

Have you ever been in jail, or been in a jail?



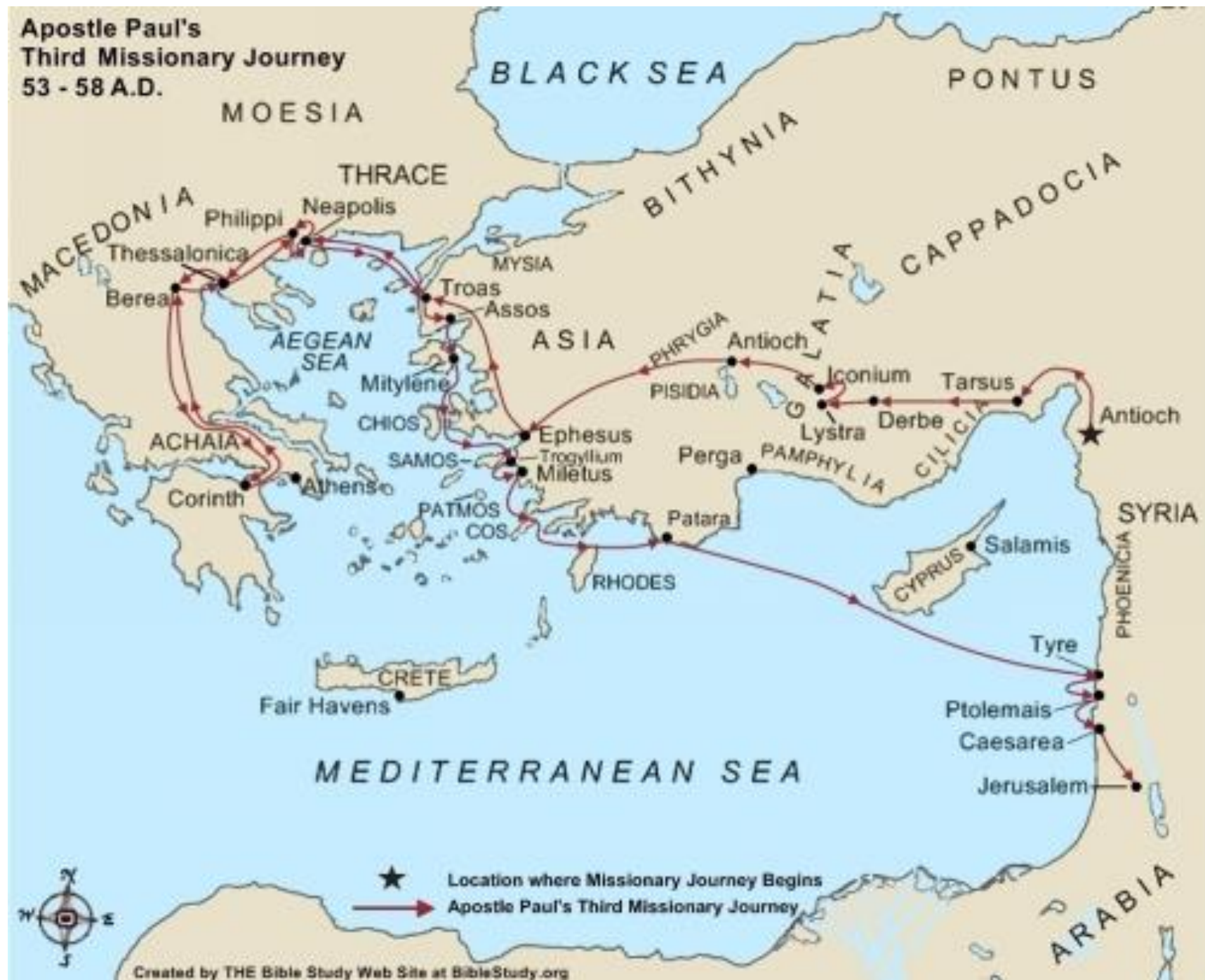
**Apostle Paul's
First Missionary Journey
44 - 46 A.D.**



