



Student Activities for New Testament Volume 32

The Future of the Church

Developed by Stacey Brubaker Brownlie and Karen E. Weitzel
Typesetting and Layout: Patricia Pope

© Bible Visuals International, PO Box 153, Akron, PA 17501-0153
Phone: (717) 859-1131 www.biblevisuals.org

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.
International copyright regulations apply. No duplication for resale allowed.
No part of this document may be reproduced without written permission except where indicated.

MEMORY VERSE TOKENS

Duplicate the memory verse tokens (masters found on pages 15 and 16, making one token for each student in your class.

MEMORY VERSE POSTER

Enlarge and color the poster on page 17 or enlarge the poster on page 18 to use for teaching the memory verse.

STUDENT COLORING PAGES

Permission is granted to make one copy of pages 19 through 34 for each student in your class. For best results, set your copier to “text mode” and not “photo/grayscale mode” if this feature is available to you.

Lesson 1

THE THESSALONIAN CHURCH

MEMORY VERSE TIME

Prepare: Cut out figure of person on page 5. Paste portion of figure as indicated on Memory Time poster found on page 6. Prior to use with your class, fold the figure down along dotted line. See example below:

**Ye turned to God
from idols to serve**

Explanation: What is an idol? (Allow limited discussion.) An idol is anything a person worships: something greatly loved or admired. The people in Thessalonica worshiped many idols. Near the city was Mt. Olympus. The Greeks believed this was the home of their gods. The mountain reminded the Thessalonians of their idols.

In these verses we are told that the Thessalonians turned away from their idol worship to God. They believed God to be the one true, living God. He alone should be worshiped and loved.

What idols do we have? We may not bow before images or statues. But all of us have loved something more than God. Perhaps you have never believed that God is the true and living God of Heaven who loves you. Will you turn away from the idol of unbelief to God? Or perhaps you always do what you yourself want. Will you turn to God from the idol of selfishness?

Turning to God and away from sin is repentance. Have you repented of your sin? Have you turned to God and asked Him to save you from the punishment of sin?

FILL IN THE BLANK: Learning about the Thessalonian Church

Prepare: Make one copy of the worksheet on page 5 for each student in your class.

Answer Key: idols; Paul; God; turned; received; suffering; Timothy; letter.

STORY: Ed and Beth Learn to Witness, Part 1

“I thought you said these were pictures about the Philippines. That one looks like our city!” Ed exclaimed as he watched Uncle Bill show slides.

“But,” said Beth, “look at that funny truck or jeep or whatever it is! We don’t have anything like that! What is it, Uncle Bill?”

“That vehicle is called a jeepney, Beth. It’s one way the Filipino people travel. Boxes and parcels are piled on top and the people ride inside. Often the jeepneys are very crowded.”

“Have you ridden in a jeepney?” Ed asked.

“Yes, lots of times . . . I use the jeepney to visit the believers outside the city. It’s a bumpy ride!”

“I think it would be fun!” Ed said.

“Uncle Bill, why did you go to the Philippines?” Beth asked.

“I went to the Philippines, Beth, because I knew God wanted me to go. He showed me I should be a witness for Him among the Filipino people—telling them about the Lord Jesus.”

“What is a witness?” Ed asked.

Uncle Bill turned on a lamp, switched off the slide projector, and faced Beth and Ed. “Do you have Bibles?” he asked.

“Yes,” both chorused.

“If you will get them, I’ll show you what a witness is,” Uncle Bill said. The two ran to their rooms.

When they were seated beside him, Uncle Bill began, “Which of you can find Acts 1:8 first?”

Beth and Ed flipped through their Bibles. “I found it!” Ed yelled.

“Good! And you have it, too, Beth? Will you read it together?”

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

“There’s that word *witness!*” Beth said.

“Right! A witness is a person who tells others what he has seen or knows (1 John 1:1-3a). The disciples were witnesses. They had seen the Lord Jesus do miracles. They listened to His teaching for three years. They saw Him when He died and after He arose. According to Acts 1:8, Jesus told the disciples just