willing to try again. It was good that someone helped him because Mark did become a good worker. He became willing to suffer. God used him.

Which missionary wanted Mark to be used by God even though he once failed?

11. This was Barnabas. Barnabas always seemed to be helping people. You remember that he helped Paul to be received by the church in Jerusalem. Now he was helping Mark have another chance to serve God. Later Paul accepted Mark too. He wrote this to Timothy.

2 Timothy 4:11:

Get Mark and bring him with you; for he is very useful in serving me.

God uses us in his work even though we sometimes do what? _____

12. God does this even though we sometimes fail him. Perhaps you are afraid to witness or to suffer. You think people will laugh at you or hurt you. Perhaps you have failed as Mark did. But later God used him. God will forgive our failures as we confess them to him. If we depend on him, he will give us strength and courage. He will use us to do his work.

What lesson can we learn from the argument between Paul and Barnabas over Mark? _____

13. If you only said: God uses people in His work, your answer is not full. The lesson is: God uses people in his work, even though we sometimes fail him. Now what about the work of Paul and Barnabas? God gave them another chance too. He used both of them on their journeys. Now there were two groups of missionaries instead of one. They went to different places. Their argument was wrong in itself, but God brought good out of it.

How did God use Paul and Barnabas even after they failed him? _____

14. God used them to go on preaching. He blessed the work of both men. Barnabas and Mark went to Cyprus. Paul and Silas went to Derbe and Lystra and other cities of Syria.

Acts 15:41:

And he (Paul) went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

What lesson can we learn from the argument between Paul and Barnabas over Mark? _____

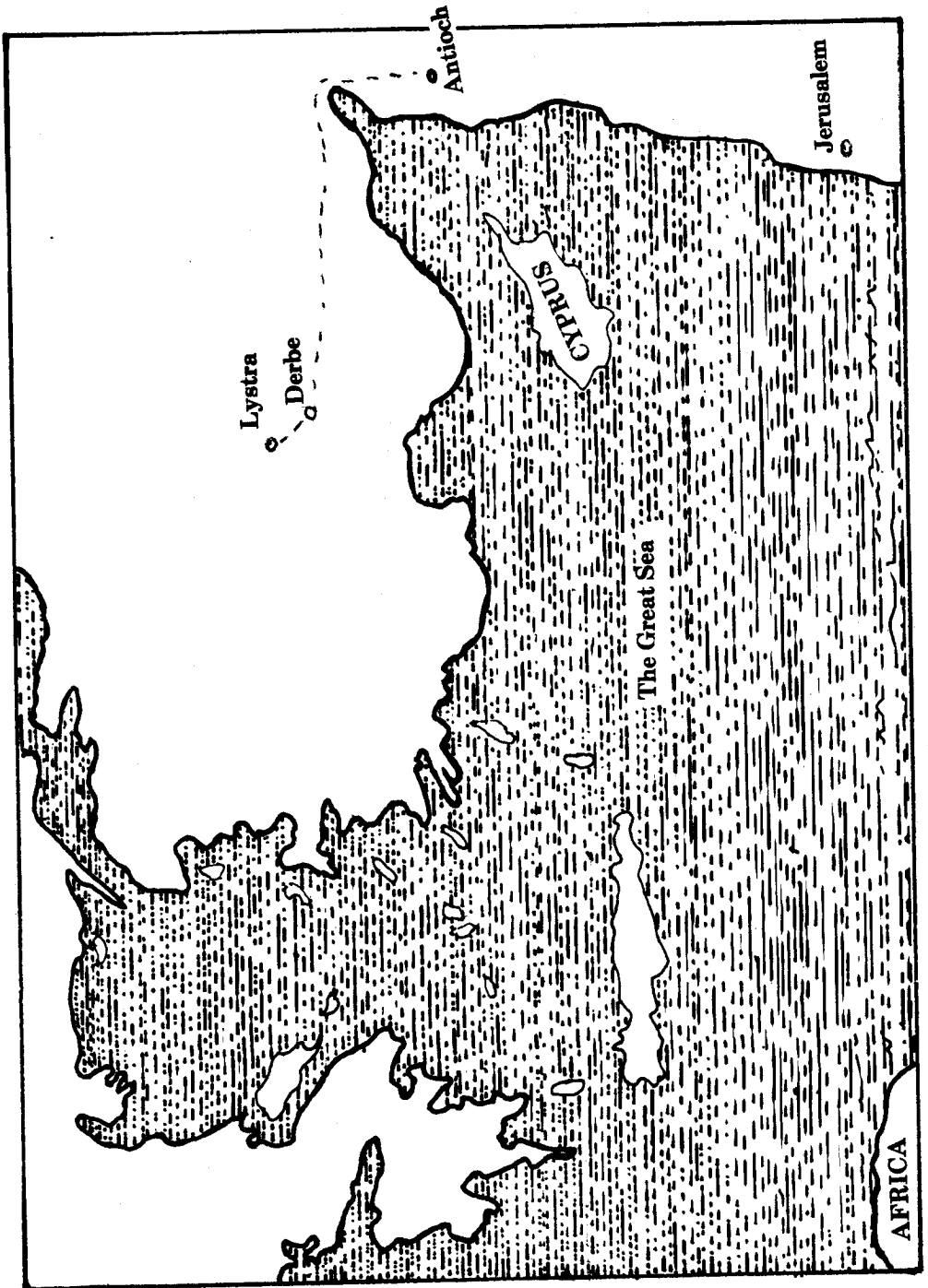
15. God uses people in his work even though we sometimes fail him. Perhaps this has happened to you. Perhaps you were once afraid and went back. Or you were weak and listened to temptation. Perhaps you had an argument and separated from someone. You failed to serve God as you should. As you saw your sin, God gave you another chance to serve him.

