

Teaching Resource Items
for
Going Viral: The Birth and Advance of the Church (Acts)

These items are selected from “Teaching Plans” in
Going Viral: The Birth and Advance of the Church (Acts)—Bible Teaching Guide.

They are provided to make lesson preparation easier and faster
for handouts and similar items.

(An item is not provided for every lesson, since every lesson’s “Teaching Plans”
does not include items that lend themselves to handouts.)

See *Going Viral: The Birth and Advance of the Church (Acts)—Bible Teaching Guide*
for guidance in using these items.

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Teaching Resource Items

1. For Lesson One, Discovery Plan— Step 5, *Quotes*
2. For Lesson One, Discussion Plan— Step 4, *Questions on Acts 1:4-8*
3. For Lesson Three, Discovery Plan— Step 3, *Case Study*
4. For Lesson Four, Discovery Plan— Step 4, *Maze Drawing*
5. For Lesson Seven, Discussion Plan— Step 6, *“Overcoming Differences” Chart*
6. For Lesson Nine, Discussion Plan— Step 3, *Team Assignments*
7. For Lesson Ten, Discovery Plan— Step 1, *Persecution Story*
8. For Lesson Ten, Discovery Plan— Step 4, *Team Assignments*
9. For Lesson Ten, Discovery Plan— Step 5/Discussion Plan—Step 9, *Five “R’s” of Salvation*
10. For Lesson Eleven, Discovery Plan— Step 3, *Questions on Acts 17*
11. For Lesson Eleven, Discovery Plan— Step 5, *Five “I’s” Outline*
12. For Lesson Thirteen, Discovery Plan— Step 7, *Personal Testimony Outline*

Quotes

“I have a terrific headache.” Franklin Roosevelt

“I’m bored with it all.” Winston Churchill

“That picture is awful dusty.” Jesse James

“I die hard, but am not afraid to go.” George Washington

**Item 1, For Lesson One, Discovery Plan—
Step 5, Quotes**

Questions on Acts 1:4-8

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1. Before Jesus departed the earth, what did he command the disciples to do? Why?
2. What did the disciples ask Jesus? What does this question tell you about their understanding of their mission?
3. How did Jesus respond to their question? How does that response apply to us today?

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Item 2, For Lesson One, Discussion Plan— Step 4, Questions on Acts 1:4-8

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Case Study

Case Study

Every morning, Jim stops for a cup of coffee. And every day, he passes the same homeless man outside the store. Sometimes, he wonders if he should give the man something from the store—or maybe talk to him for a few minutes. If he asked you what he should do, what would you say? Why?

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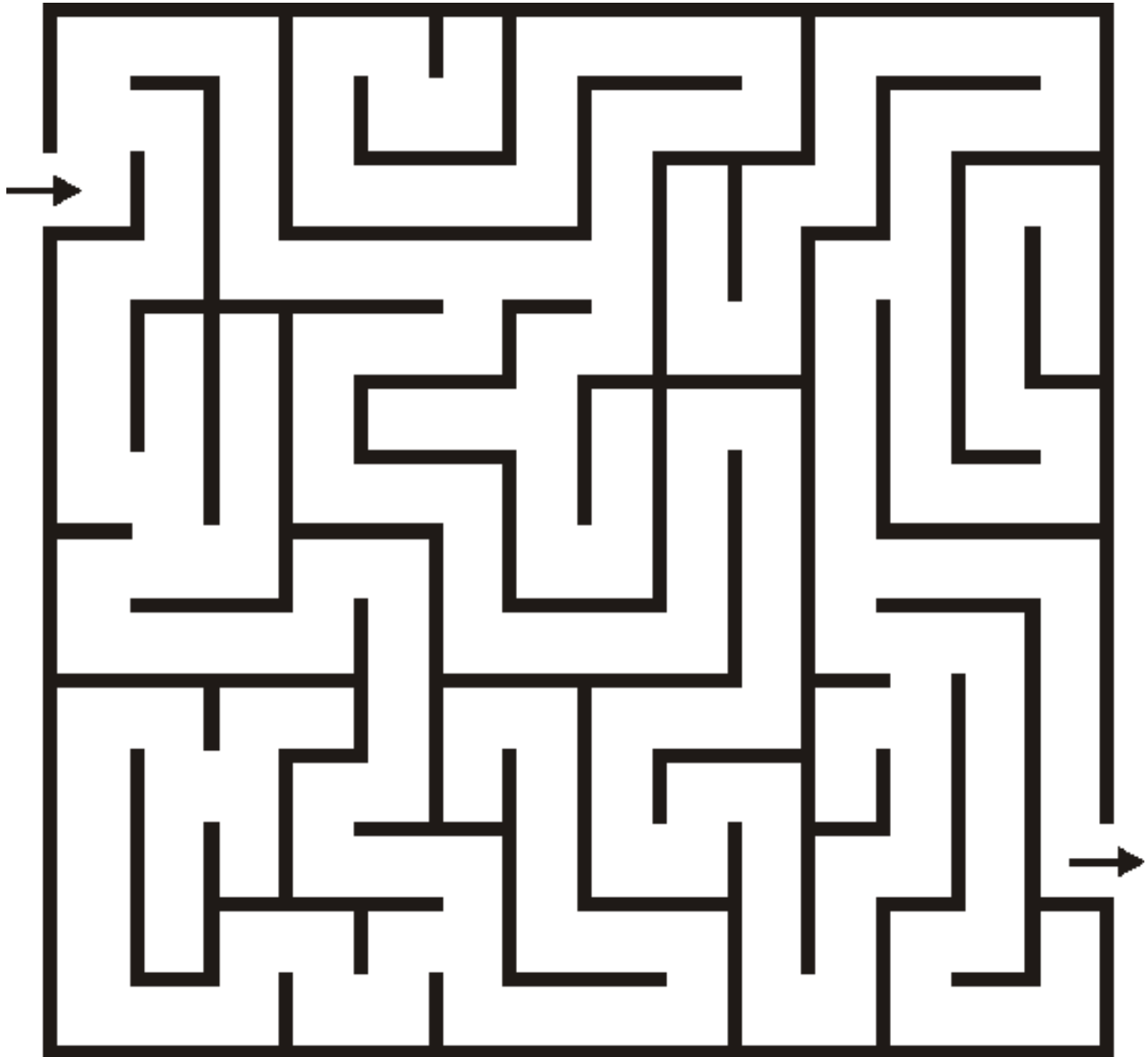
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Item 3, For Lesson Three, Discovery Plan— Step 3, Case Study

