

ON YOUR FEET

Paul, Barnabas,
and a Man Born Lane
Acts 13:1–3; 14:8–18
AD 47

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

Our God is the one true God.

BIBLE VERSE

Jesus Christ . . . is the true God and eternal life. 1 John
5:20

LEARNER GOAL

I understand that God is the one and only true God.

LAW & GOSPEL

In our sinful world, I fail to recognize the true God or His
followers.

**God reveals Himself to me and the world in Word and
Sacrament.**

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

The Holy Spirit leads the Church at Antioch to send Paul
and Barnabas on a momentous missionary journey. In
Lystra, they heal a man who had never been able to walk.
The people who see this think Paul and Barnabas are gods
come down to earth, and they attempt to offer sacrifices
to them. In grief, Paul and Barnabas tear their clothes and
rush into the crowd, barely preventing them from making
the offerings.

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read Acts 13:1–3; 14:8–18; and study notes in
The Lutheran Study Bible (TLSB).

MORE TIME Read Acts 13:4–14:7 in *TLSB* with study
notes to learn more about this missionary journey.

IN DEPTH Read Acts 14:19–28 in *TLSB* with study
notes to find out what happened after this account.

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- ☐ Picture of an idol, or a book on Greek gods and
goddesses

FOR EVERY LESSON

- ☐ Device with downloaded music
- ☐ Pens or pencils
- ☐ Student copies of *Explore Bible Guidebook*
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Copies of downloadable activity page
- ☐ Supplies for bonus activities
- ☐ cph.org/digitalcontent



LEADER NOTE

Bring in a book about Greek gods and goddesses or print out a picture of an idol. Show the cover of the book or the picture as you talk about false gods and the one true God during the opening.



GUIDEBOOKS

Hand out student copies of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* and turn to Lesson 6.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Use the hands-on “Trinity Triangle Craft” to aid your discussion about our one true God.

LAUNCH

PRAY Dear heavenly Father, thank You for making us Your children. Help us remember that You are the one true God, and help us to always trust in You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SING “God’s Word for Everyone”
“I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus”
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

SAY Some people in Bible times believed in false gods, and they worshiped idols. Show book of Greek gods or picture of an idol. People thought that idols like these could help them. What do you think? Could these things help anyone? No way! They may be interesting to learn about, but none of these are real. There is only one true God, the God we learn about in the Bible, who loves us and saved us by sending Jesus.

LEARN

READ “ON YOUR FEET”

Use the *Explore Bible Guidebook* to read the Bible narrative aloud to your students.

DO SOMETHING

FOR YOUNGER LEARNERS After reading the narrative from the *Explore Bible Guidebook*, ask students to help you retell it using the following actions to describe the events as you read the summary sentence:

Paul and Barnabas are sent off on a mission. (*Everyone put hands on the heads of two students.*)

A man who could not walk listens to Paul preach. (*Sit down on floor and cup hands around ears.*)

Paul says to the man, “Stand upright on your feet,” and the man stands up. (*Jump up.*)

The crowds try to worship Paul and Barnabas. (*Bow down.*)

Paul and Barnabas stop the crowds and tell them to worship the true God. (*Shake head no, then point up to heaven.*)

FOR OLDER LEARNERS Hand out Bibles and have students read the narrative straight from Scripture. Review by reading the summary sentences in the “For Younger Learners” section and leading students in the actions. Then ask an older student or two to create their own summary sentences and lead the group in doing actions a second time.

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Holy Spirit prompted the Church at Antioch to lay hands of blessing on Paul and Barnabas and send them on a missionary journey to preach about Jesus Christ to people in many cities. Today, the Church continues to send missionaries to cities near and far to proclaim the Good News to the nations.
- The people in Lystra worshiped false gods, especially Zeus and Hermes, so when they saw the man healed, they wrongly thought Paul and Barnabas were those gods come down to earth, and they tried to worship them. But Paul and Barnabas would not let the people worship them—there is only one true God, and we are to worship Him alone.

LIVE

EXPLORE THE CONTEXT

Before you start the discussion questions, use the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for further details about the city of Lystra, the Greek gods, and Greek religious rituals, found in Lesson 6.

TALK ABOUT IT

Choose from the following questions. For a few helps, encourage students to look in the *Explore Bible Guidebook*.