If this happened to you, what new chance did God give you to serve him? _____

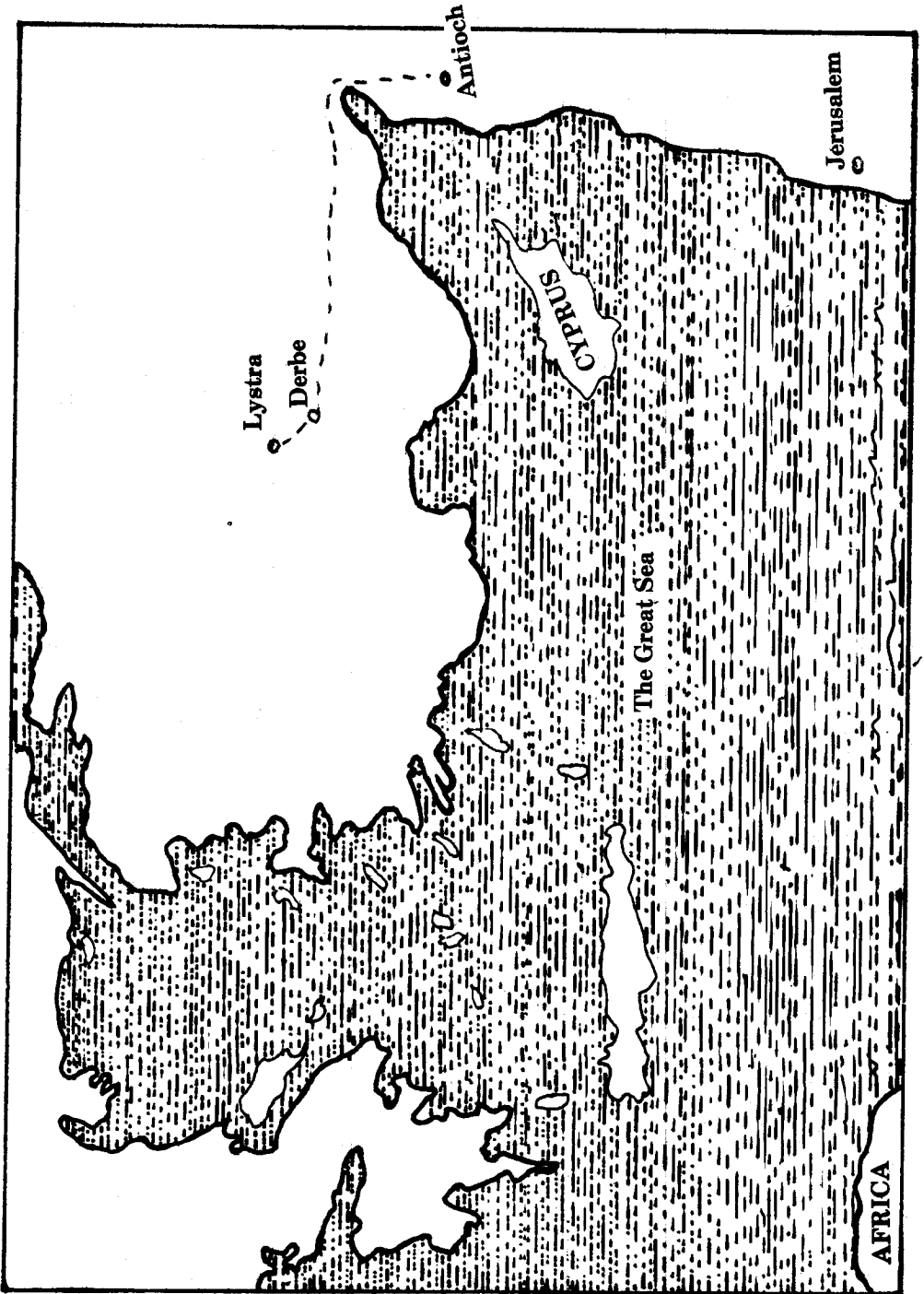
16. Be ready to share this with the class.

What lesson can we learn from the argument between Paul and Barnabas over Mark?

The Second Missionary Journey



The Second Missionary Journey



WEEK 4: THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 2: TIMOTHY WAS PREPARED FOR GOD'S WORK

Acts 16:1-5

1. What lesson can we learn from the argument between Paul and Barnabas over Mark?

2. We learn that God still uses people even if we sometimes fail him. God used Paul and Silas on the second missionary journey. As they went, they found Timothy. Timothy was only a young believer. But he was well prepared to do God's work. Today we will learn three ways in which Timothy was prepared.

- (1) He was well taught in God's word.
- (2) He was called by God.
- (3) He was willing to obey.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 16:1 to 5. Read verse 1 again. Where did Paul find Timothy?

3. Paul found Timothy at Lystra. Paul and Silas went north and west as they left Antioch. Perhaps they visited Paul's home in Tarsus. After a time they came to churches planted on the first journey.

Acts 15:41 and 16:1:

And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. And he came also to Derbe and to Lystra.

