**Explore God’s salvation plan in Bible Characters**

**Lesson 14 Apostle Paul**

**Life of Paul**

* Born in Tarsus, A Jew and a Roman citizen by birth (Acts 22:3, 28; Phi 3:5)
* Studied under Gamaliel (22:3, ref 5:34), zealous Pharisee (26:5)
* Present at Stephen’s stoning (7:58-60)
* Persecuted the church (8:1-3, 9:1-2, 22:4-5, 26:9-11, Phi 3:6)
* Conversion on the road to Damascus (9:3-19, 22:6-15, 26:12-20)
* Saul was his Jewish name, started to be referred as Paul in 13:9
* Three missionary journeys from A.D. 46-57 (Acts 13-20)
* Arrested in Jerusalem, trials, Roman imprisonment A.D 57-62 (21-28)
* Second Roman imprisonment and martyrdom (between A.D. 65-68)
* Penned 13 epistles: Galatians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Corinthians, Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy (by order of date)

**Understanding Paul’s life in light of the *GRACE OF GOD***

1. Saved by grace
* The source of salvation is God’s grace (Roman 5:15, Eph 2:8, Eph 1:7-8)
* Realization of 2 facts during conversion: Jesus Christ was alive and Saul was dead in sin
1. Called by grace (Gal 1:15; Eph 3:7-8; 2 Tim 1:9)
2. Enabled by grace
* Work done by God’s grace (1 Cor 15:10b, 2 Cor 9:8)
* Overcoming weakness (2 Cor 12:7-10; Phi 4:13)
1. Spiritually wealthy by grace
* Rich in faith and love (1 Tim 1:14)
* When we receive the riches of his grace, we can be a blessing to others (2 Cor 8:9; 6:10)
* Consider all things a loss compare to knowing Christ (Phi 3:7-8)

The life of Paul can be summarized with 1 Cor 15:10a, and he teaches the believers the same (2 Cor 6:1)

**Amazing Grace by John Newton**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

Through many dangers toils and snares I have already come

‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far And grace will lead me home.