



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

S.H.I.F.T.

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

September 26

Sing with me:

I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syvRTao_1k8

Memory Verse: Romans 1:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

Scripture: Romans 1: 8 - 17 NIV

Read with me

Paul's Longing to Visit Rome

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. 9 God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you 10 in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

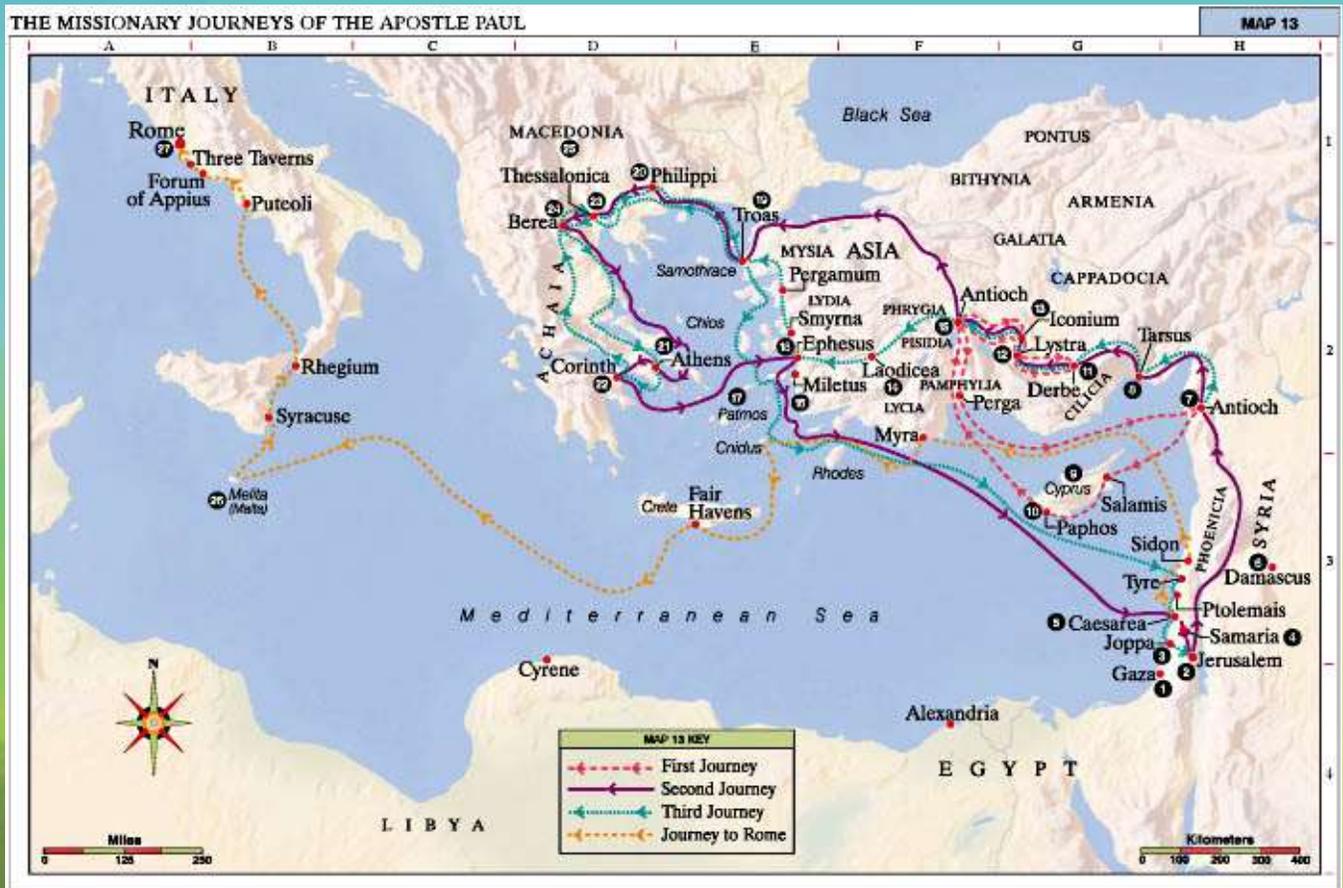
11 I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— 12 that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been

prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

14 I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. 15 That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. 17 For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

Let us talk about it.



