# LESSON 22

# A MESSAGE FOR KINGS



**Aim:** **To teach the children that Paul did not hesitate to witness about the Lord Jesus to powerful rulers.**

**Scripture Reading:** **Acts 25:13-27; 26:1-32**

**Memory Verse:** **Romans 1:16**
**I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes ...**

## Presenting the Lesson

### Starting point

How would you feel if you were told you were going to meet a very important person like the governor or the president? How would you prepare yourself?

### Main Points of the Lesson

1. After Paul had spent two years in prison without being put on trial, a new Roman governor took over from the one who had put Paul in prison. The new governor, Festus, wanted to know why the Jews wanted Paul killed. He found out it was because Paul taught that Jesus, whom they had killed, was alive again (Acts 25:19). However, under Roman law, a person could not be put to death for his or her religious beliefs.
2. Festus did not know what to do with Paul. Then Agrippa, whom the Romans had made king of the Jews, and his wife Bernice came to visit Festus. Festus asked Agrippa's advice about Paul. Agrippa replied that he first wanted to hear what Paul had to say for himself (25:14-22).
3. It was a grand occasion when Paul was brought before King Agrippa. **Show Picture 22. Describe who was present (25:23). Point out the different people and Paul in his chains.**
4. The governor, Festus, introduced Paul to the king (25:24-27).
5. Paul was not afraid of anyone. He was polite to the king, but he spoke freely about Jesus Christ. **Read the memory verse out loud.** No-one would frighten Paul into remaining silent about the good news that Jesus had come to save all who would believe in him.
6. Paul gave his testimony to the king. Agrippa was a Jew, so he knew about the expected Messiah, the Saviour God had promised he would send into the world (26:2-18).
7. Paul spoke about his work and witnessed to people everywhere (26:19-23).
8. Paul's testimony offered everybody the opportunity to accept Jesus Christ, but Festus thought Paul was mad. Agrippa did show some interest, but let it go in the end. The result



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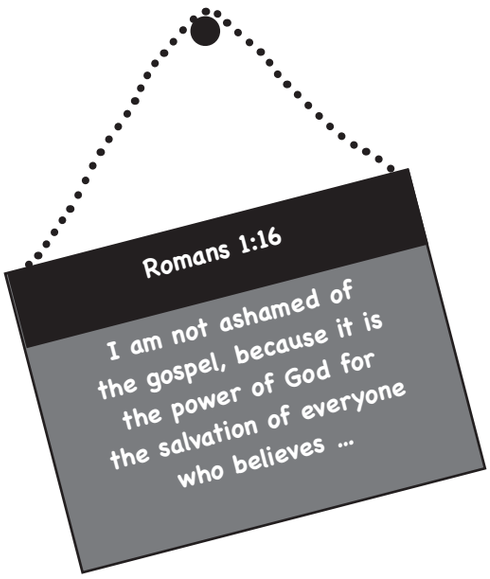
of the hearing was that Paul would go to Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire, to be tried by the emperor himself. That meant that he would take the Gospel to the most important city in the world (26:24–32)!

## Our Response to the Story

The Gospel is meant for all people, whoever they are.

Let us now spend some time praying for everyone in our country who holds a powerful position. Let us pray that there will be opportunities for Christians to witness to those leaders who have not accepted Jesus Christ. Pray, too, for those who are suffering because of their Christian beliefs.

## Instil the Memory Verse






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