

ACTS CHAPTERS 25:13-26:32

Paul Gives His Testimony to King Agrippa



22

August 7, 2005
2.ACT22

Lesson Goal

Students will be prepared to share their testimony with their unbelieving friends

Lesson Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Tell who were the following people were: Felix, Festus, and King Agrippa
- Explain how Agrippa responded to Paul's personal testimony.
- Explain what the Festus and Agrippa decided to do with Paul
- Write out a personal testimony

Memory Verse

Acts 26:8 ~ "Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?"

Application

- Be prepared to share the Gospel
- Speak the truth to others, but with gentleness and respect
- Write out your personal testimony.

TEACHER PLANNING SHEET

Prepare Your Heart

- Read and study through the passage meditatively.
- Prayerfully seek how God would have you personally apply this passage to your own life. Write these down.

Prepare the Lesson

- Choose from the various ideas in the lesson plan.
- Write down an approximate time frame for each.
- List the materials needed.

HOOK

Time

BOOK

Time

LOOK

Time

TOOK

Time

Materials Needed:

ACTS CHAPTERS 25:13-26:32

Paul Gives His Testimony to King Agrippa



22

1st–3rd Grade
August 7, 2005
2.ACT22EL

MEMORY
VERSE
REVIEW
✪

“Why should
any of you
consider it
incredible that
God raises the
dead?”
Acts 26:8

✪

SHOOK

Ready? Get Set, Go! (Game/Discussion). Ask the Students: How many times have we heard that familiar phrase of “Ready, get set, go!”? Perhaps before a foot race? Or maybe right before you turn your paper over for an unexpected pop quiz? The first word is the one that’s really important, isn’t it? What are some things we need to do to get ready for a race or a quiz? Being prepared will always be an important part of our lives. It is part of being disciplined. Tell the students they are going to play a game called ‘Ready, Get Set, Go’ to see how well they are ready. Form teams of four or five students. Have the first two students on each team pair up to play Quick Draw McGraw. (The other students can rotate in.) Have pairs face each other with one being “McGraw” and the other being his arch rival. “McGraw” places his hands at his sides poised as if he had six-shooters, and his arch rival has the palms of his hands together directly in front of him at waist level. At your signal of “Ready, get set, go!” the students who are “McGraws” attempt to slap (gently) their arch rivals’ hands with one of theirs. The arch rivals try to avoid the slap by pulling their hands up, down or to the side. They must keep their palms together. If they are “hit,” they rotate out and play continues. If they are not hit within three “draws,” they become “McGraws,” and the “Washed up McGraws” rotate out. Each “draw” must be made on your signal of “Ready, get set, go!”. In our lessons in the book of Acts, we have learned how the Apostle Paul seemed to always be prepared when it came to speaking about Christ. Today you will hear how he was brought before a king. What do you suppose he may have done before he spoke?

Excuses (Discussion). Ask the students to list as many excuses as they can for not doing homework or turning homework in late. Write these on the board. Pick the top ten. Now ask the students to list their excuses for not sharing Christ at school or with their friends who don’t know the Gospel. Of what are they really afraid? Discuss with the students some of the fears behind their excuses. Have the students read 1 Peter 3:15. Lead into today’s lesson as Paul shares his story with King Agrippa of how Jesus changed his life.

The Power of Persuasion (Game). Give one toothpick (or any other object) to each student. Explain that the object of the game is to persuade other students to give you their toothpick. The winner will be the student who has the most toothpicks at the end of a five-minute period. Show a small bag of candy which will be the prize. (Hopefully someone will think of offering to share the prize if he wins.) **Debrief:** What did you use to persuade others to give you their toothpicks? How are people usually persuaded? Listen to today’s Adventure to see how Paul used persuasion when he spoke before a king.

Presentation Ideas

Paul Tells King Agrippa of His Experience on the Road to Damascus
(Illustration/Coloring Page). Acts 25:13-26:32, **2.ACT22EL.GF1**.

Bible Adventure for 1st- 3^d grades

"Leave it to the experts." We hear this a lot these days, in regard to everything from having our car fixed, to advice about our business dealings. There are a lot of things we leave in the hands of other people, and many times that's a wise choice. However, there is at least one area where God does not want us to "leave it to the experts." Stay tuned, and you'll find out what that area is.