Today I want us to go back in our thoughts to a young man called Saul. Remember him? He was the young man who did all he could to persecute the Christians. These were the group of people who were following the teaching of disciples of Jesus, after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Then Saul had a miraculous transformation in his life as he was travelling from Jerusalem to Damascus to persecute the Christians there. God decided He could use Saul in better ways. (Read Acts 9). After this conversion, Saul became an ardent teacher of the Gospel of Christ. Saul also became known as Paul, the name associated with his preaching and teaching.

In as much as Saul was converted, and began his teaching and preaching, a lot of people did not trust him, and as he had persecuted the Christians. He then became the target for persecution. But Paul pressed on. The map given shows the journeys Paul made in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As Paul moved from city to city, he kept in contact with the people by writing them letters. In the Bible we have thirteen of these letters – letters to the Romans, two letters to the Corinthians, to the Galatians, to the Ephesians, the Philippians, the Colossians and two letters to the Thessalonians. Paul also sent letters to some young men who would have travelled with him - Philemon, - Titus, and two letters to Timothy. Most of these letters would have been written when Paul was in prison, imprisoned for the preaching of the Gospel. Despite Paul's hardships, he continued to encourage the people, he appealed to the leaders for help, he continued to live according to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Paul had received salvation, and wanted everyone to know. In our reading, Paul is seeking to go to Rome to continue the spread of the gospel. (Find Rome on the map). Paul is making a declaration. He is not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Paul wants us to adopt a similar attitude. To live unashamed of the gospel not only means we proclaim it, but we must also apply it to our lives and show we believe it. Paul's life choices supported his message. He did not preach one thing and live another. We are "ashamed of the gospel" when we allow sin in our lives to go unchecked (Matthew 3:8). When we indulge in worldliness or blatantly disobey scriptural standards, we indicate the lack of confidence in our own message (1 Corinthians 3:3; 1 Peter 2:11). When we "walk in the counsel of the ungodly, stand in the path of sinners, and sit in the seat of scoffers" (Psalm 1:1), we are being ashamed of the gospel.

We are not allowing its truth to penetrate our lives so others see its changing power. To live unashamed of the gospel means we, like Paul, must allow it to dominate our lives to the extent that everyone within our sphere of influence can see we have "been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13). Let everyone around you know you are a child of Christ. You can do this through prayer, and through the way you live. Remember the song you sang in Sunday School, Into my heart, come into my heart Lord Jesus? As you sing this song, you are declaring that you are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Not only do you want to invite Jesus into your heart, you also want Jesus to shine out of your heart. Let your friends know, through your life, you are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.

Let us Pray

Father, forgive me for being ashamed of Your Gospel; forgive me for those times when I missed out on sharing the very truth that has saved me. Remove my fear of witnessing my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. May I never be intimidated by my friends who do not know You, but increase my courage so I can talk to others about You. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

ACTIVITY

1. On the map given at the beginning of the lesson travel with Paul as he travels from:

- a) Jerusalem to Damascus;
- b) Damascus to Antioch;
- c) Antioch to Ephesus
- d) Ephesus to Philippi
- e) Philippi to Corinth
- f) Corinth to Thessalonica
- g) Caesarea to Rome.

2. Complete the following word search by finding the words listed.

Name: _____

Romans 1:16

Y U G L F Y Y K S X
X J N Q E Z K A G K
E K S A N P L E T A
F L D N S V S S P S
Q O I R A H F O N H
G F J T E M A I G A
S E I V N W O M K M
W O R N P E O R E E
N E I B S E G P I D
Z X B E L I E V E S

salvation

God

Romans

believes

power

Jew

gospel

ashamed

unashamed

Gentile