- ▶ **Who does the Church send out today to go and preach the Good News of Jesus?** (The Church ordains men to be pastors in congregations. The Church commissions teachers, directors of Christian education [DCEs], deaconesses, and other church workers to serve and share the Gospel. All Christians are called by God to share the Good News.)
- ▶ **Paul and Barnabas pointed people to the one true God. How can you point people to the one true God? What can you say about Jesus, your Savior?**

Question for older students:

- ▶ **The devil confused the people of Lystra, leading them to think that false gods had the power to heal. The devil confuses and tricks people today, encouraging them to reject the one true God and put their trust in other gods. What are some of these other, false gods?** (Allah, Buddha, money, fame, etc.)

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE TOGETHER

Jesus Christ . . . is the true God and eternal life. 1 John 5:20

KEY DISCUSSION POINT

- The one true God is the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our God created us and saved us from our sins. He gives us faith and helps us live as His children. He promises us eternal life with Him.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

Ask volunteers to tell you about our God, the one true God. What is He like? What has He done for them? What has He promised them?

LEAVE

SAY Paul and Barnabas were sent to tell others about the one true God, Jesus Christ, our Savior. God has called us to tell others about Him too!

SING The Doxology, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
"The Lord's Prayer"
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

PRAY Dear Jesus, You are our God. We believe in You. Help us always to trust in You and share Your Good News with others. In Your name we pray. Amen.



DOWNLOADABLE PAGE

Extend learning by printing the downloadable activity page found in the digital resource center. See the back page of this guide for details.



CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus Christ is the one true God. He is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.



BONUS ACTIVITY

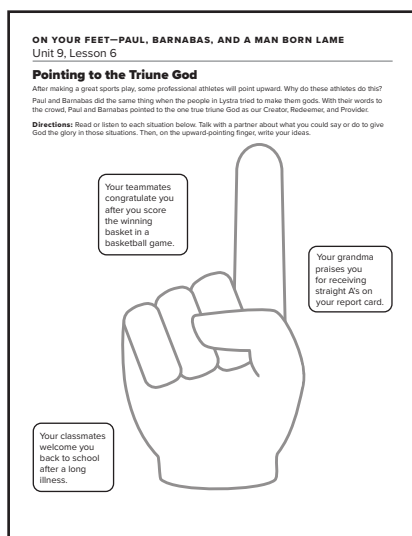
Give students a chance to practice talking about their faith with the "God Is . . ." Role Play."

DOWNLOADABLE PAGE HELPS

Make copies of the downloadable activity page found in the digital resource center. Use the helps below as a guide.

Lead students in a discussion to formulate statements that give God the glory and credit for the listed accomplishments. Responses might include something like the following: “I thank God for giving me the strength to make the winning basket.” “Thanks, Grandma. God is helping me use the brain He gave me to study and learn.” “I give God all the glory for healing me.”

Write samples from your discussion where students can see and easily copy them, or write them for students on the page as needed.



CONNECTING IDENTITY & CALLING

IDENTITY: WHO AM I?

God reveals Himself to me in the Word and Sacraments.

CALLING: WHY AM I HERE?

I can trust God to keep me in His Word.

GROWING IN FAITH FOR LIFE

See how this lesson builds on previous learning for each age.

ADULT

I can examine the text to see how Paul and Barnabas reveal that our God is the one true God, and I can apply that understanding to my own life.

YOUTH

I can share the truth that our God is the one true God.

ELEMENTARY

I understand that God is the one and only true God.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

I know God is the one true God, and He wants everyone to be saved.

BONUS ACTIVITIES

TRINITY TRIANGLE CRAFT

5–10 minutes

The one true God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Give each student three craft sticks. Color each with marker or crayon, if desired. Use a permanent marker to write “Father,” “Son,” and “Holy Spirit”—one title on each stick. Glue end to end in a triangle shape or use glue dots to attach. Add a loop of yarn for a hanger.

“GOD IS . . .” ROLE PLAY

10–15 minutes

Divide students into pairs and have them role-play, acting out what they would say if someone asked them the question, “Who is God?” Talk about possible answers before they begin. Walk around and assist pairs as needed.

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

15–20 minutes

Does your church support a missionary family? Show photos, use a map, and share information about the missionaries—where they serve and what they do. Together, write a letter of encouragement and pray for the missionary family. Ask students to think of other ways they could support them.