We've been following the story of the Apostle Paul in the book of Acts. Paul had traveled to Jerusalem to take a special offering to the Christians there. Some Jews from Asia, with whom Paul had had trouble before, stirred up the Jews in Jerusalem and caused a riot which resulted in Paul's arrest. Paul appeared first before Lysias, the Roman commander, then Felix, the governor of Caesarea, and then Festus, who replaced Felix. None of these men were able to find Paul guilty of any of the charges against him, but because they feared causing trouble among the Jews, they would not release him, either. Paul, knowing he would not receive a fair trial in Jerusalem or anywhere nearby, asked Festus that he be sent to Rome to make an appeal to the emperor.

Now, this appeal caused a bit of a problem for Festus. He could not just let Paul go. Neither could he send Paul to Caesar without writing up the charges against him. One day, King Herod Agrippa II arrived to pay his respects to the new governor, along with his evil sister Bernice. This Herod Agrippa was the son of the Herod Agrippa who had killed the Apostle James and had Peter thrown into prison. After hearing about Paul, Agrippa told Festus that he wanted to hear for himself what Paul had to say.

Agrippa began by telling Paul that he could speak for himself. Paul began, not to make a defense for himself, but to use one more opportunity to share the Gospel with one who desperately needed it. He begged the King to listen to him patiently. Paul began by sharing what he was like before he became a believer. He had been as zealous to follow Jewish law as anyone could be—this was common knowledge among the Jews. He studied Old Testament Scripture and believed in God's promise that He would send a Messiah to His people. The resurrection would show proof of that Messiah. Every Jew held to the hope of that promise. And yet, Paul said, it was because he held to that same hope that he was being accused. His accusers were upset because he had been preaching that God raised Jesus up from the dead. He asked, "Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?"

Paul understood how the Jewish people thought. It was not resurrection itself they had a problem with, it was that Jesus Christ had risen and had proven Himself to be their Messiah. Paul went on to share how convinced he had been that the followers of Jesus were dangerous madmen who were polluting the Jewish religion. He told of the time and effort he spent in persecuting the new Church. Then, on a journey to Damascus to hunt down more Christians, he met

Jesus Himself. He told how he had heard Jesus' voice. Can you imagine the surprise of Agrippa and the others listening? Many of them believed Jesus to be dead. How could Paul have heard His voice and spoken with Him?

Paul told Agrippa that he had obeyed Jesus, who told him to go and preach the Gospel to both Jews and Gentiles. He preached that men needed to repent of their sin and turn to Christ. It was because of this preaching that the Jews in Jerusalem had become angry with him. God had protected him and given him several opportunities to share his faith with others and was giving him this opportunity today. Paul declared he was teaching nothing different from what Moses and the prophets had taught—that Christ would suffer, would rise from the dead, and would be the first to tell of the light of salvation God offered to men.

Festus, who had become more and more agitated as he listened, interrupted Paul and declared him to be insane. Everyone knew dead men did not come back from the grave and have conversations with the living. Festus was demonstrating what the Bible says about an unbelieving heart: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God," (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Paul then said to Agrippa, who was very familiar with the writings of the prophets, and who had undoubtedly heard the story of Jesus, "King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do." Now Agrippa was in an uncomfortable place. If he said he believed the prophets, he would also have to deal with Paul's powerful proofs of Jesus as the Messiah. If he said he didn't, he would be denying the truth of the prophets of his own people. So he avoided the question, saying mockingly to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?" Paul's answer is wonderful. "Short time or long—I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains." Here we see into the heart of this man of God. He longed for all who heard the Gospel to respond in faith to Jesus Christ.

That brings us back to the beginning of our Bible Adventure for today. Have you guessed what area of life God does not want us to leave to the experts? God does not want us to leave the sharing of the Gospel to a select few. But isn't that what we often do? When questions about the Bible or the Gospel or our church come up, we would much rather have someone we consider more expert come and answer all of the questions for us. You might think, "I could never speak the way Paul did for Christ," and you'd be right, because your story is different from Paul's. Paul stood up and gave an account of how Jesus had changed his life. That's something any of us can do.