On the map facing this page, fill in the line from Antioch to Derbe, and then to Lystra. This is the beginning of the second missionary journey.

4. Paul and Silas went back to Lystra. They may have been gone for five years. At Lystra Paul had been stoned. Now he came back and found a young believer. Perhaps this young man had become a believer on Paul's first visit. He knew the word of God well.

Acts 16:3:

Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him.

Who did Paul find at Lystra who was well taught in God's word?

5. Paul found Timothy at Lystra. Timothy was the son of a Jewish woman. Her name was Eunice. Later Paul wrote to Timothy about the way he had been taught.

2 Timothy 1:5:

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you.

Do you think Timothy was taught God's word when he was a child or after he was grown?

6. Good grandmothers and mothers teach their children the word of God. Lois and Eunice must have taught Timothy when he was small. Paul also wrote this.

2 Timothy 3:14-15:

continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you have learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings.

Was Timothy well taught in the word of God? _____

7. Timothy was well taught in God's word. It seems he was taught from childhood. God needs workers who are well taught. We must have God's word in order to do his work.

Timothy was well taught in God's word, called by God, and willing to obey. What did all this prepare him to do?

8. This prepared him to do God's work. It is important to be well prepared. You do not go to the field without a hoe. You would get nothing done. You cannot go into God's field without his word. This is your hoe. The word of God has power.

Romans 1:16:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel: it is the power of God for salvation.

What is the first thing in Timothy's life which prepared him for God's work?

- (1) _____
- (2) He was called by God.
- (3) He was willing to obey.

9. First he was well taught in God's word. Now we will see how he was called to God's work. From Paul's letter to Timothy we see that prophecies were given. These prophecies told how Timothy would serve God.

I Timothy 4:14:

Do not neglect the gift you have which was given you by prophetic utterance (or prophecies) when the council of elders laid their hands upon you.

Who gives prophecies to men about things that will happen? _____

10. God gives prophecies. Men speak them. Sometimes God calls people to his work in this way. We also see that the leaders laid their hands on this young man. They prayed for him and set him aside for God's work.

2 Timothy 1:6, 14:

I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ... guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit.

Who did God call to his work in this way? _____

11. God called Timothy to his work. This was the second thing in Timothy's life which prepared him for God's work.

What was the first thing?

- (1) _____
(2) He was called by God.

12. The first thing was: He was well taught in God's word. But this was not enough. We can know God's word very well. But we need something more to work for him.

What was the second thing in Timothy's life that prepared him for God's work?

13. Timothy was called by God. He could have refused and done nothing. But Timothy was not like that. A servant of God must be willing to obey. A soldier can be called to the army. He can be well trained. But if he refuses to obey, he is not a good soldier.

When Timothy was willing to obey, what did this prepare him for? _____

14. It prepared him for God's work. You remember Mark. He found the work too hard at first. But Timothy was willing. The Christians spoke well of him. Later Paul wrote to him.

2 Timothy 2:3-4:

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits (or the work of ordinary people), since his aim is to satisfy (or obey) the one who enlisted (or called) him.

What was Timothy willing to do even if it meant suffering? _____

15. Timothy was willing to obey. We see that Paul wanted Timothy to be circumcised. Why did Paul want this? It was surely not to help Timothy be saved? This question had been settled at the Jerusalem Council. But Paul wanted Timothy to be able to preach to all kinds of people.

Acts 16:3:

Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews that were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

Was Timothy willing to obey in this? _____

16. Timothy did not refuse. He wanted to be prepared to witness to Jews, as well as Gentiles. If Timothy came to Jews uncircumcised, they would not listen. If he was circumcised, they would listen to him as a Jew. He could go into their synagogues. After they received Christ, they would see that faith is more important than circumcision. This is what Paul said about God's work.

I Corinthians 9:20:

To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews.

What was the third thing in Timothy's life, shown by his circumcision, which prepared him for God's work?

- (1) He was well taught in God's word.
- (2) He was called by God.
- (3) _____

17. He was willing to obey. He went with Paul and Silas on their journey. The Holy Spirit used them in a great way.

Acts 16:5:

So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

What were the first two things in Timothy's life which prepared him for God's work?

- (1) _____
- (2) _____

18. First, Timothy was well taught in God's word. Then he was called by God. What is the third thing in his life which prepared him for God's work? _____

19. Timothy was willing to obey. He served God faithfully for many years. God used him to become a leader in the church. There are young men like Timothy in our churches today. They need to be prepared for God's work. We leaders must help them. We must take time with them and teach them. We must help them hear God's call. We must show them how to work for God.

