

2 Bible Learning 10–15 minutes

Objective: Students will hear how Paul and some church leaders cared for each other.

Before class, fold the poster Teaching Aid 16 so the boat is not in view. Have your Bible open to Acts 20.

BIBLE STORY

Paul was a man that God provided to lead the church during Bible times. Paul was a good church leader because he cared for God's people by teaching them what they needed to know about following Jesus.

Some people learned so well that they also became church leaders. Paul was glad for these new leaders. He spent time with these leaders, helping them learn how to care for God's people.

One day, Paul asked the new leaders in the city of Ephesus to meet him at the beach. Only Paul knew why they were meeting at the beach. (Show Teaching Aid 16, with the ship folded back.)

Paul talked about how he taught the people things that would help them follow God. He told them how he used every opportunity to tell people about Jesus and encourage people everywhere to ask Jesus to forgive them of their sins. Paul was encouraging them to be caring church leaders like he was.

Then Paul told the church leaders what God wanted him to do next. He knew God wanted him to go to Jerusalem to be with the church there. In fact, he needed to get on a ship in a few minutes. (Unfold the Teaching Aid.) Paul said he would never again see them.

This was not what the new leaders wanted.



"Paul Says Goodbye"
Teaching Aid 16

The people in the church loved Paul. And Paul loved God's people. Everyone knew this because of all the ways he showed he cared for them. He spent a lot of time teaching them about Jesus, praying for them, and praying with them. Paul spent time living with the people and talking with them so he could learn to know them.

Paul worked hard as a leader of the church because he wanted to obey God.

Because Paul cared for them so much, the leaders who met with Paul at the beach were sad to hear he was going. The men who were the new leaders knew they would have to be caring leaders, just like Paul.

Before Paul left he asked those friends once more to be good church leaders by caring for God's people. Then they got down on their knees and prayed together one last time. They cried, and hugged and kissed each other. Then the men went down to the ship and watched Paul leave. They knew that God wanted them to be church leaders in their home town, caring for God's people, and using everything Paul had taught.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

- **How did Paul care for the people in his church family?** (He taught them about Jesus, he prayed for the people and with them, he taught hymns, he did things to help him know more about the people.)
- **How did the church leaders show love for Paul?** (They prayed together for Paul, they cried, hugged, and kissed him goodbye.)

Distribute *Storytime* for Lesson 13 and have students complete page 4.



Storytime, Lesson 13,
page 4

3 Bible Application 10 minutes

Objective: Students will learn that their church leaders care about them.

MEMORY VERSE

Help children find the memory verse on page 4 of *Storytime*. Read the memory verse together.

- **There is one special leader who is in charge of all the other leaders of the church. Do you know who that is?** (Jesus, also known as Christ.)

Lead the children in the familiar action rhyme.

Our ears hear Bible stories.

(Cup hands to ears.)

We use our lips to pray.

(Point to lips, then fold hands.)

Christ is the head of the church.

(Point upward.)

Let's worship Him today!

(Clap three times.)

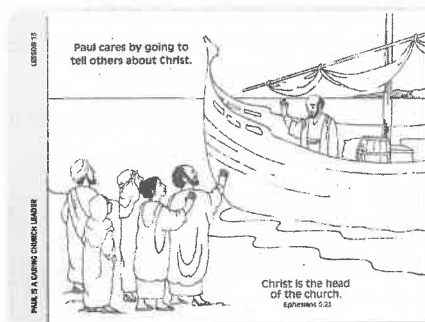
Let volunteers say the memory verse alone. Or let the girls say it, then the boys.

Collect the *Storytime* papers and put them away until the end of class.

HANDCRAFT

Remove Lesson 13 from the Make-It/Take-It book ahead of time. Provide crayons for children to color the picture.

Optional— Provide construction paper strips so students can frame their paintings after they dry. Tape both ends of a 10-inch piece of yarn to the back as a hanger.



Make-It/Take-It, Lesson 13

The church leaders cared about Paul. Our church leaders care about us too.



