Sunday School Lesson

Questions for Us Today

May 12, 2024

How strong is your faith?

How has your belief in Jesus changed your life?
Sunday School Lesson

Objectives

May 12, 2024

To understand what and why the Apostle Paul wrote to the people of faith in ancient Rome.

To apply what Paul taught to our lives.
Sunday School Lesson Segments – 1

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1. Bibliography

2. Points of Information: Paul
Sunday School Lesson Segments - 2

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3. Lesson Context

4. Lesson Text

5. Remember These Things
Points of Information – Paul

The Apostle Paul was originally known as Saul of Tarsus. Tarsus was then (and still is) a large Mediterranean city in Turkey. Saul of Tarsus is *not* to be confused with King Saul (of Israel) in the Old Testament. However, both men (with this name) descended from the Hebrew Tribe of Benjamin. 1 Samuel 9:1-2; Romans 11:1.

Paul was a Jew and a Roman citizen by birth. He studied under a well-known professor, Gamaliel. Acts 22:3. Like his teacher and his father, Saul/Paul was a Pharisee. Acts 23:6.
Points of Information – Paul

Before his conversion on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:3-19), Saul/Paul was a zealous believer in God who felt wholly justified in his brutal persecution of Christian men and women. Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; Galatians 1:13.

A young Saul stood by, guarding the clothes of those who stoned Stephen (the first Christian martyr) to death and approving this murder. Acts 7:58—8:1a.
Points of Information – Paul

The Apostle Paul was a tentmaker by trade. Acts 18:3. This vocation enabled him to support himself and to have a transportable means of making a living during his extensive travels.

In addition to being a prolific writer, Paul was a powerful preacher who traveled great distances (in three missionary journeys, by land and water) to spread the Gospel of Christ Jesus and to establish numerous churches. He called himself “an apostle to the Gentiles.” Romans 11:13.
Paul wrote this letter (while he was in the city of Corinth) to the Christians in Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire – a city he had not yet visited.
The Apostle Paul sorely wanted to go to Rome, a city he had not yet visited.

This letter served as an introduction of Paul and his ministry – even as it laid a foundation for the theology he preached about salvation, righteousness, belief in Jesus, acceptance of Christ as Our Lord and Savior plus living and doing as He would have us to do.
Jewish Christians, who had been exiled from Rome (by the Emperor) had returned to the city. Now, there was tension and conflict between them and the Gentile Christians.

The Apostle Paul heard of the conflict and addressed the situation in this letter.
Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the Law shall live by it,

[Leviticus 18:5]
Romans 10:6

But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into Heaven?” (that is, to bring Christ down)

[Deuteronomy 30:12]
or “Who will descend into the abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

[Deuteronomy 30:13]
Romans 10:8

But what does it say? “The Word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the Word of faith which we preach;

[Deuteronomy 30:14]
Romans 10:9

because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
Romans 10:10

For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.
Romans 10:11

The Scripture says, “No one who believes in Him will be put to shame.”

[Isaiah 28:16]
Romans 10:12

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows His riches upon all who call upon Him.
Romans 10:13

For, “every one who calls upon the Name of the Lord will be saved.”

[Joel 2:32]
Romans 10:14

But how are men to call upon Him in Whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of Whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?
And how can men preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach good news!”

[Isaiah 52:7]
Romans 10:16

But they have not all obeyed the Gospel; for Isaiah says, “Lord who has believed what he has heard from us?”

[Isaiah 53:1]
So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ.
Remember these things:

The late, great Brother Ernie Ford often recited this quote: “I’d rather see a sermon than hear one.”

May each of our lives be a good and meaningful sermon for others.
Africa Bible Commentary. Tokunboh Adeyemo, General Editor.

All the Men of the Bible. Herbert Lockyer.

Bibliography – 2


Bibliography - 3

Holman Bible Handbook.

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.


In Search of Paul. John Dominic Crossan and Jonathan L. Reed.
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Life Application Bible Commentary – Romans.

Life Application Study Bible.

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Men in the Bible. Don Charles.

Precepts for Living [UMI]. Vince L. Bantu [Editor].

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Spirituality According to Paul – Imitating the Apostle of Christ. Rodney Reeves.

Tony Evans Study Bible, The.

Next Sunday School Live Lesson

May 19, 2024

The Spirit Creates One Body

1 Corinthians 12:14-31

Instructor: Michael McCants