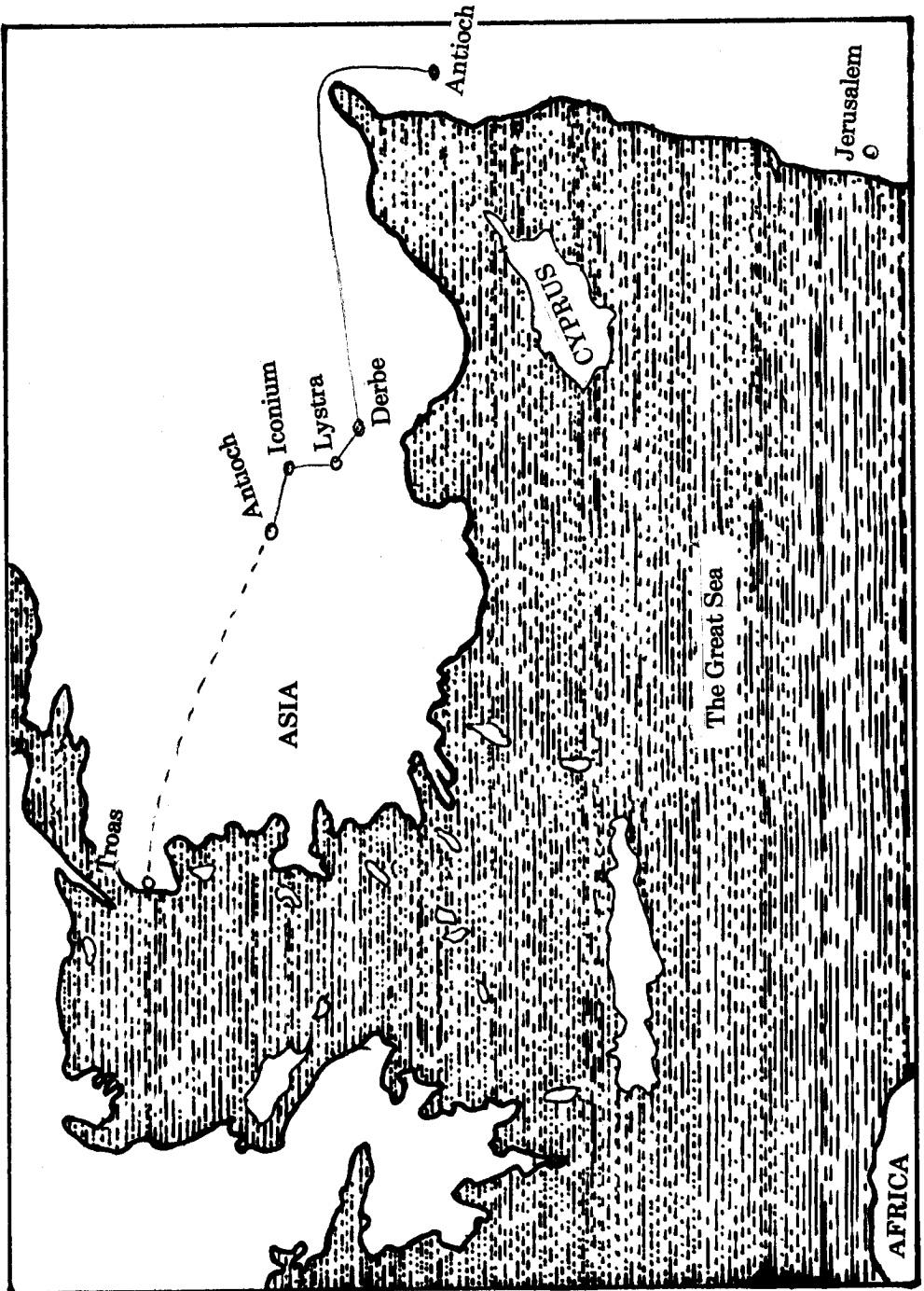
What do the leaders in your church do to help prepare young people for God's work? _____

20. Be ready to talk about this in class.

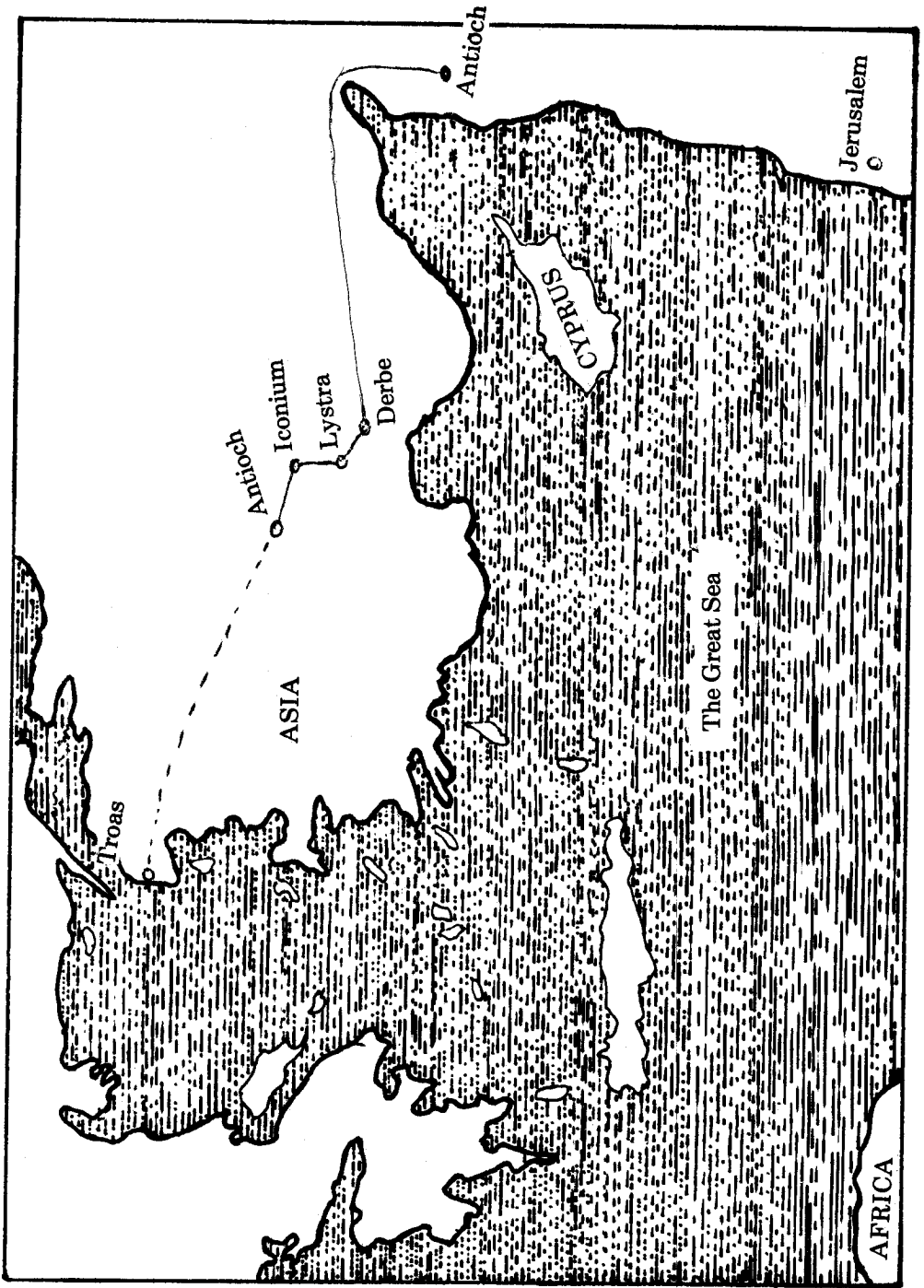
What three things in Timothy's life prepared him for God's work?