Maybe you feel like your testimony would be dull because you don't have a horrible past to talk about. That's okay, because what reaches people's hearts the most is not how changed *you* are, but how *true Jesus is*. The power is not in you, it's in the message. Time and time again adults and kids turn their backs on sharing the Gospel. Telling the truth about Jesus is not just for Bible characters. It's for you and me. Paul gives us a great example of a simple, unimpressive man sharing the truth with a king and a bunch of other important people. Nothing fancy, just a simple sharing of what Paul knew the truth to be. Let's not shrink back, no matter how outnumbered we feel. Let's put into practice the words of the Apostle Peter who wrote, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for

the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). We're not responsible for the way people respond to the Gospel, but we are responsible to share it in an understandable way. If you need help with this, talk to one of your teachers before you leave today.

(Teachers: Let students share different questions they've been asked or discuss ways they might be able to open up a conversation about the Gospel. It would be good if they could leave feeling more confident about their ability to share what they believe and why. Have resources available for further study and preparation at home.)

Aim Questions:

1. **Tell who each of the following people are and what they had to do with the Apostle Paul: Felix, Festus and King Agrippa.** *Felix and Festus were governors of Caesarea, and King Agrippa was a king in the Jewish territories put into power by Caesar.*
 2. **What was King Agrippa's response to the Apostle Paul after Paul shared his testimony with him?** *He rejected the truth of the Gospel.*
 3. **What did King Agrippa and Festus decide about Paul's fate?** *They decided to send Paul to Caesar since Paul had appealed to Caesar.*
 4. **If someone were to ask you what your testimony was, what would it be?**
 5. **In 1 Peter 3:15, we are told that we should always be prepared to tell people about our hope in Jesus. How prepared are you? What would help you be more prepared?**
-



Royal Court (Craft). Each student will need:

- 2.ACT22EL.GF2 Pgs. 1 & 2 (pg. 2 copied onto heavy paper or cardstock)
- scissors
- glue
- coloring crayons

Follow the instructions to create this 3-D scene of Paul's trial.

1. Color the pop-up picture.
2. Cut only on **heavy** lines. (Suggestion: Have cutting prepared with an Exacto knife prior to class.)
3. Fold — lines with picture inside the fold.
4. Fold lines with picture outside the fold.
5. Color and fold pop-up cover in half.
6. Glue back of pop-up picture around outside edges.

Place picture inside cover so that these instructions are covered and the verse shows on the outside when pop-up is closed.

Sharing the Verse Relay (Game). Divide the class into two teams. Have the teams line up on one side of the room. Take one student from each team and have them sit in a chair on the opposite side of the room, facing their team. On the "Ready, Get Set, Go" signal, each student is to hop, skip, jump, or walk backwards (teacher picks which action they're to do) to the person on the chair, share the verse or message about Jesus with that person, and return to the end of his line. The team who finishes first wins!

A.C.T.S 25:13-26:32 (Worksheet). Use this worksheet to review today's Bible Adventure about Paul's testimony to Governor Felix and King Agrippa, **2.ACT22EL.GF3.** *Answers: Paul; Caesarea; Paul was in Prison; The Holy Spirit; He shared his testimony with Governor Felix and King Agrippa.*

Paul Speaks! (Worksheet). Without using their Bible, have the students complete the verse. Fill in the correct letters represented by the blocks, **2.ACT22EL.GF4.**

Paul Preaches to Agrippa (Worksheet). To read the verse, solve the problems, and fill in the missing letters, **2.ACT22EL.GF5.**

Paul Before Agrippa (Worksheet). As a class, take this quiz over today's lesson, **2.ACT22EL.GF6.** Teachers should read each question and multiple-choice answer out loud and have the students choose the correct answer, by circling the appropriate letter. *Answers: 1.b 2.d 3.c 4.b 5.b 6.b 7.d*

Aim Questions (Worksheet). Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today's Bible Adventure, **2.ACT22EL.GF7.**



TOOK

Get Ready! (Craft). Each student will need:

2.ACT22EL.GF8

scissors

coloring crayons

Have the students follow the instructions to create this origami game. The inside messages reveal important ways to be an effective witness for Jesus Christ. Paul continues to be a great example to us as he was prepared to share Christ at any time. Encourage students to "Get Ready!" to share the Gospel.

