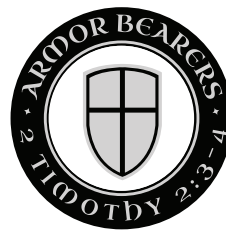


CALVARY CHAPEL OAKDALE



2025-2026

FAMOUS BIBLE CHARACTERS **OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**

DECEMBER, 2025

This Month's THEME:

PAUL: THE APOSTLE PAUL (PART 1).

WEEKLY THEMES THIS MONTH:

Week 1: Paul was knocked off his high horse.

Week 2: Paul immediately preached the Lord Jesus.

Week 3: Paul knew he was called to ministry by God.

Week 4: Paul worked hard to strengthen the brethren.

Week 5: Paul worshiped the Lord, even in prison.

(5th Weekly devotion for months with 5 Wednesdays)

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Acts 9:20 – Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.



**Full verse for:
Armor Bearers & Knights**

Acts 9:20 – Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues.



**Short verse for:
Page & Squires**

Lesson #1 - Paul was knocked off his high horse.

Text: Acts 9:4-5 - "Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.""

Read: Acts 9:1-19.

Devotional:

In the book of Job, we met three men who considered themselves "friends" of Job. Well, these friends came to Job to mourn with him and to comfort him after Job experienced a tremendous trial.

Unfortunately, after Job shared his struggle with his extremely deep trial these men only seemed to attack Job over and over in an attempt to convince Job he was not a good man. Well, Job tried to talk reason with these friends. But they were so convinced Job was evil and deserved the trial he was in that they didn't stop attacking him for a long time.

Well, in the end, the Lord said this to Eliphaz, one of the three friends of Job, in Job 42:7b, "the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

These three friends learned they can be very sure they are right, when they are actually very wrong. Have we ever experienced this?

Thoughts from the Lesson:

We can be very prideful and wrong in life. And because of it, we can do and say very wrong and mean things to people thinking we're right, when we're wrong. Have we learned God is infinitely smarter than all humans? And have we realized we need to learn His word, the Bible, as the one true source of truth in this world?

Questions for Application:

- Can we remember a time we thought we were right only to find out later we were wrong?
- Do we know what it means to be humble?
- Do we know God is the one true source of truth and we need to continually fear and seek Him for more truth?

Lesson #2 - Paul immediately preached the Lord Jesus.

Text: Acts 9:20 - "Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God."

Read: Acts 9:20-30.

Devotional:

Mikey had grown up in a pretty rough home. He could not remember a time he had seen his parents being kind and loving to each another. But the more time he spent at his friend, Davie's home, he saw real love in Davie's parents for each other as well as all other people.

Well, one day Mikey asked David's parents why they were so kind with each other and with him. And they told him it was because of the love of the Holy Spirit in them since they'd believed in Jesus.

Well, that very same day Mikey received Jesus into his life as well and he was so excited about Jesus and the love he now had for people that he immediately began to tell everyone he could about Jesus and how they could experience God's love and peace also.

Some people even asked Mikey, "Mikey, why are you talking about Jesus all the time? I've never heard you talk about Him before. But now, it seems that's all you want to talk about."

Well, Mikey told them he was so excited for what Jesus had done for him. For the first time in his life, He knew he was going to heaven. And for the first time, he knew God loved him and would never give up on him. So, he said, he just felt compelled by the love of Jesus to tell people all about him and how they could experience His love too.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

People come to Jesus and are changed by the love they experience with Him. But some are so radically changed by Jesus that they feel compelled to talk about Him to others. Do we feel a need to share Jesus with other? Have we asked the Lord to help us understand His love so much that we must tell people what He's done for us?

Questions for Application:

- Can we remember a time we shared the Lord with others?
- Do we truly desire to share the Lord with people so they can have God's peace like we do?
- Have we asked God to fill us with His love for others?

Lesson #3 - Paul knew he was called to his ministry by God.

Text: Acts 13:2 - "As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.""

Read: Acts 13:1-12.

Devotional:

Danny was in his church's youth group one Sunday and he heard a missionary talking about his ministry and how the Lord originally CALLED him into ministry.

Well, Danny thought about that a long time and wondered, "How does a person come to know they are called by God to a particular ministry?" So, he asked his youth pastor and other spiritual people he respected how he could find out what God was calling him to do in life?"