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

The Second Missionary Journey



The Second Missionary Journey



WEEK 4: THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 3: THE HOLY SPIRIT LED PAUL TO MACEDONIA

Acts 16:6-10

1. Yesterday we saw a new worker join Paul on his journey. This young man was Timothy.

What three things in Timothy's life prepared him for God's work?

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

2. He was well taught in God's word. He was called by God. He was willing to obey. Paul and his helpers were now ready to move on to new places. As they went, they were led by the Holy Spirit. Today we will learn two kinds of things the Holy Spirit showed them. We will see where he led them.

- (1) The Holy Spirit showed them what not to do and what to do.
- (2) He led them to Macedonia so they would preach the gospel in Europe.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 16:6 to 10. We see that Paul went through Phrygia and Galatia and on to Troas. On the map facing this page, fill in the line from Antioch through Asia to Troas

3. Paul went to all the churches around Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. Then he went to other places. He wanted to plant many more new churches. He wanted to go into Asia. But it seems God did not want him there.

Acts 16:6:

And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.

Who told Paul and his helpers not to speak the word in Asia? _____

4. The Holy Spirit did this. Asia was a very big province at that time. There were many big cities and many people. Yet the Holy Spirit told Paul not to preach there. This seems strange to us. But God had other plans for Paul. He wanted him to go on to Europe. Perhaps God wanted the young churches to take care of Asia themselves.

At this time, did the Holy Spirit tell Paul what not to do, or what to do?

5. First, the Holy Spirit told him what not to do. The Spirit said Paul should not preach in Asia. So Paul tried to go to a place called Bithynia. This was a province to the north.

Acts 16:7:

And when they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.

What happened when Paul tried to go into Bithynia? _____

6. The Spirit would not let them go. Perhaps Paul was troubled now. It seemed God was closing every door. The Holy Spirit went on telling what not to do. Paul did not understand why, but he was willing to obey. The Holy Spirit will lead us only when we trust and obey Him.

Acts 16:8:

So, passing by Mysia, then went down to Troas.

What was the first kind of thing the Holy Spirit showed Paul?

(1) _____

(2) What to do

7. First the Holy Spirit showed them what not to do. They obeyed. Paul went on to Troas without doing what he wanted to do. He was willing to trust and obey the Spirit. We do not know just how the Spirit led Paul. Perhaps he spoke to him with a voice. Perhaps he showed him visions. Perhaps he spoke to him in his heart. The important thing is that the Spirit led him.

Does the Holy Spirit only tell us what not to do? _____

8. The Holy Spirit does not only tell us what not to do. He also tells us what to do. He uses many ways to speak to us. He uses the Bible. He uses our thoughts. Sometimes he uses dreams or visions. Sometimes he uses things which happen. Perhaps you once wanted to do something for God. But you became sick or something else stopped you. The Holy Spirit did not allow you to do that thing. He had a reason. Perhaps you did not understand, but you obeyed.

Think of the last time the Holy Spirit led you. How did he tell you what you should not do? _____

How did he tell you what you should do? _____

9. We will talk about this together. We see that Paul arrived at Troas. Perhaps he was troubled. He did not know why the Spirit had closed many doors. Then the Spirit made the way clear for Paul.

Acts 16:9:

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing beseeching (or begging) him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Through the vision, what was the Holy Spirit telling Paul to do? _____

10. The Holy Spirit was telling Paul to go to Macedonia. The Holy Spirit does not only tell us the things we should not do.

What is the second kind of thing which the Holy Spirit showed Paul?