Storytime

Lesson 13

Paul Says Goodbye

Bible story based on Acts 20:16-38



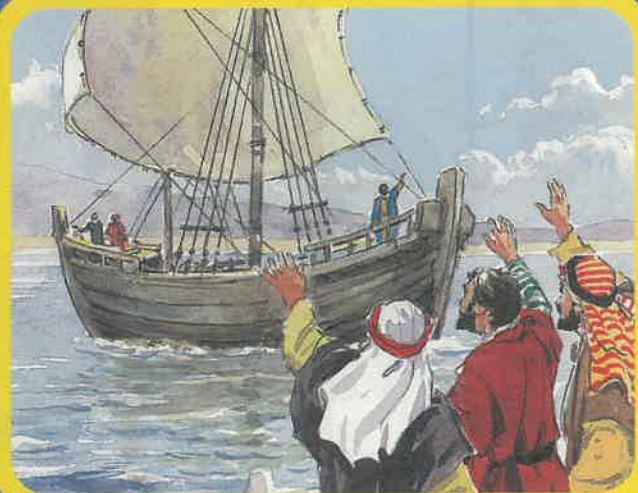
1. Paul was a good church leader. He cared for people in the church by teaching them about Jesus. Paul loved the people and they loved him.



2. But the time came for Paul to go to a big city far away. The leaders from the church walked with Paul to the boat. They were sad he was leaving.




3. Paul and his church friends prayed together. Paul told the church leaders to care for God's people by being good leaders.




4. The new leaders waved good-bye. They knew God wanted them to care for God's people. They would do everything Paul taught them.

God's Family




Mom, I saw Dr. Reed go to the hospital. Why was he there?

He saw Aunt Macy. She is sick. Aunt Macy helps a lot at church.



What does Dr. Reed do when he visits people in the hospital?

He prays and reads the Bible. Dr. Reed cares about God's people.

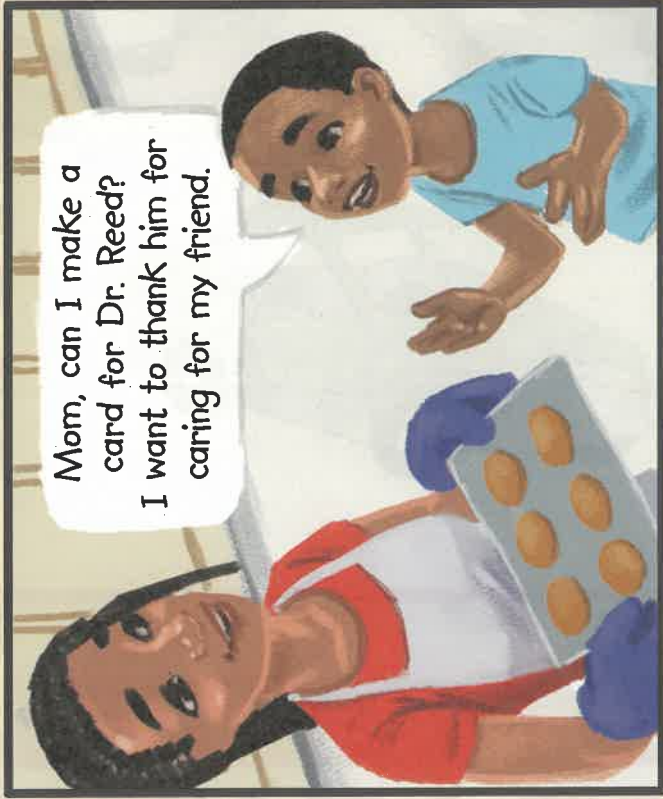


Would Dr. Reed visit me if I got sick?

He sure would, honey!



Look! Dr. Reed is visiting David. I know David is sick.



Mom, can I make a card for Dr. Reed? I want to thank him for caring for my friend.

That would be very nice. We can also give him some warm blueberry muffins.

I'm glad I'm a part of God's family.

