

Paul and Rome



Collegiate Quarterly

Teacher's Guide

Surveying the Source

Acts 28:17–31; Rom. 1:7; 15:14, 20–27; Ephesians 1; Phil. 1:12.

Plotting the Course

The students will:

- ▶ Understand why Paul and others can be bold for God.
- ▶ Know that God is willing to help us,

if we are willing to submit to Him.

- ▶ Make a commitment to be more courageous for the Lord.

Preparing to Lead

Paul's Damascus Road encounter with God, coupled with his God-given charisma, compelled him to be a bold preacher for the Lord. We find that he did not run from those who opposed the message of salvation, but rather he fearlessly

taught the Word. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" (Rom. 1:16, NKJV).

Getting Started

Using a writing board of some kind, draw a vertical line down the middle.

A. On the top left side, write the word *Paul*. Ask the class to list the characteris-

tics that Paul had to be so bold.

B. On the top right side, write the word *Us*. Then ask the class to list what hinders us from being as undaunting as Paul.

Materials

paper, chalkboard, whiteboard, or flipchart, and index cards

Delving Into the Word

A. Have a class member read Romans 1:8–17. *Say:* "There are many things that we can learn from others in the Bible who have walked before us." Then supply each person with a copy of the activity sheet (p. 31). Ask them to connect the Bible characters with their act of boldness. Discuss their finding with the entire class.

B. Using a writing board, have students

make a list of Bible characters who were fearless in their stand for righteousness. Next, along side these names, list the qualities of their character or what impacted them to be so strong in the faith.

Discuss with the class if these characteristics are lacking today, and if so, why. Also discuss where these characteristics are found, and why.

Discussing the Ideas

1. What is your walk with God like?
2. How does repeating the same sin

over and over again affect your relationship with God?

3. What type of activities, thoughts, and attitudes hinder us from a closer walk with Jesus?

4. When God calls us, do you think it's a win-win or lose-lose situation? Explain.

5. The next time you are tempted by Satan on your weaknesses, what game

plan are you going to put into action?

6. Think quietly about it: Have you given your whole life fully to Jesus? If not, when will you?

7. In what way can you be bold for the Lord this week?

Closing the Activity

Hand each person in the class an index card. Read aloud 2 Corinthians 7:4–7. On the card have each person write today's date and which of today's Bible characters has impressed them the most and why.

Then ask them to write down what, if anything, is holding them back from being as bold for God as the person whose name they wrote.

Ask them to make this a matter of prayer this coming week.

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Do You Know Who?

Draw a line from the left side list of names to match their act of boldness for God.

Elijah	Trusted the Lord to select his army
Joshua & Caleb	Stood up to a big man
Stephen	Repaired altar of God
Daniel	Rebuked the Pharisees
Gideon	Persistently warned God's people
Esther	Confronted a King
David	Never ashamed of Jesus
Lot	Unflinchingly left homeland
Enoch	Gave a favorable report
Jeremiah	Walked with God
Abraham	Risked life to save others
Paul	Protected strangers from a mob
Manasseh	Openly displayed devotion to God