(1) What not to do

(2) _____

11. The Holy Spirit also showed him what to do. He told him to go to Macedonia. This was a province farther west. It was part of a very big area called Europe. We see that God had greater things for Paul to do. He wanted him to take the gospel to a whole new area. This is important for us. In this way the gospel reached Europe, America and Africa. This meant that we too could hear the gospel. God did not want Paul to spend all his time in the small province called Asia.

What two kinds of things did the Holy Spirit show Paul and his helpers?

(1) _____

(2) What to do

12. He first showed them what not to do. He did not let them go into Asia or Bithynia. He told them to go to Macedonia. In a vision, a man begged Paul to come and help. Macedonia was the doorway to many countries in Europe.

After they began the second journey, what two kinds of things did the Holy Spirit show Paul and his helpers?

(1) What not to do

(2) _____

13. The Holy Spirit showed them what to do. He led them into Europe. He called them to a city which was the doorway to this big area.

Acts 16:10:

And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Where did the Holy Spirit send Paul so he would begin to preach the gospel in Europe?

14. The Spirit called Paul and his helpers to Macedonia. As soon as Paul heard, he was ready to go. He did not wait for a day. He was sure that he should preach to the people in Europe.

Why is it important to us that God called Paul to Macedonia in Europe? _____

15. It is important to us because we too were able to hear. The gospel came to us in this way. Of course, God could have used another way. But this was his plan.

Where did the Holy Spirit send Paul so he would begin to preach the gospel in Europe?

16. God send Paul to Macedonia. He first told him what not to do. Then he told him what to do. Garba is a strong Christian, but he is going through some dark days. He feels sure God has called him to be a missionary. He believes he should plant a church in a tribe to the north. Garba has talked to the elders of his church. But they are not yet ready to send a missionary. Garba is trying to learn the language of the other tribe. But the friend who was teaching him has just returned to his tribe. Garba is troubled.

If you could talk to Garba, what would you tell him? _____

17. Be ready to tell the class what you would say.

After they began the second missionary journey, what two kinds of things did the Holy Spirit show Paul and his helpers?

(1) _____

(2) _____

Where did the Holy Spirit send Paul so he would begin to preach the gospel in Europe?

WEEK 4: THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

DAY 4: PAUL WITNESSED TO A FEW PEOPLE AT PHILIPPI

Acts 16:11-15

1. Yesterday we saw how the Holy Spirit led the missionaries. He was able to lead them because they trusted and obeyed him.

What two kinds of things did the Holy Spirit show Paul and his helpers?

(1) _____

(2) _____

Where did the Holy Spirit send Paul so he would begin to preach the gospel in Europe?

2. The Holy Spirit showed them what not to do and what to do. He sent them to Macedonia. He brought them to the biggest city, which was Philippi. Here Paul preached to a few women beside a river. This seemed a weak way to witness. But a strong church was started in Philippi. From Paul's witness in Philippi, we learn two things a Christian worker must be willing to do.

(1) He must be willing to witness anywhere.

(2) He must be willing to witness to a few people.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 16:11 to 15. Read verse 13 again. Did Paul go to a big synagogue or meeting place of Jews in Philippi?

3. Paul did not go to the synagogue. There was no meeting house for Jews in Philippi. This was a Gentile city. There were few Jews there. In order to have a synagogue, there had to be ten Jewish men.

Acts 16:13:

and on the sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer.

Where did Paul go to preach his first sermon in Philippi? _____

4. He went out to the river. This was a strange thing for Paul. He was used to preaching to big groups of people. He always went first to the synagogue. There was no synagogue in Philippi. When there was no synagogue, the Jews usually met by a river.

What did Paul and his helpers want to do to the small group by the river? _____

5. They wanted to witness to them. They were missionaries. They had good news for the people of Philippi. They started with the Jews who were there. They found only a few Jewish women beside the river.

Acts 16:13:

and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.

Should Christian workers wait to preach only in big churches, or should they witness anywhere?

6. They should witness anywhere. These missionaries sat down by the river. They began to speak about Jesus on that first day. God opened one woman's heart to the things which they said. And she was baptised. These men were willing to witness anywhere the Spirit showed them. They did not wait to preach in a big building.

In Acts 16, what men were willing to witness anywhere? _____

7. Paul and his helpers were willing for this. They witnessed anywhere. Jesus did the same thing. One day he preached from a boat. One day he witnessed to a woman drawing water from a well. He spoke on the mountain, by the sea, and in the market.

From Paul's witness in Philippi, what is the first thing a Christian worker must be willing to do?

- (1) _____
(2) He must be willing to witness to a few people.
-

8. First, he must be willing to witness anywhere. You are a church leader. You may be a pastor or a teacher. Perhaps you preach in a big church. Many people come to hear you there. But what about during the week? You may find some people under a tree beside the path. You may find them in their villages carving or weaving. You may find them in the market waiting for people to buy.

Should we witness to people only in church? _____

Where should we be willing to witness? _____

9. We should not only preach to people in church. We should be willing to witness anywhere. Paul had been led to Macedonia in a special way. Perhaps this made him expect great things. Perhaps he thought many people would be saved here. This did not happen at first in Philippi. But Paul was willing to witness to a few people.

From Paul's witness in Philippi, what is the first thing a Christian worker must be willing to do? _____

10. First he must be willing to witness anywhere. Paul and his helpers met with a small group of women. They did not know all the needs of these women. But the Holy Spirit did. He knew their hearts. He had prepared the heart of a certain woman.

Acts 16:14:

One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to give heed to what was said by Paul.