Dare to Share (Worksheet). Paul was always willing and ready to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Hand out **2.ACT22EL.GF9** to each student. Read I Peter 3:15 aloud to the class. Have them circle the picture in each row that signifies the correct meaning of the underlined words. The first row of pictures go with the first set of underlined words and so on. Ask the students if this is the way they dare to share the Gospel. If not, what areas are lacking? Perhaps they have not made a commitment to Jesus Christ. Boldness to speak about Jesus won't work without it.

Fairness (Discussion). Ask the students the following questions:

Why was it unfair for Paul to be in prison? What was Paul's attitude toward being in prison? What did Paul tell King Agrippa? How can you witness to others when you feel that you are not being treated fairly? What kind of an attitude should you have when you are witnessing to others? Is it unfair that not all the people in the world today will enter God's Kingdom? Who can you tell about Jesus this week?

Be Prepared (Role-play). “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,” 1 Peter 3:15. Make 3X5 cards with the following questions on them for each small group. Have each member of the group draw one. Pretend someone at school has just asked you this question. How would you answer?

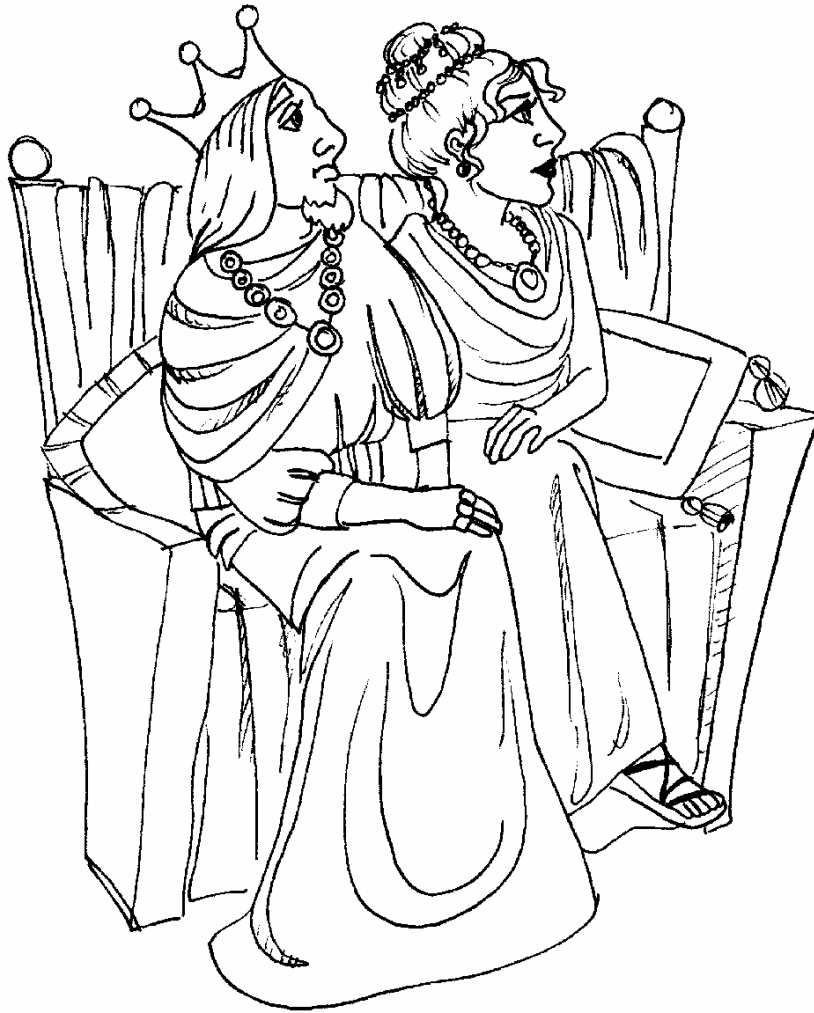
1. Why do you go to church?
2. What makes the Bible so special?
3. Do you believe in evolution?
4. Doesn't everyone go to heaven?
5. Aren't you afraid to die?
6. Do you think the earth will last forever?
7. Are Jesus and God the same thing?
8. What's so bad about hell—don't you get to see all your friends?
9. Why do you believe in a God you can't see?
10. Why can't we both believe what we want to believe?
11. Why do you try to be good all the time?
12. Why did Jesus have to die?

