



# ACTS

Of All the Apostles

## You Will Be My Witnesses:

Running the Race

## Lesson 38



# Greece

## Acts 20:1-12

### Supplemental Scripture

Hebrews 12:1-3  
James 4:13-14  
2 Peter 3:9-15  
Isaiah 40:8  
Proverbs 27:1

### Memory Verse

How do you know what  
your life will be like  
tomorrow? Your life is like  
the morning fog—it's here  
a little while,  
then it's gone.  
James 4:14 (NLT)

### Lesson Goals

Understand that Paul was  
faithful to God's call on  
his life

Understand that Paul was  
faithful, not knowing  
God's timing

Understand that Paul  
never wasted an  
opportunity to share the  
Good News of Jesus Christ

**NOTE:** Familiarize yourself with this story. Study the supplemental Scripture and make notes on, but do NOT read from, these pages. To reinforce that these ideas are not your own, hold your Bible as you tell the story.

Think of the races that you have run or the games that you have played. How did you run? How did you play? Did you give it your best from the beginning, even if it was a practice run or did you hold back, waiting for the “big race”? Let's see how Paul did it.

After the trouble ended in Ephesus, Paul cheered up the believers there and told them good-bye. He left for Macedonia and traveled through the area encouraging the people he spoke to. He finally arrived in Greece, Corinth to be exact\*, and stayed there for three months. Paul had written them two different letters (1 & 2 Corinthians) and now wanted to visit the believers there. From Corinth Paul wrote letters to the church in Galatia and Rome (the New Testament books of Galatians and Romans).

Paul had planned to leave and was going to sail toward Syria when he found out that the Jews were making plans against him. So, instead of sailing to Syria, Paul went back through Macedonia, and the city of Philippi in particular.\* Paul met up with Luke there in Philippi. Timothy and men from Berea, Thessalonica, Derbe and Asia Minor went with him as well. From there, Timothy and the other men went to Troas and waited there for Paul and Luke, who didn't leave until after the Passover. Paul would never return to this area. (Romans 15:19-23)

What should have been a two day journey took Paul and Luke five days.\* They joined Timothy and the others and stayed there in Troas for a week. Near the end of their visit in Troas, Paul and the others met with the church in Troas. It was the first day of the week, Sunday, and they ate together. The room where they met was a third floor, upstairs room. It was well lit with many lamps. Paul planned to leave the next day so “he kept on talking until midnight.” (Acts 20:7b NIV)

## Application

As we began the lesson, I asked you to think of the races that you have run or the games that you have played. How did you perform? Did you give it your best from the beginning, or did you hold back, waiting for the “big one”?

Paul “gave it his all” from the beginning. He didn’t wait until he got to Rome or Jerusalem to tell people the truth of God’s Word. Paul didn’t know how much time he would have, so he made the most of every moment.

Many of us grow up making plans, thinking about tomorrow, or next week, or next year.

James 4:13-14 tells us, “Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.”

How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone.”

We need to follow Paul’s example. Are you waiting to tell someone about Jesus tomorrow when you need to do it today? Are you waiting to give your life to Him? Don’t wait! Come to Him today.

The more Paul talked, the later it got and the room where they were meeting began to warm with the heat from the lamps.\* “A young man named Eutychus, sitting on the windowsill, became very drowsy. Finally, he fell sound asleep and dropped three stories to his death below.” (Acts 20:9 NLT) Paul quit speaking and ran downstairs. He “threw himself on the young man. He put his arms around him. ‘Don’t be alarmed,’ he told them. ‘He’s alive!’” (Acts 20:10 NIV) Paul went back upstairs and they all ate together again, then he “went on telling stories of the faith until dawn!” (Acts 20:11 MSG) Then, Paul left, ultimately with plans to go to Rome to strengthen the believers there, but headed to Jerusalem first. So, Paul went “one way, the congregation another, leading the boy off alive, and full of life themselves.” (Acts 20:12 MSG)

## Review

1. Where did Paul go after Ephesus? (He went to Macedonia.)
2. And after that? (He went through the area.)
3. What was Paul doing? (He was encouraging the believers.)
4. Would Paul see these people on his fourth missionary journey? (No. Paul would never return to this area.)
5. What happened in Troas? (Paul talked all night with the believers because he was leaving the next day.)
6. What else happened? (Eutychus fell asleep and fell out of a third story window.)
7. What happened to Eutychus? (He died, but Paul brought him back to life.)