Well, the consistent message Danny got from various spiritual people was consistent with what he read in Acts 13. In Acts 13, spiritual people spent serious and planned time in prayer and fasting with the Lord. And they specifically had asked the Lord to reveal what plans He had for them and their lives. Additionally, when Jesus began His earthly ministry, He specifically searched out people and called them by name to be His followers and to do certain things.

So, as a result of these answers Danny got, he set up a personal plan. He decided he needed to learn the entire Bible, so that when he heard God's call for his life, he would know how to help himself and well as others with it. He also committed to a regular plan of praying for the Lord to reveal His plan to Danny. Danny also decided to fast from time to time since he saw it in Acts as a part of the call on Saul and Barnabas' life.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Danny was so excited to think one day he would get a call from God to some specific ministry God has called and prepared him to do.

Questions for Application:

- Have we ever considered God has detailed plans for our lives?
- Do we want to know God's call on and for our lives?
- Do we have a plan to be ready for God's call when He gives it?

Lesson #4 - Paul worked hard to strengthen the brethren.

Text: Acts 14:21-22a - "And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.""

Read: Acts 14:21-28.

Devotional:

Avery was reading in Act 14 about how the Apostle Paul was used of God, in the city of Lystra, to heal a man who had never walked in his entire life. And because of it, Paul got to speak to a large crowd about the Lord. But after Paul did all of that some people from other cities came to where he was and convinced them Paul was evil and the people actually tried to kill Paul.

Well, Paul simply moved on to another city, called Derbe, to minister to people there after Lystra. But as Avery got to Acts 14:21 and continued to read, she realized Paul chose to go back to the very city of Lystra where people tried to kill him. And Avery just could not understand why Paul would go back there and to take that risk.

Well, a good friend of Avery helped her see Paul went back to Lystra as well as other cities to strengthen the souls of the disciples in those cities. So, Avery's friend helped her understand Paul was more concerned with the spiritual growth and maturity of disciples of Jesus than he was for his own personal safety.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Avery had to think long and hard about how selfless Paul was for fellow believers in these cities. And she realized Paul had the heart of Jesus where He was more concerned for others than for his own safety. And she decided she wanted to live her life in the same way Jesus by putting others' concerns above her own.

Questions for Application:

- Have we learned to put aside our own concerns for others?
- Do we care more for others' safety than for our own?
- Have we known people who always seem to be concerned for others to grow to be better disciples, like Paul did?

Lesson #5 - Paul worshiped the Lord, even in prison.

Text: Acts 16:23-25 - "And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."

Read: Acts 16:16-34.

Devotional:

Anthony was the type of boy that got very upset with people and held a grudge for a long time if they were mean to him.

But one day he went to church with a friend and heard the story about Paul preaching in the city of Philippi. When Paul was there, Paul was actually used by God to cast a demon out of a girl. But some people complained about Paul and got him thrown into prison. The authorities even had Paul badly beaten before they threw him into prison. Well, Anthony thought about how angry he would have been at these men for what they did to him.

But then Anthony learned from the leaders at the church he went to that later that very same night Paul was beaten, he was actually in prison and was praying and singing to God. And while he was singing his body was likely still in real pain from his beating. This just didn't make any sense to Anthony.

So, Anthony began to realize it was possible to be mistreated by people, but still not hold a grudge towards them. He even realized it was possible to actually love people who are mean to us because God's love can help us overcome our anger towards them.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Do we get angry when people mistreat us? Or do we remember what Jesus did for us to give us eternal life and hope? Anthony realized he had a lot of thinking to do after learning about Paul.

Questions for Application:

- Are we easily upset with people when we're mistreated?
- Have we learned to love people even when they're mean to us?
- Do we know how to love when people are not easy to love?

What are the age groups for WFC?



Pages

(3 years old - Kindergarten)



Squires

(1st-3rd Grade)



Armor Bearers

(4th-6th Grade)

(Jr. High students can join the Armor Bearers
or attend the adult service.)

Note: All age groups determined by child's age on 9/1 ea. yr.

What awards can the children earn?

Three special pins can be earned each year and are awarded to the children as follows:

1. Sword Pin: For memorizing 6 verses during the WFC calendar year.
2. Helmet of Salvation Pin: For bringing 3 different friends to an evening during the calendar year.
3. Armor Pin: For attending 2/3 of the evenings or more.

Is there a cost for the club?

No! The club is free. The t-shirts are \$20 each.