This workbook is not available at this time.

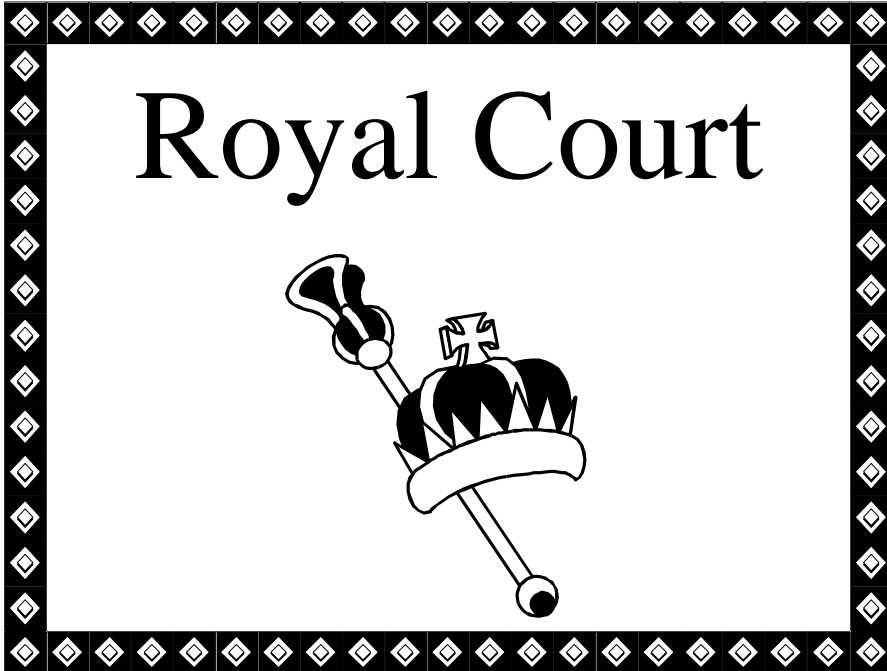
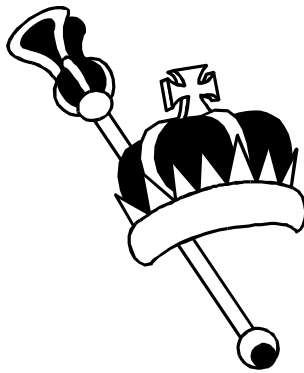
A.C.T.S. Action Cards (Workbook). Encourage students to continue using the Apostle action cards to memorize the significant statistics throughout the book of Acts. The main events of Acts 25:13-26:32 are:

