



THE STORY *continues...*

*Join us each week as God weaves His Story into the fabric
of our daily lives.*

Chapter 29 Paul's Mission

Listen to *The Story*

*Read **Chapter 29** of *The Story**

For the purpose of remembering, read through chapter 29 then re-read it making notes of the specific places and people Paul encountered and spoke to on his three missionary journeys.

Learn *The Story*

*Look for ways in which God's story and your story
connect this week.*

Now that you have compiled a list of primary figures from chapter 29 (from the "Hear the Story" section), read through their stories of coming to saving-faith in Jesus. Note important comments regarding their response to the Gospel. It may look like this:

Example: Proconsul Sergius Paulus: (sent for Paul and Barnabas) "wanted to hear the word of God" but did not until Paul struck Elymas the sorcerer with blindness."

Love *The Story*

Intentionally take a step forward in faith.

In the period of the early Church, we in the modern church are challenged with one significant thing: evangelism. Perhaps it's something you've never done. Perhaps it's something you don't believe is your responsibility. Perhaps it's something you've done and had horrible consequences. All of these are possible scenarios, and still we are called by God to tell others about Jesus.

Try this:

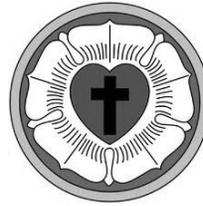
1. Pray that God would fill you with courage and clarity to speak the Gospel wherever He leads.
2. Pray that God would lead you to specific people who need to hear about Jesus.
3. Be prepared for random encounters in which people are suddenly curious about religion and God.

Clarify in your own mind what the Gospel is. (It is the story of Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection *for* (fill in friend's name here)).

Luther's Explanation

Fools for Christ

The Romans destroyed Greek Corinth in 146 B.C. and Julius Caesar built a Roman colony there in 44 B.C. The first settlers were Roman veterans from Caesar's armies.



Freed slaves, merchants, and tradesmen also came to Corinth, including a large number of Jews. Like the earlier Greek city, immorality and prostitution were common. People held a wide variety of superstitious, religious, and philosophical beliefs. Human wisdom was the be-all-end-all of the Corinthian culture. This crept into the young Christian church in that city as well.

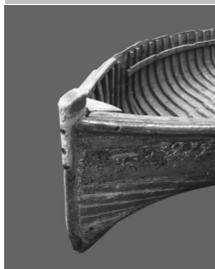
Martin Luther wrote this about the Corinthian church: "...things got so wild and disorderly that everyone wanted to be an expert and do the teaching and make what he pleased of the gospel, the sacrament, and faith. Meanwhile they let the main thing drop—namely, that Christ is our salvation, righteousness, and redemption—as if they had long since outgrown it. This truth can never remain intact when people begin to imagine they are wise and know it all... The desire to be wise and the pretense of cleverness in the gospel are the very things that really give offense and hinder the knowledge of Christ and God, and create disturbances and contentions. Such people can never know our Lord Christ, unless they first become fools again and humbly let themselves be taught and led by the simple word of God." (*Luther's Works*, Vol. 35, pp. 380-83)

PROMISE

This week, cling to God's promise for you:

"Powerful and wonderful things will happen when you follow Me and do My will."

The EXTRA Mile



Watch PBS' Peter and Paul: The Christian Revolution (part 2)

<http://video.pbs.org/video/1366260543/>