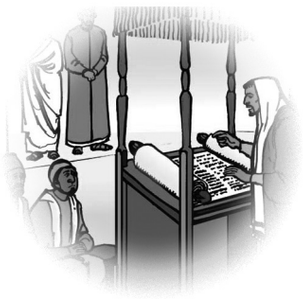
LESSON 16

THE MISSIONARY MESSAGE



Aim: **To teach the children how Paul and Barnabas witnessed about Jesus Christ.**

Scripture Reading: **Acts 13:14-52**

Memory Verse: **Acts 13:38**
... I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

Presenting the Lesson

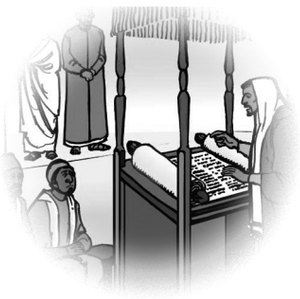
Starting point

Sometimes when people talk to us we are so eager to hear what they say, that we listen very carefully. At other times we are not interested, so we shut our ears to their words; we hear them, but we do not really listen.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. **Show Picture 16.** Paul and Barnabas were sent by their local church to travel all over and tell people about Jesus. Whenever they arrived in a new town, they would first of all go to the synagogue (13:14). A synagogue is the place of worship and prayer for people of the Jewish faith, remember?
2. One of the cities they reached was also called Antioch, but it was in another part of the world from the Antioch from which they had set out on their missionary journey. As a visitor, Paul was invited to speak to the people who had come to the weekly meeting at the synagogue. There were Jews as well as Gentiles who had accepted the Jewish faith (13:15-16).
3. Paul taught the people like this: The God of Israel chose our fathers (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) and made them into a great people. The prophets and teachers among them spoke for many years about someone who would come and save them. The wait is over, the Saviour has come. He is the Lord Jesus Christ. But the Jews did not recognise who Jesus is (13:17-27).
4. Paul then told the good news about Jesus. Jesus had done no wrong, but he was killed. However, God raised him from the dead. He is alive and will never die again. All who put their trust in Jesus Christ are declared innocent before God, but those who laugh at this truth will bear the punishment of their sins (13:28, 30, 37-41).
5. **Look at Picture 16 again.** Some people accepted Paul's message. Others were angry. **Point out the different attitudes in the picture.**

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6. Paul and Barnabas were invited back to speak again the next week. Some people went home with them, as they could not wait to hear more (13:42-43).
7. The next week the synagogue was full. Many Jews were angry that people from so many different races had come. They wanted to keep on thinking that God loved only the people of Israel. They were also jealous of Paul and Barnabas because almost everyone in the city had come to hear them speak. They did not want to share or hear the Gospel (13:44-46).
8. Those who accepted the Christian faith formed a church in Antioch, too (13:48-49). Unfortunately, Paul and Barnabas were forced to leave because of the Jews' anger. They took the Gospel to more places (13:50-52).

Our Response to the Story

God asks us to take the Gospel to people who have not heard the message. Not everybody will listen and believe, but everybody must be given the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

Let us continue to pray for the unreached tribes or people we spoke about at the end of lesson 15.

Instil the Memory Verse



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