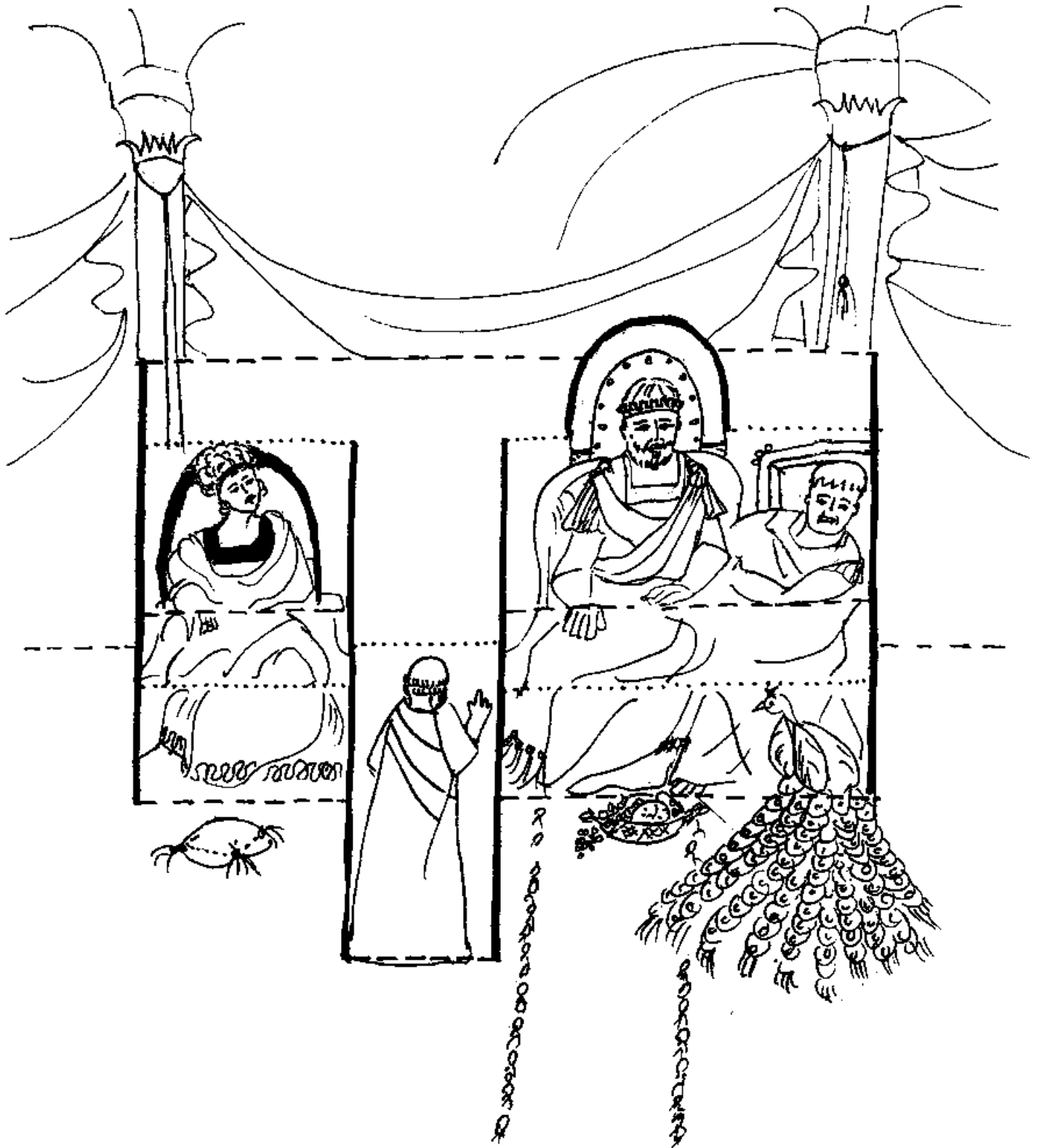
- A. Paul.
- C. In the city of Caesarea.
- T. Paul in prison.
- S. Paul preaches to Governor Festus and King Agrippa.

Paul Tells King Agrippa of His Experience on the Road to Damascus



Royal Court





A.C.T.S.

25:13-26:32

Apostle – Who spoke before a king and recounted his testimony?

City – In what city is Paul being held while waiting to appeal before Caesar?

Trials/troubles – Where is Paul while he is waiting to appeal before Caesar?

Spirit – Who gave Paul the power to testify to small and great alike? With whom was Paul sharing his testimony?

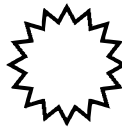

“Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?”

Acts 26:8

y w s r d n



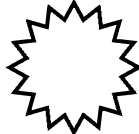
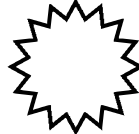

h l d G f t b




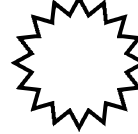
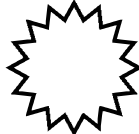
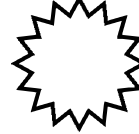




  **y**

  **o u l d a**  **y**

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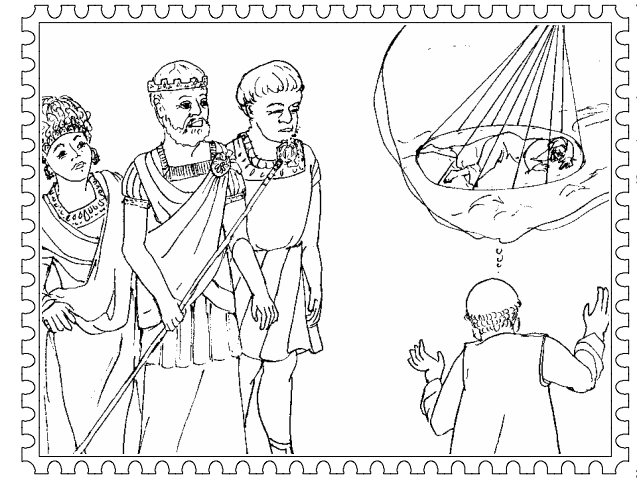
  **e**

 **e a d ?**

Without using your Bible, complete the verse. Fill in the correct letters represented by the shape.



