

News Story Summary

Nineteen-year-old Destiny Coselman, who is fighting an aggressive form of brain cancer, received more than 1,000 greeting cards this month. Cards began arriving in November when her stepmother shared on social media about Destiny's fight. Along with cards, Destiny received gifts, including a signed ball from a group of former Detroit Lions football players. Feeling overwhelmed, Destiny said she never imagined so much encouragement from strangers and friends. She carries one gift with her everywhere she goes. It's a rock from a little boy painted with the words, "Be happy."

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "cards to teen with brain cancer.")

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, read the news story summary. Ask: *What difference can such an outpouring of cards and gifts make to a teen with such a serious disease? What ways has the cards and gifts strengthened Destiny?* Write group members responses on the board or a poster. Challenge the group to look for how a desire to encourage others served as the impetus for a second missionary journey by Paul.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the news article. Also remind them of their responses to the ways Destiny was strengthened. Ask: *How can we encourage new believers?* Explain that Paul made strengthening the believers a priority. His encouragement resulted in the spiritual growth of the people he strengthened. Ask group members to reflect on the spiritual difference they can make in someone else's life when they reach out to those who need the gospel. .