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*Saint Mark's Church
Sunday School*

St. Paul “his ministry and martyrdom”

Code: 8/FE / 4

1. General Aims of the unit

To celebrate the feast of the Apostles by having an insight in the life of St. Paul and his mission and martyrdom

2. Special aims of the lesson

1. To cover briefly the life of St. Paul [his birth in Tarsus , of Cilicia, educated in Jerusalem at the feet of Gamaliel,(Acts 22:3-5} , his zeal to the law , persecution of the Christians, his approval to the stoning of St. Steven (Acts 8:1) , his conversion (Acts 9), (Refer to the attached notes of the life of St. Paul)
2. Details of the 3 missions of St. Paul, and the main events of each mission, and the role of the Holy Spirit in directing the servants.
3. Highlight the journey of St Paul to Rome as a prisoner and how he spread the good news even when he was prisoner.
4. Cover briefly his 2nd. imprisonment in Rome and his beheading about 67AD.

3. Outcomes:

By the end of this lessons the teens are able to:

1. Recite the main stations in the life of St. Paul.
2. Relate the important events in the 3 missions with the corresponding cities .
3. Remember by heart the theme of St. Paul mission
4. Recite the style of St. Paul in his mission.
5. Summarise in one verse the life and mission of St. Paul

4. Verses : Ph. 1:21 ; Acts 20:31 ; 2Cor. 11:23-29 ,12:10

5. References

Notes : See the attached notes

A Summary of the life of Saint Paul

- ❖ Saint Paul represents a unique personality among the apostles . His conversion , the depth of his knowledge and understanding of the O.T , his zeal to spread the Good News to everyone Jews and Gentiles , his continuous battle with the false teachers and hard converted Jews who insisted on Judaism (circumcision and other ritual Jewish traditions) as a gate to Christianity , his teaching about Christ and his fourteen epistles which he wrote , his long sufferings for Christ and His Church , and his fervent life which was empowered and inflamed by the Holy Spirit give him a special place in the Church.
- ❖ He was born to a Jewish family in Tarsus of Cilicia (Acts 22:3) . He received the Roman citizenship (Acts 22:38) as a citizen of Tarsus. (Tarsus is a city in Asia Minor).
- ❖ He was given the name of Saul (Hebrew) and Paul (Roman) [as suggested by Origin]
- ❖ He was from the tribe of Benjamin , circumcised on the 8th. day according to the Law of Moses , a Hebrew , and Pharisee (Phil. 3:5) .
- ❖ He started to read the books of the O.T in Tarsus . At the age of 15 , his father sent him to Jerusalem to be educated at the feet of Gamaliel the teacher of the Law (Acts 22:3).
- ❖ According to the Jewish traditions , each one have to have a trade . The trade of Saul was tent making (Acts 18:3)
- ❖ He was very zealous to the religion of his fathers and the traditions of his nation (Gal. 1:13-14) , so he proudly guarded the clothes of the fanatics who stoned St. Stephen.(Acts 7:58) . But beyond any doubt the last words of St. Stephen touched deeply in his heart and prepared him to accept the message of Jesus when he appeared to him.
- ❖ He seek orders from the High Priest to kill and torture the believers in Damascus . In his way the Lord of glory appeared to him and touched his heart . He was converted and received his sight when St. Ananias put his hand on him . He was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit.(Acts 9: 1-22) [Saul was ~ 22 years old , the date was ~35 AD] { the events of his conversion was mentioned also in Acts 22:1-16 , 26:12:18 }
- ❖ He stayed ~ 3 years in Arabia (Gal. 1:17-18)

