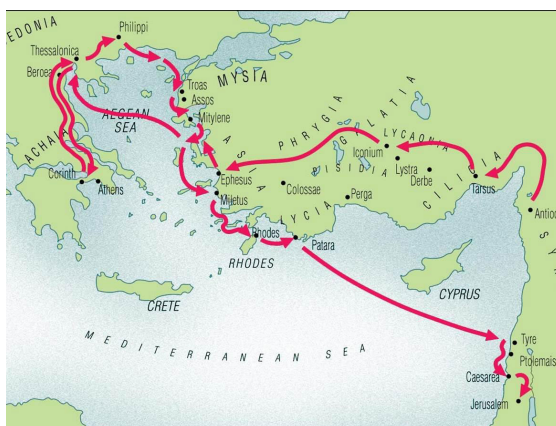


Encouragement

Acts 20.1-17

Focus: on responding to the encouragement of the apostle Paul and fully embracing his teaching as the word of God.



Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Discussion:

- Share stories of encouragement you have received that mattered greatly to you.
- Read 20.1-6. Why do you think it was such a high priority of Paul's to strengthen and encourage the churches?
- Two examples of Paul's encouraging churches were shared in the sermon:

1) to the church in Ephesus in Eph. 4.1-3

2) to the church in Corinth in 2 Cor. 1.3-7

What is the essence of Paul's encouragement to these two churches from these passages? Would you say our church needs that same encouragement today?

- Read 20.7-12. What similarities does it have with these other resurrection passages? 1 Kings 17.19-22; 2 Kings 4.32-37; Mark 5.38-42. What authority does this account lend to Paul and his writings?
- How does the resurrection of this young boy (likely age 8-14) encourage you?
- Share how you think you should be encouraging and comforting our church family.

2014-2015 Acts Focus

To advance our church in our knowledge and experience of the Spirit in such a way that we will increasingly embrace His ministry in and through us, especially in witness.