\*Jamieson, Robert; A.R. Fausset; and David Brown. "Commentary on Acts 20." . Blue Letter Bible. 19 Feb 2000. 2009. 10 Sep 2009. <[http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm\\_view.cfm?AuthorID=7&contentID=2946&commInfo=6&topic=Acts&ar=Act\\_20\\_1](http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm_view.cfm?AuthorID=7&contentID=2946&commInfo=6&topic=Acts&ar=Act_20_1)>

Next Week  
Guilt Free  
Acts 20:13-38

# Preschool Lesson

Paul visited the country of Greece. He visited the city of Corinth. He stayed there for three months. (Count - one, two, three.) Paul wrote two letters to the believers in Corinth and now he wanted to visit them. From the city of Corinth Paul wrote two more letters. One was to the church in Galatia and the other was to the church in Rome.

Paul had planned to leave Corinth when he found out that the Jews were making plans against him. So he went back through Macedonia, to the city of Philippi in particular. Paul met up with Luke there. Timothy and some other men went with him as well. From there, Timothy and the other men went to Troas and waited there for Paul and Luke, who didn't leave until after the Passover. Paul would never return to this area.

What should have been a two day journey took Paul and Luke five days. (Count - one, two, three, four, five.) The weather must have been awful! When they finally arrived, they joined Timothy and the others and stayed there, in Troas, for a week. Near the end of their visit in Troas, Paul and the others met with the believers. It was the first day of the week, Sunday, and they ate together. The room where they met was a third floor, upstairs room. There were a lot of lamps in the room. And because Paul planned to leave the next day, "he kept on talking until midnight." (Acts 20:7b NIV)

The more Paul talked, the later it got and the room where they were meeting began to warm with the heat from the lamps. (Fan yourself with your hand.) A young man named Eutychus (*you-tea-cus*) was sitting on the windowsill. He started to get very sleepy. (Pretend your eyelids are very heavy. Lay your head on your hands as if you are going to sleep.) Finally, Eutychus fell sound asleep. But worse than falling asleep while Paul was preaching is that Eutychus fell out of the window. He dropped three stories to the ground below. Eutychus died.

Paul quit speaking and ran downstairs. He "threw himself on the young man. He put his arms around him. 'Don't be alarmed,' he told them. 'He's alive!'" (Acts 20:10 NIV)

Paul went back upstairs and they all ate together again. Then Paul "went on telling stories of the faith until dawn!" (Acts 20:11 MSG) Paul left. He went "one way, the congregation another, leading the boy off alive, and full of life themselves." (Acts 20:12 MSG)

# Activities

**Memory Verse Activity** - Provide old calendar pages to your students. Print the memory verse on the calendar page.

Sing “Be Unto Your Name,” and “The Lord Has a Will.”

Be sure to mark the cities of Corinth, Philippi, and Troas on your wall map.

Make Chinese Paper Lanterns. Talk about the lanterns in the room where Paul was speaking.

Make Eutychus puppets. Make eyes that close and reenact the lesson.

Stephen Grellet, a French Quaker Missionary from the 1800’s, wrote the following: “I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.” Discuss this in the light of the lesson.

As you continue memorizing Hebrews 12:1-3, discuss the need to begin well, run well, and finish well. It works when we keep our eyes on Jesus.