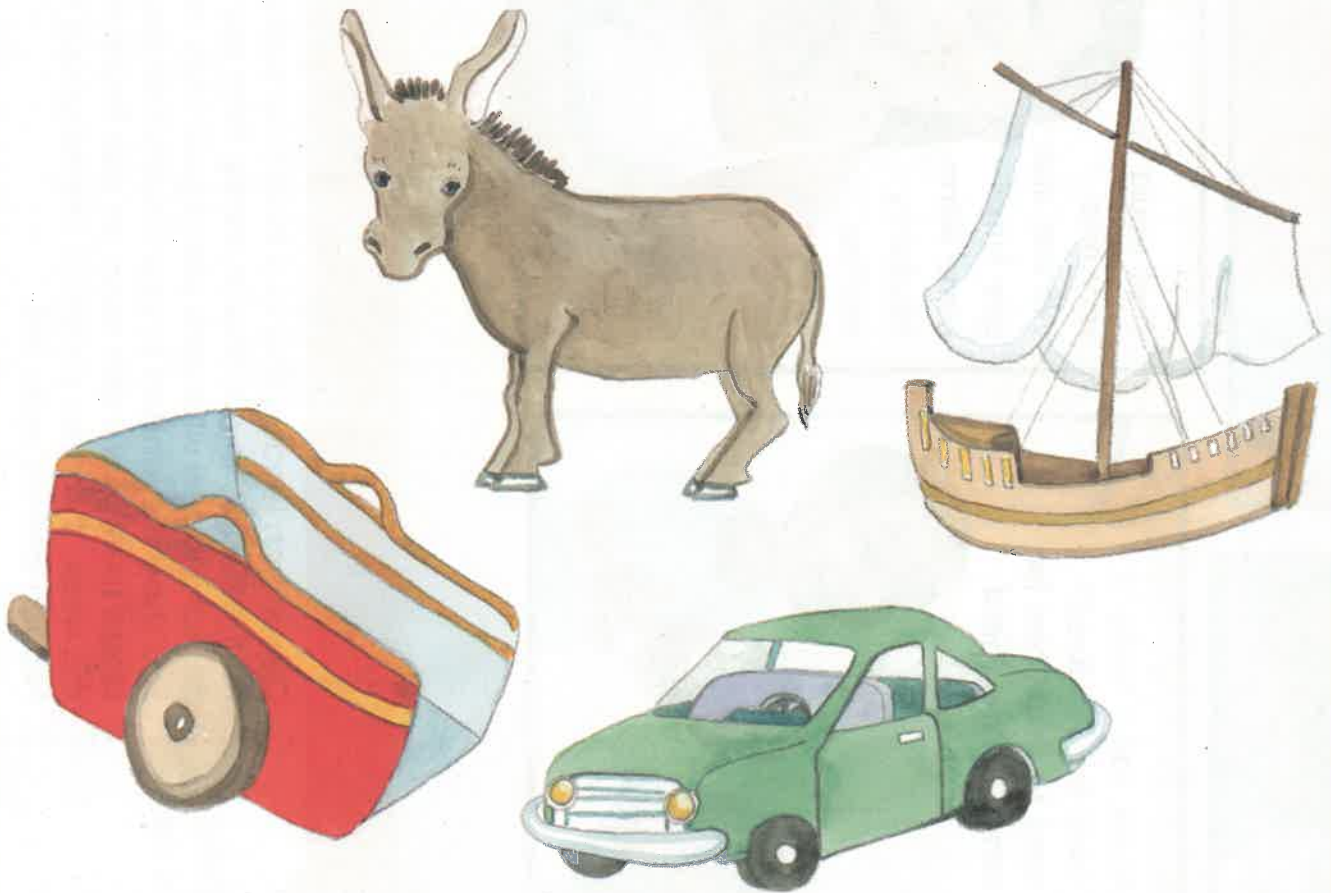
Talk About It

Bible Truth: God gives church leaders who care about us.

Our church leaders spend a lot of time caring for the people in our church family. Who are the church leaders who care about you? How can you show the leaders in your church that you care about them? Let's pick ways we can thank them this week. It can be a card or baked goods like Nathan and his mom did.

How Did Paul Travel?

Put an X over the pictures that show ways Paul did not travel.
Circle the picture that shows how Paul did travel.
How did the church leaders show love for Paul?



