

The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

Paul and Barnabas Preach to the Gentiles

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Catholic Courier

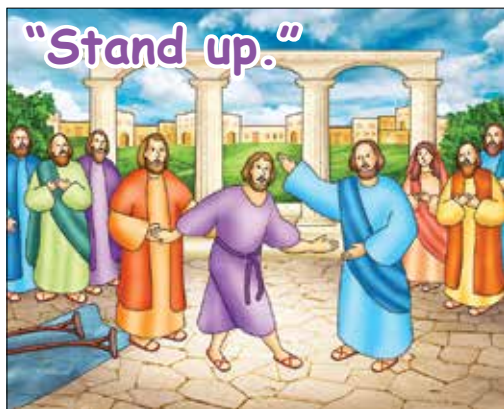
One day, while the apostles were worshipping and fasting, the Holy Spirit told them something.

“Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them,” the Holy Spirit said.

Barnabas and Saul — who became known as Paul — received a blessing from their friends before leaving on their first missionary journey to preach about Jesus in gentile cities. The gentiles were non-Jews who believed in false gods.

When they preached in Iconium, which is located in present-day Turkey, they converted many gentiles and even some Jews to Christianity. After a while, the Jews living in Iconium who did not believe in Jesus made people mad at Paul and Barnabas. The two men fled the city before they could be killed.

Their next stop was Lystra, also in what is now present-day Turkey. There



(Illustration/Linda Jeanne Rivers)

Bible Trivia

What were the names of the Greek gods the people called Paul and Barnabas? (Hint: Acts 14:12)

Answer: Zeus (Barnabas) and Hermes (Paul).

they met a man who was crippled since birth.

The man was in a crowd of people listening to Paul preach. Paul noticed the man and saw that he had faith to be healed.

“Stand up straight on your feet,” Paul told him.

The man jumped up and began to

walk around. The others who had been listening to Paul speak were amazed. But, since they believed in false gods, they mistakenly thought Paul was a god. They did not understand that Paul had performed the miracle through the power of God and Jesus.

“The gods have come down to us in human form,” the people in the crowd said excitedly.

They began calling Paul and Barnabas by the names of Greek gods, and a priest from a nearby pagan temple brought oxen to sacrifice to them.

Paul and Barnabas began to tear their garments.

“Men, why are you doing this?” they shouted as they rushed into the crowd. “We are of the same nature as you, human beings. We proclaim to you good news that you should turn from these idols to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and all that is in them.”

Even with these words, Paul and Barnabas scarcely kept the crowd from offering sacrifice to them.

Q&A

What miracle did Paul perform in Lystra?

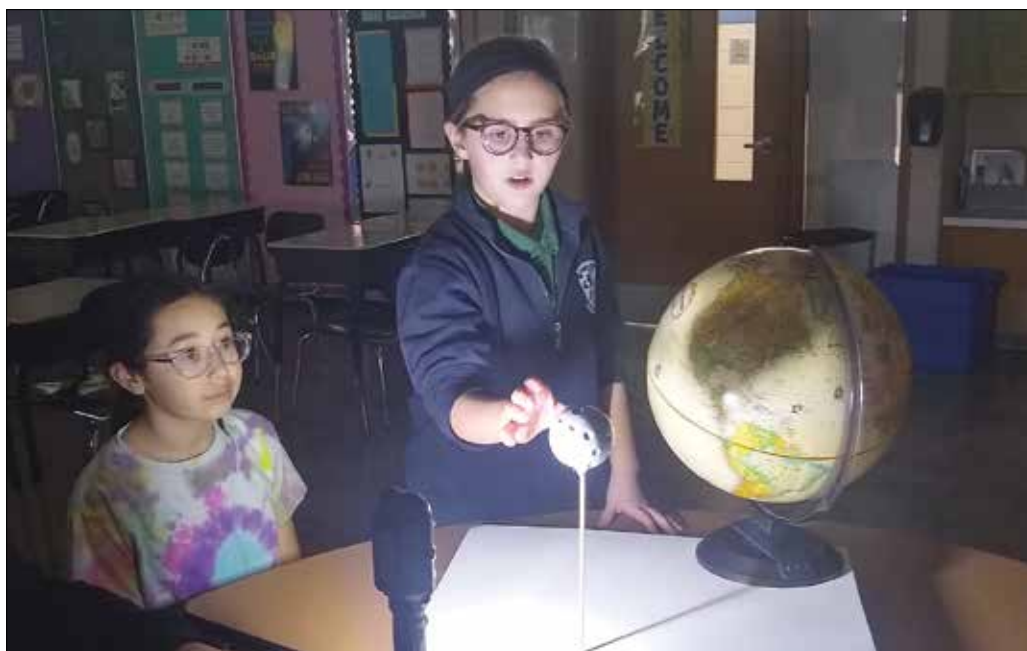
Who did the people of Lystra think Paul was?

Read more about it in Acts 13 & 14

Eclipse Excitement At Schools

Annunciation BVM Students Enlighten Classmates with Eclipse Demonstrations

AURORA—Junior high students at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary School prepared for the solar eclipse in their science class by creating projects to demonstrate the occurrence to their classmates.



(Photo provided/ Kim Becker)



(Photo provided/Gina Houston)

Crystal Lake School Eclipse Viewing Includes Crafts, Creativity

CRYSTAL LAKE—St. Thomas the Apostle School’s students observed the partial solar eclipse April 8, gathering in an open field across from the school. Eclipse glasses (CE certified and meeting the ISO 12312-2 safety standard) were provided for viewing. Some younger classes got creative for the occasion, making masks around their glasses with paper plates and coloring them with sun designs.

PUZZLE:

Fill in the blanks in the sentences.

1. Paul had a vision telling him to visit _____.

(Acts 16:9)

2. A woman named _____ listened to Paul and was baptized. (Acts 16:14-15)

3. Paul and Silas prayed and _____

while they were in prison. (Acts 16:25)

4. Paul became exasperated because there were idols in _____. (Acts 17:16)

1. Macedonia; 2. Lydia; 3. sang hymns; 4. Athens