PAUL PREACHES TO AGRIPPA



To read the verse, solve the problems and fill in the missing letters.

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 19 4 11 15 4 14 8 10 13 2 3 11 14 18 11 14 8
 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 16 14 3 15 6 13 5 17 6 12 6 3 16 17 5 13 6 9 10 5
 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ ?
 12 4 2 12 7 14 13 17 2 6 15 5 15 12 4 5 13 5 2 13

H	A	L	I	U	D	G	E	N
2+2=	1+1=	5+5=	3+3=	4+4=	7+6=	3+4=	3+2=	2+1=
O	F	T	B	Y	S	C	R	W
7+7=	9+9=	6+6=	5+4=	6+5=	9+6=	8+8=	9+8=	10+9=

PAUL BEFORE AGRIPPA

Choose the correct answer for the following:



- ___ 1. Festus had Paul brought before King Agrippa because:
- Paul asked to speak with King Agrippa.
 - he found Paul had done nothing deserving of death.
 - he heard Paul praying.
 - all the above.



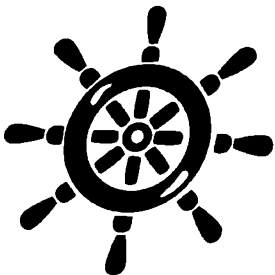
- ___ 2. Before Paul had hope in God, he was guilty of:
- opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth.
 - putting believers in prison.
 - forcing Christians to blaspheme.
 - all the above.



- ___ 3. When Paul was struck down by the Lord and blinded, he was:
- on a ship sailing to Cyprus.
 - in Thessalonica.
 - on his way to Damascus.



- ___ 4. The Lord told Paul he would rescue him from:
- the Jews.
 - his own people and from the Gentiles.
 - the Sadducees.



- ___ 5. On his journeys, Paul preached to everyone that they should:
- repent and live good lives.
 - repent, turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.
 - repent and turn to him.



- ___ 6. Agrippa told Festus that Paul could have been set free if he had not:
- followed Jesus.
 - appealed to Caesar.
 - been praying in his cell.
 - all the above.



- ___ 7. We should be obedient to God and:
- share His Word with others.
 - teach others about God with gentleness and respect.
 - read and know His Word.
 - all the above.

Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. Tell who each of the following people are and what they had to do with the Apostle Paul: Felix, Festus and King Agrippa.
2. What was King Agrippa's response to the Apostle Paul after Paul shared his testimony with him?
3. What did King Agrippa and Festus decide about Paul's fate?
4. If someone were to ask you what your testimony was, what would it be?
5. In I Peter 3:15, we are told that we should always be prepared to tell people about our hope in Jesus. How prepared are you? What would help you be more prepared?

*Be prepared to share the truth of
Christ with those around you.*

Acts
Chapters
25:13-26:32

*"Why should any of you consider it incredible that
God raises the dead?"
Acts 26:8*

Get Ready!