Who was the woman in Philippi who believed the message brought by Paul?

11. Yes, Lydia believed. It is important that Paul was willing to witness beside the river. The Holy Spirit led him to Lydia. She was ready to receive the gospel. If Paul had not witnessed there, Lydia might not have been saved.

Did Paul preach to a big group or a few people beside the river? _____

12. He witnessed to only a few people there. In speaking to people we do not always need big crowds. The Spirit often leads us to one person or a small group. Jesus spoke to big crowds. But he often spoke to one person. He spoke to the woman by the well. This woman believed. This opened the door for the whole city of Samaria to hear the gospel.

Where should a Christian be willing to witness? _____

To whom should a Christian worker be willing to witness? _____

13. We should be willing to witness anywhere. We should be willing to witness to a few people. In Philippi Paul spoke to a small group. A rich woman listened. Tomorrow we will see that Paul witnessed to one man.

Acts 16:15:

And when she was baptized, with her household, she besought us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay."

Because Paul was willing to witness to a few people, what happened to Lydia?

14. Lydia became a Christian. She was baptized. She did not only believe. She showed that she was now following Christ. Her family were baptized too. Then she showed her faith by opening her home to the missionaries. Her home must have become the first church in Philippi. Paul later wrote a letter to the Christians in Philippi. Perhaps Lydia led many people to Christ.

Where was Paul willing to witness? _____

To whom was he willing to witness? _____

15. Paul was willing to witness anywhere. He was willing to witness to a few people. Some people do not come to church. We must be willing to go to them. We must be willing to sit and talk with a small group.

From Paul's witness to Lydia in Philippi, what two things must a Christian worker be willing to do?

(1) _____

(2) _____

16. He must be willing to witness anywhere. He must be willing to witness to a few people.

Last week you chose someone to help you pray about missionary work. This week you must bring the matter to the whole church. With your friend, go and talk to other leaders. Plan a special missionary meeting. Plan to preach a sermon on missions. Plan a time of prayer about what can be done. At the end of the meeting, plan a time for everyone to talk together about sending missionaries from your church.

Write the date of the special meeting at the church. It can be on a Sunday morning or on some evening. _____

17. From Paul's witness to Lydia in Philippi, what two things must a Christian worker be willing to do?

(1) _____

(2) _____

WEEK 4: THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
DAY 5: PAUL TOLD THE PRISON KEEPER TO BELIEVE
Acts 16:16-40

1. We have come to the end of the week. I hope the lessons are helping you. From Paul's witness to Lydia in Philippi, what two things must a Christian worker be willing to do?

(1) _____

(2) _____

2. He must be willing to witness anywhere. He must be willing to witness to a few people. Paul was willing for this. Today we will see how he witnessed to one man. The man was the keeper of the prison in Philippi. We will learn what to answer when someone asks how to be saved. We will memorise this verse.

Acts 16:31: Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 16:16 to 31. Read verse 18 again. What did Paul do to the evil spirit in the slave girl? _____

3. He drove the evil spirit out of her. He did this in the name of Jesus. One moment she was crying at Paul and his helpers. The next moment she was standing quietly. The demon was gone and she was free. But this made the owners of the girl angry! Their way of getting money was gone.

Acts 16:22:

The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates (or leaders of the city) tore the garments (or clothes) off them and gave orders to beat them with rods.

Did the leaders of the city of Philippi treat the missionaries kindly? _____

4. They were not kind to them. They beat Paul and Silas. They threw them into prison. They fastened their feet in heavy blocks of wood. Their backs were cut and bleeding. They could not stand up and they could not lie down. Perhaps the prison was cold and wet.

How do you think Paul and Silas felt now? _____

5. They may have felt discouraged or angry or without hope. They must have been in pain and very tired. God allowed Paul and Silas to be tested here. They must have had many questions. Perhaps they asked themselves why God had called them to Europe. Perhaps they asked why God allowed them to suffer when they were doing his will.

Acts 16:25:

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

Have you ever thought that someone could witness by singing at midnight in prison?

6. Perhaps you have not thought of this before. But this is what Paul and Silas were doing. They were not complaining. They were happy to know they were where God wanted them.

Acts 16:26:

and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters (or the things they were tied with) were unfastened.

What happened that made the prison keeper ask how he could be saved? _____

7. There was an earthquake. Everyone was set free! The prison keeper was afraid. He knew that if the prisoners ran away, he would be killed. So he prepared to kill himself. Paul shouted that he should not kill himself. The prison keeper fell at the feet of Paul and Silas.

Acts 16:30:

and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?"

What important question did the prison keeper ask? _____

8. He asked: What must I do to be saved. Here was someone who needed help. He was ready to kill himself. He saw that he was in trouble and there was no hope. This is the way it is with a sinner. He is lost. He is ready for death. But when he sees this, there is hope for him. He is ready to hear the good news. The prison keeper asked how to be saved.

What must a sinner see before he is ready to hear the way of salvation? _____

9. He must see that he is lost. He must see that he is ready for death. The prison keeper in Philippi asked how to be saved. Paul and Silas did not tell him to stop beating the prisoners. They did not tell him to find another job or be circumcised. They did not tell him to learn the commandments.

Acts 16:31:

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

What did they tell him to do? _____

10. They told him to believe in the Lord Jesus.

Acts 16:32:

And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house.