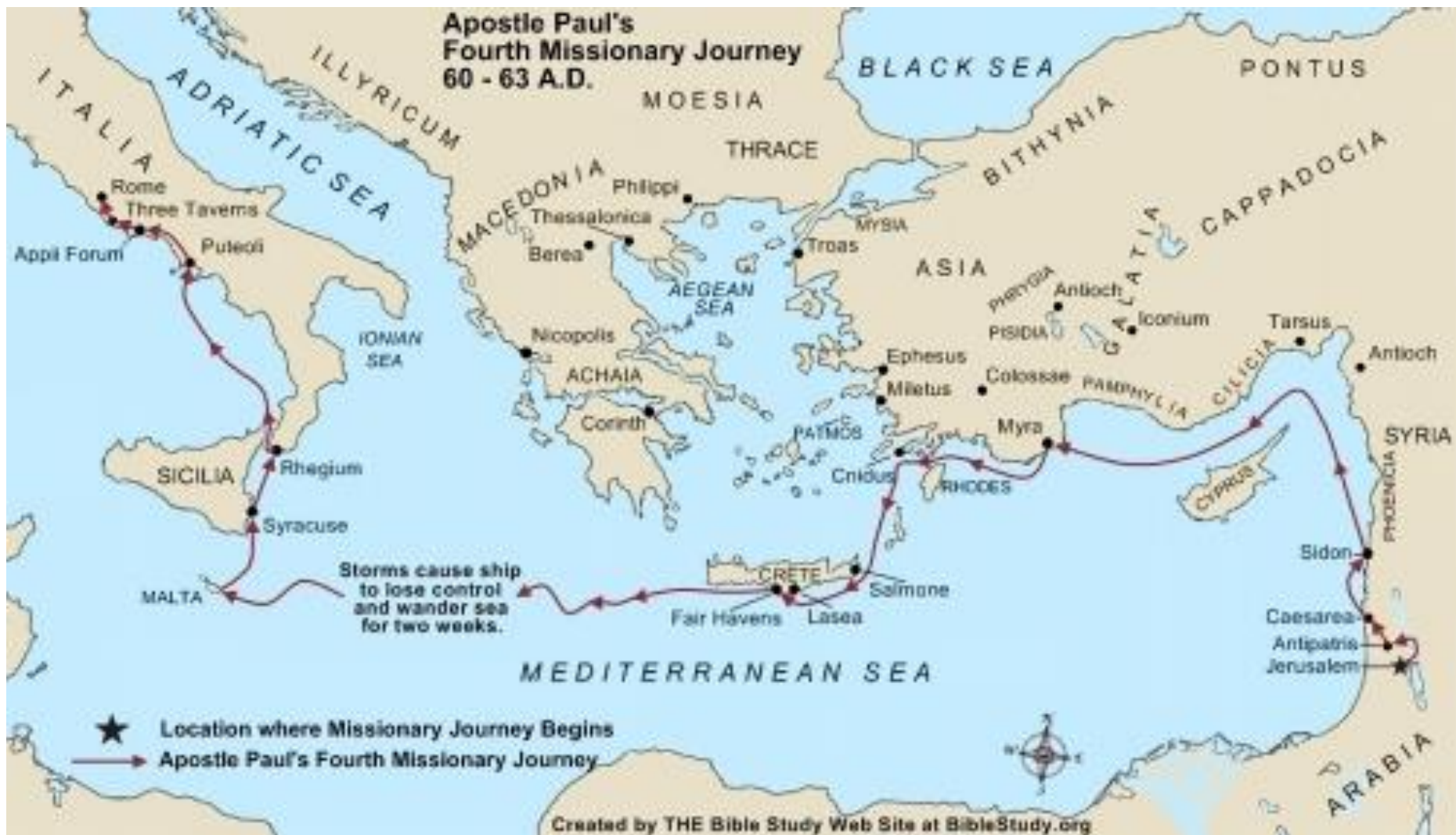
**Apostle Paul's
Second Missionary Journey
49 - 52 A.D.**



**Apostle Paul's
Third Missionary Journey
53 - 58 A.D.**



**Apostle Paul's
Fourth Missionary Journey
60 - 63 A.D.**





**Cities and places visited
by the Apostle Paul
(33 to 67 A.D.)**



The Sermon: Jail House Rock

Judy Geddes,

Certified Lay Speaker,

Southwest Texas Conference,

The United Methodist Church

Bible Reading: ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

²² The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods.

²³ After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.

²⁴ When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

²⁷ The jailer woke up,
and when he saw the prison doors open,
he drew his sword and was about to
kill himself because
he thought the prisoners had escaped.

²⁸ But Paul shouted,
“Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.

³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

³¹ They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

ACTS 16:22-34 NIV

³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household

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Think about the jailer...

- Do you think he was a friend of Paul & Silas?
- He didn't go visit them in their cell before the earthquake.
- He didn't try to bandage their wounds and bring comfort to them.
- He didn't go to them and ask them to pray for him.

ACTION STEP #1

We need to be:

- Obvious
- Bold
- Unashamed
- Unapologetic

ACTION STEP #2

Jesus taught us to reach out to the hurting and wounded.

- When they've lost their job
- Lost their marriage
- Lost their home
- Lost a loved one

ACTION STEP #3

They would have taught this jailer and his family...

- That they needed to believe Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- That they needed to believe that they were sinners and that only Jesus could remove that sin, and...
- That they needed to believe that Jesus had to be the Master of their lives.

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