The LIFE OF SAINT PAUL

Yr. AD	Age	Activities	Reference	Notes
35	~20-22	Conversion	Acts 9:1-18	
36		3 years in the Solitude in Arabia then returned to Damascus, and then the 1st. visit to Jerusalem	Acts 9 :19-29 Gal 1: 17-20	(2 wks in Jerusalem)
37				
38				
39		In Tarsus	Acts 9:30	
40				
41				
42				
43	~28-30	Barnabas & Saul in Antioch (Head quarter of the mission for the Gentiles)	Acts 11:26	(1 year - Disciples called Christians)
44		2nd . visit to Jerusalem Barnabas & Saul St. Mark returned with them	Acts 11:27-30 Acts 12:25	To carry relief for the brethren
45	~30-32	First Mission (Barnabas, Saul, Mark) Antioch- Cyprus-Salamis-Paphos-Perga- Antioch Pisidia- Iconium- Lystra- Derba- (Then reverse the way back to Antioch)	Acts 13-14:26	
46				
47				
48				
49		Antioch	Acts 14:26-28	Reporting Back
50	-35-37	Third Visit to Jerusalem (The Council of Jerusalem)	Acts 15 , Gal.2	Acceptance of Gentiles without circumcision
51		Antioch	Acts 15:30-35	
52	-37-39	Second Mission (Paul& Silas) Derbe- Lystra(Timothy joined them)- Troas(Luke joined them)- Philippi(first city in Europe)- Thessalonica- Berea- Athens- Corinth(for 18 months)- Ephesus- Jerusalem -Antioch	Acts 15:40-18:21	St. Paul wrote 1 st .&2 nd . Thessalonians from Corinth - ~ 53 AD
53				
54				
55		Antioch	Acts 18:22	
56	~41-43	Third Mission (Paul and partially Timothy) Galatia – Ephesus(2 years and 3 months)- Macedonia- Corinth (3 months)- Troas- Miletus- Tyre (7 days)- Caesarea	Acts 18:33-21:17 Acts 21:18-	St Paul wrote: 1st. Corinthians from Ephesus 2nd. Corinthians from Macedonia
57				

Yr. AD	Age	Activities	Reference	Notes
58		Jerusalem (Paul's arrest) (last visit to Jerusalem)	-3:3 5	Romans from Corinth Galatians from Corinth
59 60	~44-46	Caesarea (2 years waiting for trial)-	Acts 24: 1 - 26:32	Witnessing before the governor Felix ,and King Agrippa
61		The Journey to Rome and waiting to the court of Caesar	Acts 27: 1 - 28:16	
62 63	~49-51	In Rome as a prisoner under house arrest	Acts 28:17-31	St Paul wrote the four letters of imprisonment 1. Ephesians, 2.Philippians 3. Colossians 4. Philemon
64 65 66	~51-53	Freed from the prison May be he went to Spain to preach		St. Paul wrote the three Pastoral epistles 1. 1". Timothy 2. Titus 3.2 nd . Timothy
67	~54-56	Rearrested , trailed , and beheaded at the time of Emperor Nero		In Rome



Significant Events in Paul's First Missionary Journey*

48 A.D.

- From Antioch Paul, Barnabas and John (surnamed Mark) begin their first journey. They travel to Cypress (Cyprus) and Perga.
- John Mark leaves Paul and Barnabas at Perga and returns to Jerusalem (see Acts 13:13). After Perga Paul/Barnabas journey to Antioch in Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe.
- Agrippa II (see Acts 25) made king of Chaleis.

49 A.D.

- Paul and Barnabas go back to visit the same places they did in 48 A.D. and return to Antioch.
- Cumanus made procurator of Judaea (about this time)

* Chronology and Events taken from *The Life & Epistles of St. Paul* by Conybeare and Howson



Significant Events in Paul's Second Missionary Journey*

50 A.D.

- Paul and Barnabas attend the "Council of Jerusalem" (see Acts 15).
- Caraetaeus captured by the Romans in Britain.
- Cogidunus (Father of Claudia?, See 2 Tim. 4:21) assists the Romans in Britain.

51 A.D.

- Second missionary journey begins. Paul and Barnabas travel to Antioch.
- At Antioch John Mark (who left them at Perga on their first missionary journey) wishes to rejoin Paul/Barnabas. A disagreement ensues between Paul and Barnabas about whether to allow Mark to come with them. The argument is so heated that Paul finally decides to take Silas with him to Tarsus, Derbe, Lystra, Iconium and Antioch in Pisidia. Barnabas takes John Mark and travels to the island of Cypress (Cyprus).
- At Lystra Paul meets Timothy, who accompanies him on the rest of his journey.