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Maze Drawing



From http://www.printactivities.com/Mazes/005_Maze_14x14.html

Item 4, For Lesson Four, Discovery Plan— Step 4, Maze Drawing

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Overcoming Differences Chart

Overcoming Differences: What differences or boundaries existed between these people?			
	LANGUAGE	CULTURE	RELIGION
Philip and the Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-40)			
Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10)			
Men from Cyprus & Cyrene and Greeks in Antioch (Acts 11:19-21)			

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Item 5, For Lesson Seven, Discussion Plan— Step 6, Overcoming Differences Chart

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Team Assignments

Team 1

1. Read Acts 15:1-5 and the “Grace Challenged” section of the *Study Guide*.
2. Describe the Judaizers. What was their motive?
3. Why was circumcision such a point of contention?
4. How do we place requirements or expectations on people before including them in our church?

Team 2

1. Read Acts 15:6-21 and the “Grace Debated” section of the *Study Guide*.
2. Have you ever attended a bitter church meeting? What happened?
3. How were the issues resolved?
4. Why was this such a weighty issue for the early church?
5. Who were the key characters in this Scripture and what roles did they play?
6. Why did James add a note of compromise in Acts 15:19-21?

Team 3

1. Read Acts 15:22-29 and the “Grace Affirmed” section of the *Study Guide*.
2. Why send both a letter and Paul and Barnabas?
3. What was the result of the meeting of the Jerusalem Council?
4. How did their decision impact the future of the church?
5. Is a win/win outcome possible for church conflicts? Explain.

Item 6, For Lesson Nine, Discussion Plan— Step 3, Team Assignments

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Persecution Story

IRAN: WHAT MADE YOU HATE ME?

Eight days after receiving a 15-year prison sentence and nearly a year after he was first detained, Muslim convert to Christianity Amin Afshar Naderi wrote an open letter to Iranian authorities.

“What have I done against you and our country that made you hate me this much? I have learned from the Bible to love my enemies and to pray for those who hate me,” his letter began.

On July 3, 2017, Amin was sentenced to 15 years in prison: 10 years for “acting against national security by organizing and conducting house churches” and an additional five years for blasphemy. Two other believers received 10-year sentences at the same time.

In his letter, Amin said during his interrogations, he had been spoken to abusively, mocked and insulted, but that he prays for the health of his interrogators. He also said his fellow prisoners were forced to sign a false statement against him, and that officials wrongly reported Amin had insulted their religious beliefs.

During the year he has already spent in prison, Amin spent three months in solitary confinement while on a hunger strike. His health deteriorated dangerously, but shortly after receiving the 15-year sentence, he began a new hunger strike.

Amin has been in prison since August 2016, when he was arrested along with five other Christians while at a private party. He’d previously been arrested while at a Christmas celebration in 2014.

His pastor, Victor Bet-Tamraz, one of the two others sentenced in the same hearing, is well-known among Persian Christians. An Assyrian man, he held Persian-language services at his Pentecostal Assyrian Church in Tehran, before the church was closed by authorities. Christian worship in the Persian language is illegal.

You can write a letter to Amin through prisoneralert.com, and you can also petition Iranian officials on his [behalf](#). (This article was accessed at http://www.persecution.com/public/newsroom.aspx?story_ID=%3d383632&featuredstory_ID=%3d353934 on 7/26/17)

Item 7, For Lesson 10, Discovery Plan— Step 1, Persecution Story

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Team Assignments

Team 1

1. Read Acts 16:11-15 and the section “Witness Brings Response” from the *Study Guide*.
2. Using a map, trace the travels of Paul and Silas. Speculate on the content of their conversations as they traveled.
3. For further background, read the sidebar entitled “The Roman Province of Phillipi” from the *Study Guide*.
4. Why was there no synagogue in Phillipi?
5. Describe Lydia and her conversion experience. What prompted her hospitality?

