

Week 10 – Paul in Rome

Theme : Sharing Jesus with others.

On arrival : Colour in the candle craft, add the final passport stamp. Passports can be taken home today. You could award a prize for the child with most stamps (names in a hat may be needed.)

4Directional Prayer : Can the group recall the 4Directional prayer from earlier on in the series ?

Games :

Chained: Divide the children into two teams then, within the team, divide the children into clusters of 3. Use soft ties to loosely tie the children's wrists together. The middle child will have both wrists tied to the children standing either side. The two children on the outside will only have the inside wrist tied. Their other hand will be free. Use balloons or very soft balls to play a version of volleyball once all the groups have been tied. Mark a centre line on the floor and score a point each time the opposing team manages to get the balloon to fall in the opposite team's zone or if they fail to keep the balloon in the air within their own zone, a point is awarded to the other team. Three legged football would be an alternative.

Postman: Allocate a location to the four corners of the room : Cyprus, Turkey, Italy and Greece. Children stand in the centre of the room and listen to the Postman. The Postman will announce a form of post and a location. The children have to go to the location in the manner directed. The forms of post are: Postcard (hop) ; Parcel (walk backwards) ; Letter (jump) ; Email (run). For example, a parcel to Cyprus means the children must walk backwards to the Cyprus corner. Eliminate children who do the wrong action or go to the wrong location.

Cat and Mouse: Always a favourite !

Memory verse : *"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven."* Matthew 5:16

Use a shoebox or similar lidded box. Write the memory verse on a piece of paper and place it inside the shoebox and close the lid. Make a small pin hole in the lid of the box and invite the children to try and read the verse. It isn't impossible but it is much easier when the lid is opened and light is let in (and out!) of the box.

Introduction : We have learned many things about Paul over the last two terms. Ask the children to share something that they remember about Paul. You could make up a short quiz based on the stories we have covered. Explain that in today's Kingsquad, we will learn where Paul goes and lives for the rest of his life.

Story : A story to bring our series on Paul to a close is in the resources. Based on Acts 28.

Application : God asks us to always stand up for what we believe. Sometimes this is hard to do when people make fun of us or laugh at us. Just like our memory verse says today, we must be a light to help others know about Jesus. Paul was willing to live a hard life to make sure everyone heard about Jesus. He was even put in prison! What are you willing to do to help someone know Jesus? Think about it. Talk about how we can share Jesus with others.

Prayer: Hand everyone a candle craft. Pray and ask God to help everyone tell someone about Jesus this week. They could be encouraged to give the candle craft to a friend.

Song : *Lord, I lift your name on high, God loves me CD, Faithkidz, Track 14*

Resources : *Story, fun sheet and candle craft can be found in the resources.*

Week 10 Story

Paul loved to tell people about Jesus. Everywhere he went, he helped people understand that Jesus was alive and that Jesus was the only way to Heaven.

Many people did not like Paul because of the things that he was saying. For someone who had once persecuted Christians, Paul had now spent many years suffering himself for telling people about Jesus. He had been beaten, whipped, imprisoned; he had escaped plots on his life, survived a shipwreck and been arrested so many times.

Finally, Paul told the people that he wanted to have the emperor listen to his case. So, Paul travelled to the country of Italy. He went to the city of Rome. While he was in Rome, Paul was under arrest, but people could visit him and take care of him. He always had guards chained to him. Paul loved telling the guards about Jesus.

Paul also wrote letters to churches and friends while he was in prison. God helped him know what to say to help new Christians learn more about Jesus and grow in their understanding. He wrote to Philemon about forgiveness after his slave Onesimus stole money from him and ran away. He wrote to Timothy to encourage him. He wrote to Titus as he started new churches in Crete. He wrote to the Corinthians about love and the Ephesians about wearing the armour of God to protect them from the evil ways of the world. We can read these letters because they are in the Bible. It is great to read the Bible, because it always has a message for us.

When Paul went before the courts, he told them that they had done nothing wrong. He shared with them how he believed in Jesus and how Jesus had changed his life. Many people heard the message of how Jesus could change their lives. At last he was freed, claiming his rights as a Roman citizen once more.

The book of Acts ends with Paul still in Rome, teaching people in the house he was renting. We are not sure what happened to Paul. Most people believe that eventually Paul was killed for what he believed. Paul was never scared and he always knew that God was with him wherever he went. Once he had discovered God's love for him, he never forgot it and couldn't go a day without joyfully sharing the Good News about Jesus no matter how much he was punished.

No wonder there is so much we can learn from Paul about being a follower of Jesus.