How could the prison keeper and his family be saved? _____

11. They could be saved by believing in Jesus. They did believe! Then the prison keeper and his family were baptised. We remember the words which Jesus said to the disciples as he left them.

Mark 16:16:

He who believes and is baptized will be saved.

What happened to the prison keeper when he believed and was baptised? _____

12. He was saved. His family became Christians too. The prison keeper was a new man. He was changed. Now he was a follower of Jesus. Paul and Silas gave a good answer to the question: What must I do to be saved?

Acts 16:31:

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.

Take time to memorise this verse now. When you can say it without looking at it, write it here. Acts 16:31: _____

13. This was a wonderful night for the prison keeper. It was a wonderful night for the missionaries. They had obeyed the Holy Spirit. Now a whole family believed.

Acts 16:34:

Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

How did the prison keeper feel after he believed and was saved? _____

14. He was happy. He rejoiced. He showed kindness to the missionaries. When someone is saved he wants to be kind. He wants to do God's will. He does not want to do anything that will make his Saviour sad. This shows that he is saved.

If someone asks you how to be saved, what can you tell him? Answer by saying Acts 16:31 to yourself.

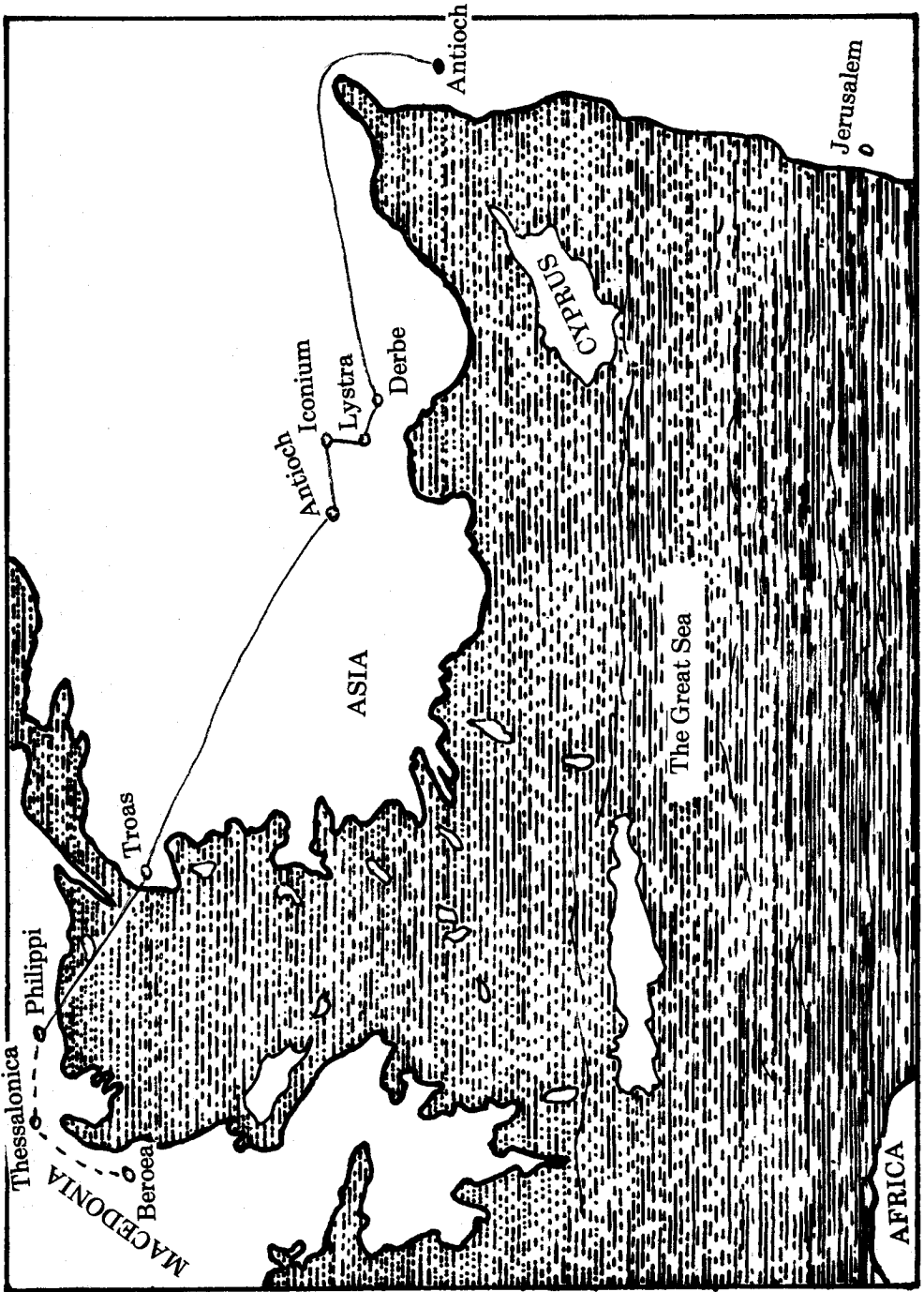
15. You can say, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." Of course you will want to explain what this means. You will want to talk to each member of the family. You will want to help them believe and follow Jesus.

When you find someone who wants to be saved, do you try to get other members of the family to receive Christ too? _____

16. Be ready to talk about this in class.

If someone asks you how to be saved, what can you answer him from Acts 16:31?

The Second Missionary Journey



The Second Missionary Journey