Team 2

1. Read Acts 16:16-21 and the section “Witness Brings Opposition” from the *Study Guide*.
2. How was the slave-girl able to recognize the identity and mission of Paul and Silas?
3. How does this remind us that our “struggle is not against flesh and blood”?
4. Why was Paul so annoyed by the slave-girl?
5. What was the true motive behind the actions of the slave-girl’s masters?
6. What lies do people spread today to hinder the advance of the gospel? How should we respond to these falsehoods?

Team 3

1. Read Acts 16:22-24 and the “Witness Brings Suffering” section in the *Study Guide*.
2. Why were Paul and Silas not afforded due process but were immediately beaten and thrown into jail, especially since they were Roman citizens? Was prejudice involved? Do similar things happen today?
3. Why were Paul and Silas placed in the “inner prison” with their feet fastened in the stocks? Why such excessive security?
4. Would we continue to witness for Christ if it brought us suffering like this?

Team 4

1. Read Acts 16:25-34 and the “Witness Brings More Response” section of the *Study Guide*.
2. How were Paul and Silas able to maintain such a worshipful attitude while in prison?
3. How did their attitude and actions impact the other prisoners?
4. Describe God’s timing in causing the earthquake.
5. Describe how were Paul and Silas saved the Philippian jailer’s life *twice* on this night? What was the response of the jailer and his family to the gospel? How did they express their gratitude to Paul and Silas?

Item 8, For Lesson Ten, Discovery Plan— Step 4, Team Assignments

Five “R’s” of Salvation

Realize that you are a sinful person, meaning that you want your way more than God’s way in your life, and that you can do nothing to change yourself or put yourself in a right relationship with God. (Romans 3:23)

Relate your condition to God. The Bible word for that is *confess*. It means agreeing with God about something he already knows. (1 John 1:9)

Repent from your sinfulness and turn to God through Christ. This means you decide you do not want to live a life of sin any longer and you want Christ to come into your life and change you. You turn away from sin and turn to God through Christ. (Acts 3:19-20)

Receive Christ into your life. Pray and ask him to come in, forgive you of your sins, and change you into a person who looks and acts like him. (John 1:12)

Respond publicly. Tell people about your decision and tell your pastor or Bible study leader that you have made this decision. (Romans 10:8-10)

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Item 9, For Lesson Ten, Discovery Plan— Step 5 Discussion Plan— Step 9 , Five “R’s” of Salvation

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Questions on Acts 17

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Read the following Scriptures and discuss the corresponding questions in your group.

1. Acts 17:10-12—How did the Bereans react to Paul's preaching?
2. Acts 17:16-21—What happened when Paul preached to the people of Athens?
3. Acts 17:22-31—How did Paul explain the gospel to the Athenians?
4. Acts 17:32-34—What were the results of Paul's witness?

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3. Acts 17:22-31—How did Paul explain the gospel to the Athenians?
4. Acts 17:32-34—What were the results of Paul's witness?

Item 10, For Lesson Eleven, Discovery Plan— Step 3, Questions on Acts 17

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Five “I’s” Outline

Identify one (or more) person who needs to hear the gospel.

Intercede for this person.

Invest time in building a relationship with this person.

Initiate spiritual conversations with the individual by asking questions, such as what they believe about the Bible, sin, death, and hell, etc.

Invite the person to accept the gift of salvation available through Christ.

Five “I’s” Outline

Identify one (or more) person who needs to hear the gospel.

Intercede for this person.

Invest time in building a relationship with this person.

Initiate spiritual conversations with the individual by asking questions, such as what they believe about the Bible, sin, death, and hell, etc.

Invite the person to accept the gift of salvation available through Christ.

Item 11, For Lesson Eleven, Discovery Plan— Step 5, Five “I’s” Outline

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Personal Testimony Outline

Before I Accepted Christ

- ☐ What was my life like before I became a Christian?
- ☐ Where did I get my security and happiness?
- ☐ Why did these areas not satisfy me?

How I Received Christ

- ☐ What were the struggles that went through my mind before I accepted Christ?
- ☐ When and how did I respond to the gospel?
- ☐ Why did I accept Christ?

After I Accepted Christ

- ☐ What specific changes took place in my life?
- ☐ Why am I now motivated differently?
- ☐ In what ways does God bless and guide me even though I am not perfect?
- ☐ What is God doing in my life today?

Helpful Hints

- ☐ Write the way you speak; make your testimony personal.
- ☐ Practice it until it becomes natural.
- ☐ Aim for a testimony of no more than three minutes in length.

***Item 12, For Lesson 13, Discovery Plan—
Step 7, Personal Testimony Outline***