

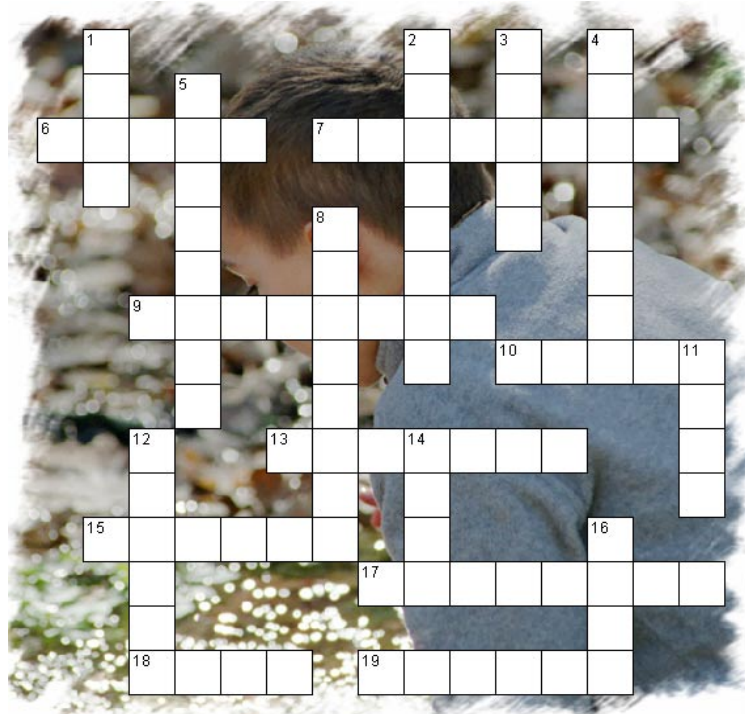
Crossword Puzzle

God's Calling in the New Testament

- Lesson Sixteen -

In Acts –

The Sending Out of Barnabas and Saul

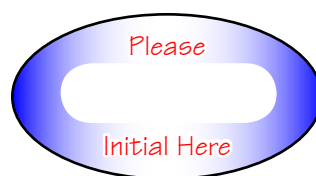


Across

Down

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6. Later the churches in _____ | 1. _____ of Tarsus. |
| 7. During this _____ journey... | 2. God opened the door to the _____ |
| 9. ...many Gentiles _____ and turned to the Lord. | 3. ...the gospel of _____ Christ... |
| 10. ...they sent out a disciple named Barnabas to _____ them. | 4. _____ and Saul... |
| 13. One day when several prophets and teachers in Antioch were _____ | 5. ...prophets and _____ in Antioch... |
| 15. ...many Gentiles believed and _____ | 8. Their service in the church in Antioch had _____ them to go... |
| 17. One day when several _____ | 11. The Lord was making Barnabas and Saul into a _____ |
| 18. The church in Antioch was able to _____, and sent Barnabas and Saul... | 12. The _____ in Jerusalem... |
| 19. Saul of _____. | 14. Barnabas and Saul stayed in Antioch for about a _____ |
| | 16. But nearly all the disciples were Jews and still spoke only to the _____ |

Parent's Initials:



I. Overview.

In the previous lesson, we saw how the Lord Jesus called a man named Saul of Tarsus to become one of His disciples. In this lesson we will see how Saul and another disciple named Barnabas were called to serve the Lord in a particular way.



God desired for the gospel to bear fruit among the Gentiles.

The particular way that Barnabas and Saul were called to serve was related to the work of the ministry. To do the work of the ministry

often requires the called ones to leave their own city and bring the gospel to other places. In order to be prepared for this kind of service, we should be those who have learned to faithfully serve in our own church. Actually, very few people are called to serve the Lord in this way. Most of us are called only to serve in our own city and church. But all of those who are called to serve in the work of the ministry must first be faithful in serving in their own church. The Lord would not call any to the work who were not faithful in their own church.

II. Memory Verse.

“And as they were ministering to the Lord... the Holy Spirit said, Set apart for me now Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

(Acts 13:2)

III. Lesson.

God opened the door of the gospel to the Gentiles through Peter at the house of Cornelius. But nearly all of the disciples were Jews and still spoke only to the Jews. Some did, however, speak to the Gentiles at a city called Antioch and many Gentiles believed and turned to the Lord.



Barnabas and Saul were sent out to bring the gospel to the Gentiles.

A Disciple Named Barnabas

When the church in Jerusalem heard of what the Lord had done among the Gentiles in Antioch, they sent out a disciple named Barnabas to visit them. Barnabas realized that he needed help to take care of the new church, so he went to Tarsus, where Saul lived, and brought him back to Antioch. Barnabas and Saul stayed in Antioch for about a year serving the church and helping the saints.

Later the churches in Judea were in great need of financial help. The church in Antioch was able to help, and sent Barnabas and Saul to bring them the money. The Lord was making Barnabas and Saul into a team which He could use to serve the churches.

The Call to Serve the Lord in the Work of the Ministry

One day when several prophets and teachers in Antioch were praying together and serving the Lord, the Holy Spirit told them to set apart Barnabas and Saul for a special work. The Lord was giving them a further calling. They were to go out together to visit many Gentile lands and preach the gospel to them. Their service to the Lord in the church in Antioch had prepared them to go out and serve the Lord among the Gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas

During this ministry journey Saul began to be called Paul. In the beginning of their ministry work, Barnabas, the older brother, took the lead and Paul followed. After a short while the Bible shows us that Paul began to be the one who was taking the lead among them. There was no jealousy or competition between them, but both men served the Lord according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Paul and Barnabas went to several cities among the Gentiles preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ and many churches were raised up. The Lord Jesus was strongly with the brothers and blessed all their work in the gospel.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. When was the gospel opened to the Gentiles?

2. Where did the Lord first establish a church among the Gentiles?

3. Who was first sent from Jerusalem to Antioch?

4. What did the Lord call Barnabas and Saul to do?