Faith in Action

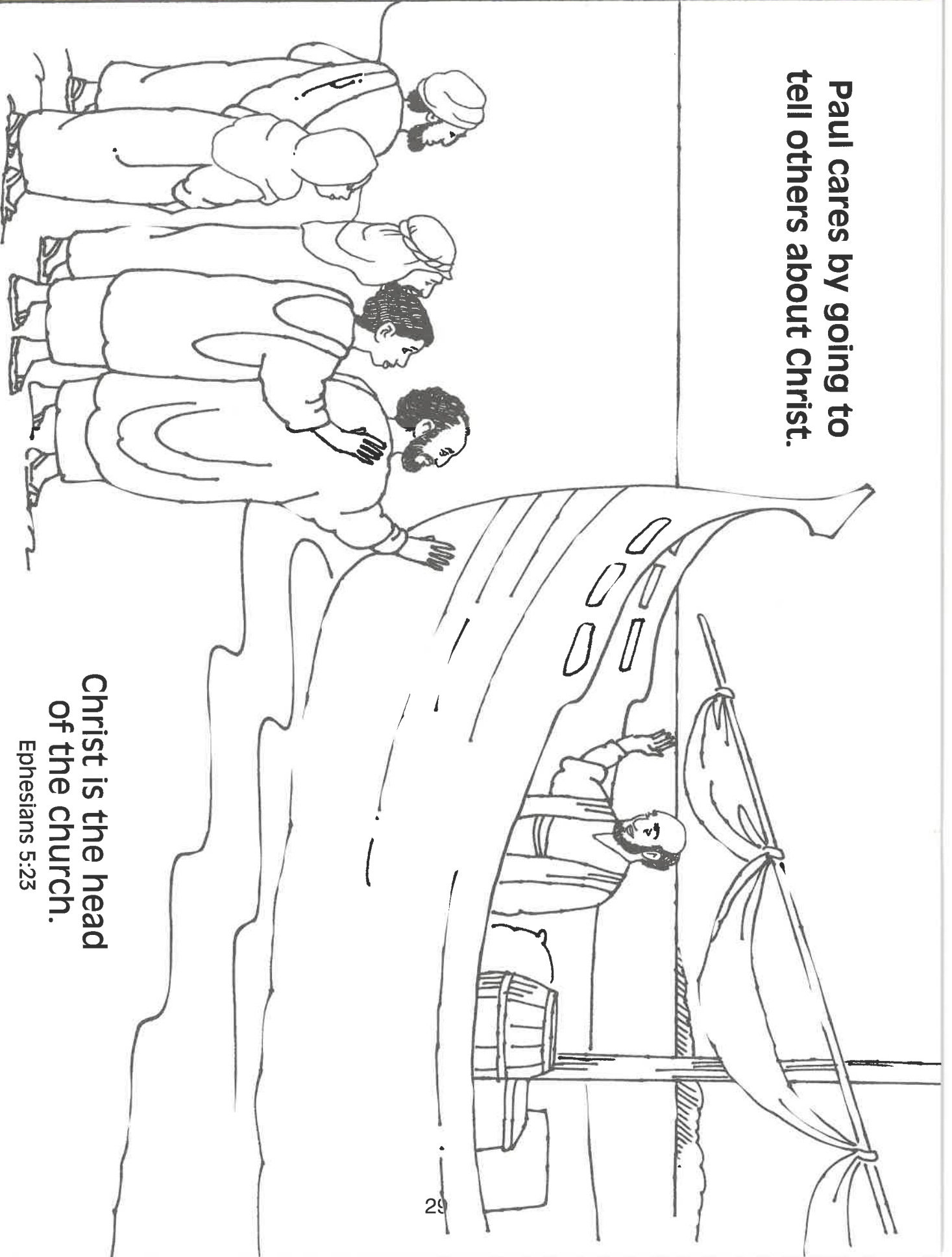
MEMORY VERSE:

Christ is the head of the church.

Ephesians 5:23

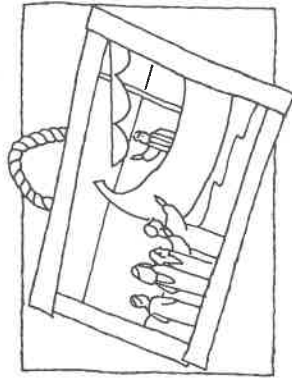
- How did Paul care for the people in his church family?
- Before Paul left for another city, what did he and his church friends do?
- Praying for our church leaders is the best thank you we can give them. Let's pray now.

Paul cares by going to tell others about Christ.



**Christ is the head
of the church.**

Ephesians 5:23



FOR PARENTS

In today's lesson, your child heard how Paul and the Ephesian church leaders showed that they cared for each other (Acts 20:16-38).

You can help your child apply this lesson by talking about the ways your church leaders care for you and the other people in your church family. Help your child think of ways to show the leaders that you care about them; try to carry out one of those ideas.

Practice the Bible memory verse:
"Christ is the head of the church"
(Eph. 5:23).