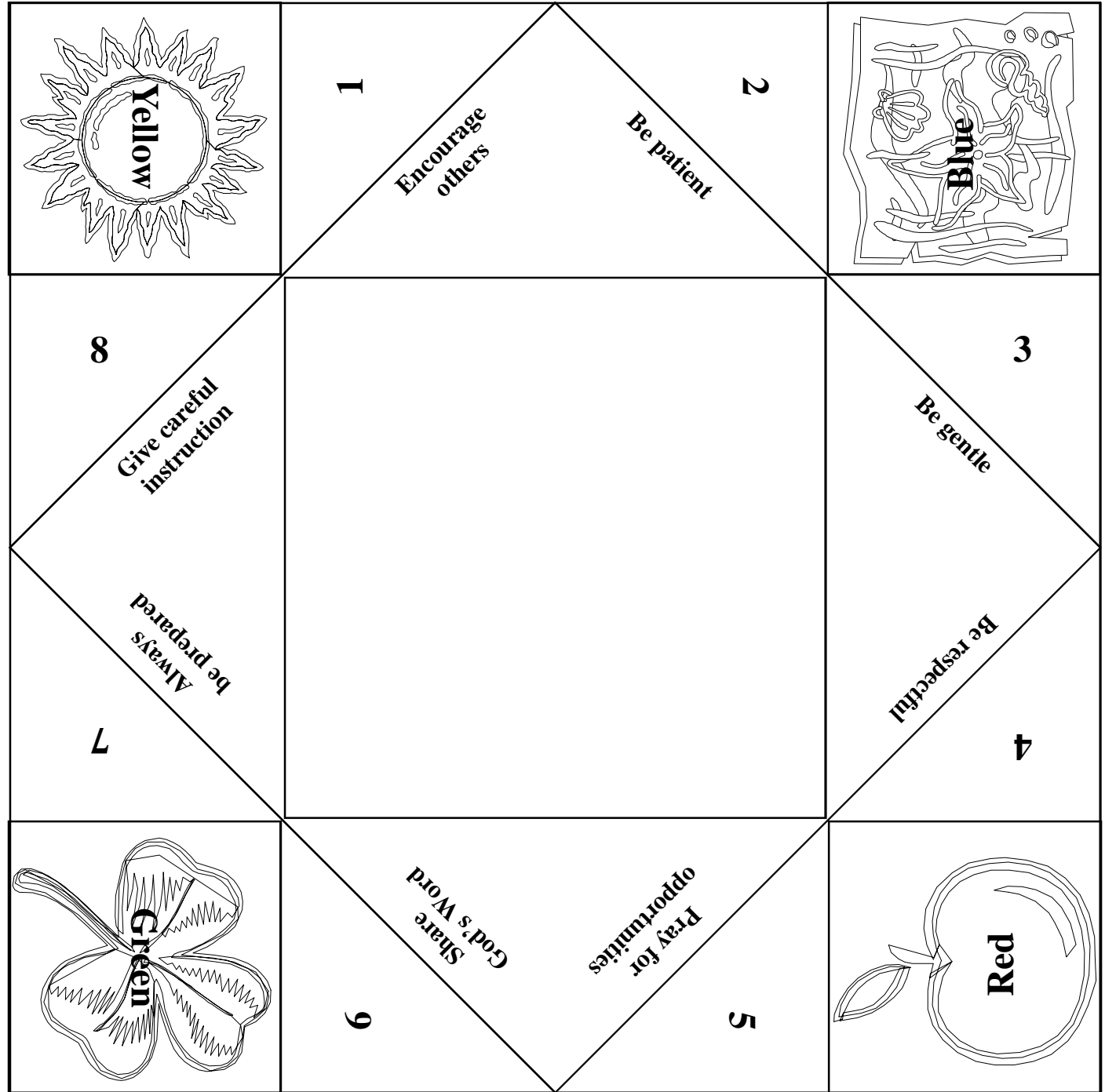
1. Color and cut out the square figure.
2. Turn the paper over, and fold each corner to the middle of the paper.
3. Turn the paper over and again fold the corners to the middle of the paper, (the numbers will show).
4. Turn the paper over again so that you are looking at the four flaps of paper with the different colors.
5. Fold in half so that flaps are on the outside.
6. Insert your thumbs and index fingers under the color flaps.
7. Pinch your index finger and thumb together on each hand, and pull to open one way.
8. Press your two index fingers together and your thumbs together, and push them apart to open the other way.

Discover with a friend how to be an effective witness for Jesus Christ.


With the color flaps showing, ask them to pick a color. Spell the color out loud, opening and closing the flaps as you spell each letter.

Next, have them pick a number. Again, open and close the flaps as you count to that number.

Ask them to pick another number that is shown. Lift up the numbered flap to discover an effective way to share Christ with others.



Paul was always willing and ready to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Read the verse below. Circle the picture in each row that signifies the correct meaning of the underlined words. The first row of pictures goes with the first set of underlined words and so on. Is this the way you dare to share the Gospel? If not, what areas are lacking? Perhaps you have not made a commitment to Jesus Christ. Boldness to speak about Jesus won't work without it.



Dare to Share

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

I Peter 3:15