52 A.D.

- Paul/Silas/Timothy travel to Troas, Philippi, Thessalonica and Beroea (Berea).
- Jews from Thessalonica come to Beroea and stir up the people against Paul. He is sent by sea to Athens. Silas and Timothy stay in Beroea for a time. It is possible Timothy later travels to Athens, meets Paul, and is sent to revisit Thessalonica.

- Paul travels to Corinth and writes **1 Thessalonians**. Timothy and Silas are with him. Paul meets Aquila and Priscilla.
- Claudius expels the Jews from Rome (see Acts 18:2)

53 A.D.

- Paul stays in Corinth and writes **2 Thessalonians**.
- The tetrarchy of Trachonitis given to Agrippa II.
- Felix made procurator of Judaea

54 A.D.

- Paul, Aquila and Priscilla leave Corinth in the Spring and arrive at Ephesus. Aquila and Priscilla stay in Ephesus as Paul travels on to Jerusalem. Paul arrives in the city in the Summer (Pentecost). He then goes to Antioch.
- Death of Claudius and accession of Nero.



Significant Events in Paul's Third Missionary Journey*

54 A.D.

- Paul begins his third missionary journey. He leaves Antioch and goes to Ephesus.

- Priscilla and Aquila are already in Ephesus and make contact with Apollos. After teaching him thoroughly about Christ, they and the brethren send Apollos to Corinth.

55 A.D.

- Paul continues to stay in Ephesus.

56 A.D.

- Paul continues to stay in Ephesus.

57 A.D.

- In the Spring at Ephesus Paul writes **1 Corinthians**.
- In Summer he leaves Ephesus for Troas. He proceeds to Philippi.
- It is in Philippi during the Autumn that it is believed Paul wrote **II Corinthians**. Titus arrives in the city.
- In the Winter Paul goes to Corinth, where he writes the book of **Galatians**.

58 A.D.

- In the Spring Paul writes the book of **Romans**.
- Paul leaves Corinth and goes to Philippi and Miletus.



Significant Events in Paul's Final Missionary Journey*

58 A.D.

- Paul is arrested in Jerusalem and goes to Caesarea. He is sent to Felix, Roman Procurator of Judea.

59 A.D.

- Paul is in Caesarea.

60 A.D.

- Felix is recalled as Procurator of Judea and is succeeded by Festus.
- In the Autumn (about August) Paul is sent to Rome by Festus.
- In the Winter Paul is shipwrecked at Malta.

61 A.D.

- Paul arrives in Rome in the Spring.

62 A.D.

- Paul at Rome.
- In the Spring Paul writes the books of **Philemon**, **Colossians** and **Ephesians**. He may have written the book of **Hebrews** this year.
- In the Autumn Paul writes the book of **Philippians**.

63 A.D.

- Paul is acquitted in the Spring and goes to Macedonia and Asia Minor.

64 to 67 A.D.

- In **A.D. 64** it is possible Paul went to Spain (See Romans 15:28). The Great Fire of Rome occurs, followed by persecution of Roman Christians.
- In **A.D. 65** Paul may have continued in Spain.
- In **A.D. 66** Paul may have travelled from Spain to Asia Minor (See 1 Timothy 1:3). The Jewish Wars begin.
- In the Summer of **A.D. 66** Paul writes **1 Timothy** from Macedonia. He writes **Titus** from Ephesus in the Autumn. In the winter he is in the city of Nicopolis.

During the Spring of **A.D. 67** Paul is in a Roman prison. He writes his last epistle, **2 Timothy**. The Apostle Paul is executed in the Summer (May or June). Nero dies in the middle of June

OTHER RESOURCES:

The following is very informative clip that talks a little about the life of St Paul.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4u3IXNsdjX4&feature=relmfu>

After doing either of the above as an introduction, the activity is to print out the “Activity” section from the “Life of Saint Paul” and laminate it. Draw a time line up on the board and get the class to work collectively to put the events in chronological order.