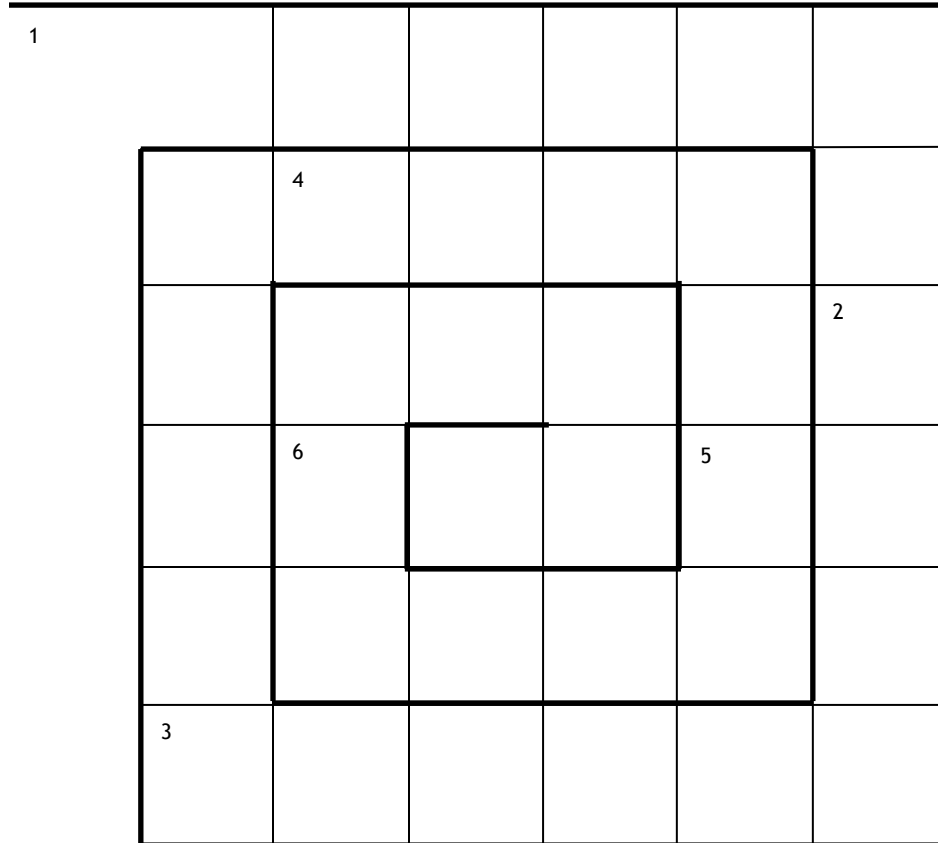


How do you know what  
your life will be like tomorrow?  
Your life is like the morning fog—  
it's here a little while,  
then it's gone.

James 4:14

# Racing Riddles

Answer the questions below. Beginning with the answer to number one, fill in the maze until you have reached the center.



1. The name of the young man sitting in the window ( \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ )
2. Paul kept on talking until how late? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. There were a lot of these in the upstairs room ( \_ \_ \_ \_ )
4. What floor of the building were they meeting in? ( \_ \_ \_ \_ )
5. The young man fell into a deep \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ as Paul talked on and on
6. Where the young man fell from ( \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ )



## Word Box

third  
window

Eutychus  
midnight

sleep  
lamps

# Racing Riddles

Answer the questions below. Beginning with the answer to number one, fill in the maze until you have reached the center.

1	E	U	T	Y	C	H	U
	S	4	T	H	I	R	S
	P	I	N	D	D	2	M
	M	6	W	W	O	5	S
	A	P	E	E	L	D	
3	L	T	H	G	I	N	

1. The name of the young man sitting in the window (Eutychus)
2. Paul kept on talking until how late? (midnight)
3. There were a lot of these in the upstairs room (lamps)
4. What floor of the building were they meeting in? (third)
5. The young man fell into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on
6. Where the young man fell from (window)



## Word Box

third  
window

Eutychus  
midnight

sleep  
lamps



# Word Search

w o w d n i r e v i l a s e h  
e a s w t a i p p i l u r e h  
p s s o i s h b w t l a o y e  
h h n y s i j s l u a p o o a  
i t h e l e s n a i t a l a g  
s t t i t p a r r e a t f t e  
u o n r h i h o o e h l e s r  
s m i s s p o m r g e o e r y  
s i r a f p a a i n r s r c p  
s w o d n i w n n r u b h s e  
e r c r t l d s u h c y t u e  
t t n e r i c h u m c a l d l  
b s r r m h s e h p e g l d s  
e i o l l p m y i l a s e h p  
s m c s s a g p h i l e f e r

Corinth

Philippi

Galatians

Romans

Troas

Paul

Eutychus

midnight

window

sleepy

fell three floors

he's alive

# Word Search

w o w d n i r e v i l a s e h  
e a s w t a i p p i l u r e h  
p s s o i s h b w t l a o y e  
h h n y s i j s l u a p o o a  
i t h e l e s n a i t a l a g  
s t t i t p a r r e a t f t e  
u o n r h i h o o e h l e s r  
s m i s s p o m r g e o e r y  
s i r a f p a a i n r s r c p  
s w o d n i w n n r u b h s e  
e r c r t l d s u h c y t u e  
t t n e r i c h u m c a l d l  
b s r r m h s e h p e g l d s  
e i o l l p m y i l a s e h p  
s m c s s a g p h i l e f e r

Corinth

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