

# Paul's First Missionary Journey

Acts 13:1–15:35

Main Street

May 6, 2012



## bible verse

COMMITTING TO MEMORY

### Isaiah 49:6

I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

## story lesson

BIBLE STORY

"In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen...and Saul. 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 13:1-3).

And so begins the many missionary journey's of Saul (later changed to Paul) and company. They would travel all over the Roman empire preaching the Gospel of Jesus first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles.



On his first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas went to Cyprus, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe, and returned to Antioch in Syria. During their travels they confronted a sorcerer, proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues, spoke messages of encouragement, started "new covenant" churches, retold the story of Israel in light of Jesus being the culmination of the law and the prophets, endured hardships and threat of violence, healed a lame man with crippled feet, mistaken for the Greek gods Zeus and Hermes, and stoned.

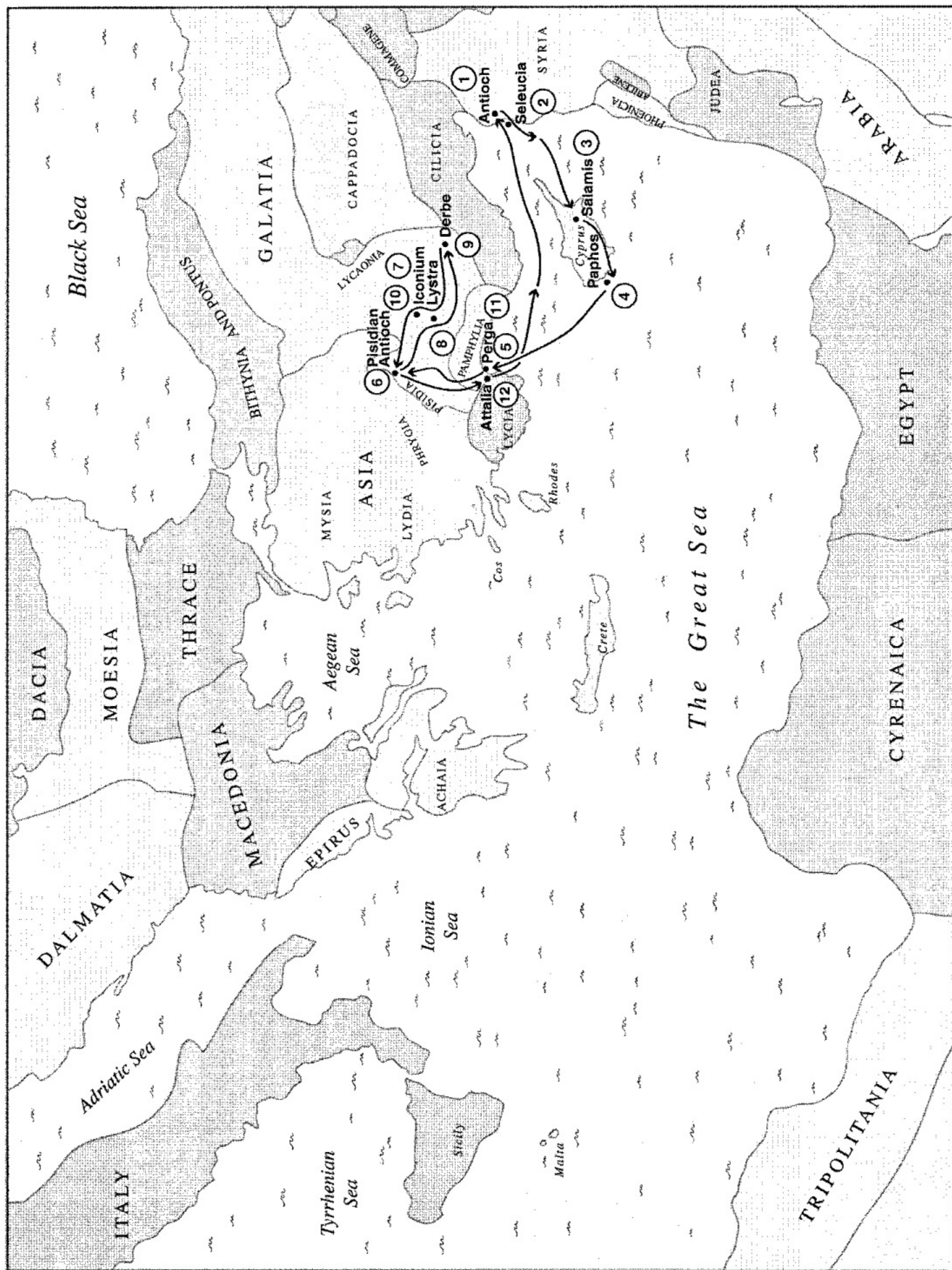
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(See Acts 9:1-19)

I WAS RECENTLY CONVERTED INTO PAUL AND MY SAUL I.D. IS NO LONGER VALID ... IS THERE A FORM FOR THAT?

# PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY





## life application

MAKING IT REAL

### Be a Missionary

In a far off land where no one has ever heard the Good News of Jesus. In a familiar far off country where believers need to be encouraged and strengthened in their faith. In our own country and state and community where needs are so desperate, where faith is so shaky, where love is so deprived, where racism is so rampant, where injustice is common place. Wherever it is it doesn't matter. Be faithful to what God has called you to and to where He has called you to go.

### Be a Sender

Not everyone in the church in Antioch could go and be a missionary. They commissioned Paul and Barnabas to go. As a community, we should be raising up people to go and serve, to make opportunities available and to pave the way and provide avenues of financial support and prayerful encouragement. Are we a sending kind of church?

### More Suffering

Paul says it himself: "strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of heaven" (Acts 14:22). Being a member of the kingdom of heaven (God) in this world (on earth) will require suffering. Paul exemplifies this with his endurance amidst beatings, stonings, riots, etc.



## questions

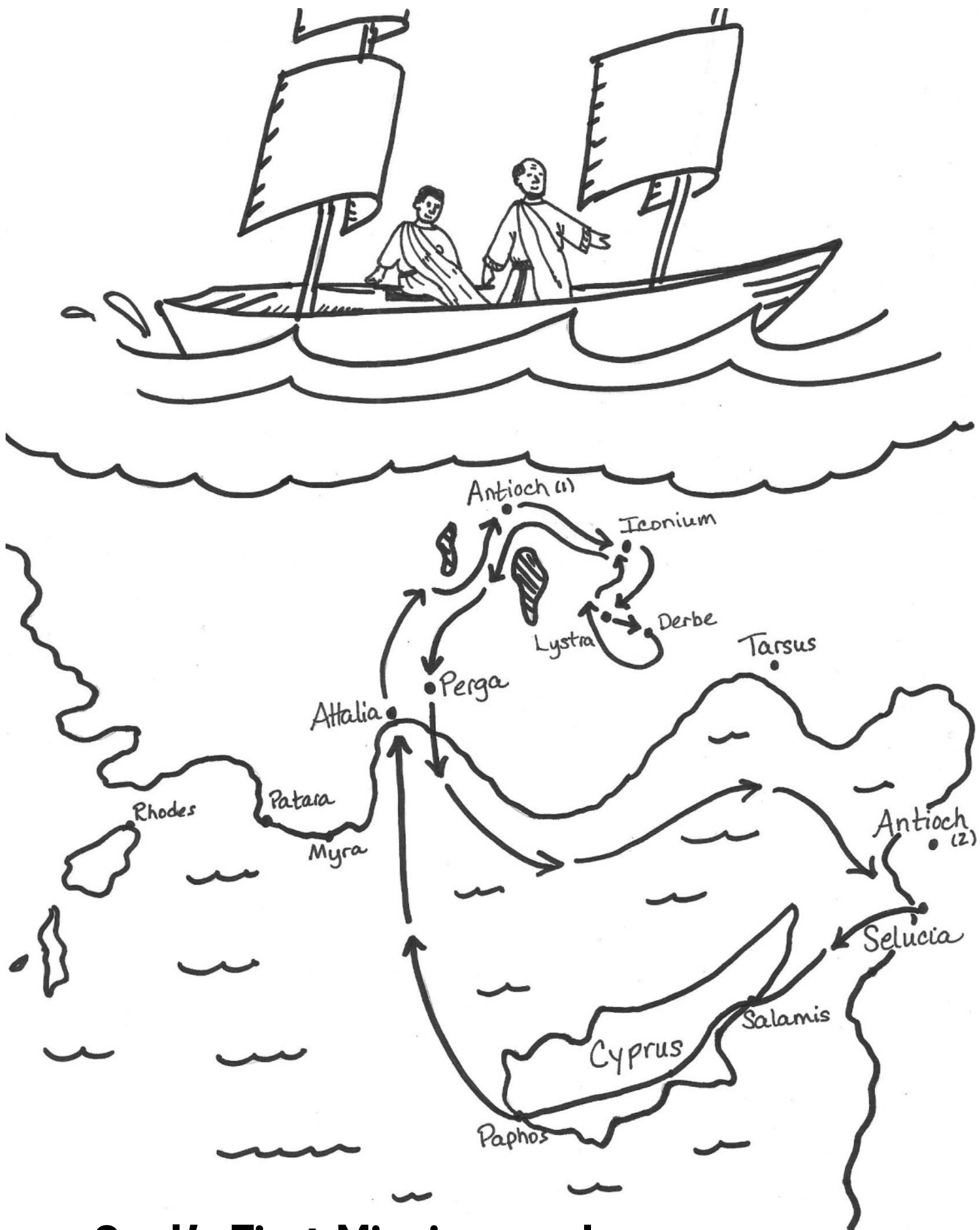
REMEMBERING

- 1. What church were Barnabas and Saul a part of?** The church in Antioch
- 2. Why did they lay hands on Barnabas and Saul?** "...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 13:1-3)
- 3. Where did Barnabas and Saul go on their first missionary journey? What cities?** Cyprus, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe, and returned to Antioch in Syria
- 4. Who were Saul and Barnabas mistaken for?** The Greek gods Zeus and Hermes



## coloring sheet

ON THE NEXT PAGE



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