

# KID ZONE



## KEEP GOING

Paul and Barnabas looked back from the ship's deck to wave their friends goodbye.

Lots of Christians from Antioch in Syria had come to the port to wish them well.

They all remembered their wonderful time together in Antioch. So many people had started the race with Jesus – not just Jews but Gentiles, too.

One day the church leaders met to pray. God's Holy Spirit told them: "Send Barnabas and Paul to other countries to tell the people how to follow Jesus."

They took Barnabas' young cousin, John Mark to help them.

As the ship sailed out to sea, they stopped looking back. Moving to the front of the ship, they began to think and pray about the journey ahead. It wasn't going to be easy, but God's Holy Spirit was with them.

The first country was the island of Cyprus. They walked through the whole island and came to the capital.

The Governor invited them to tell him about Jesus and he believed their message.

They sailed to the south coast of Turkey. Paul and Barnabas wanted to walk inland along a dangerous road. Gangs of bandits often attacked and robbed travellers. John Mark felt frightened and homesick. He gave up and left them, sailing back to his mother in Jerusalem.

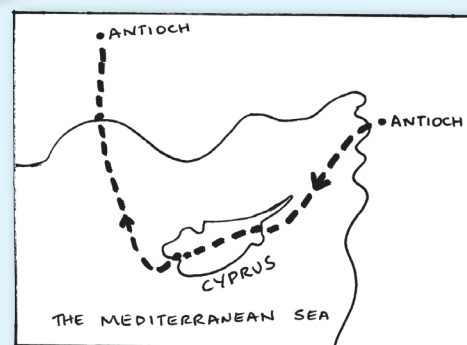
Paul and Barnabas were determined not to give up. They safely walked along the road to another town, also called Antioch.

Here there was a synagogue for the Jews to worship God. Lots of Gentiles went there, too.

## Go for Gold

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Olympic athletes need grit and determination. They never give up but keep going to win gold. We need grit and determination in our race with Jesus. This month we'll find that Saul and Barnabas had courage and strength to keep on track for Jesus. Saul changes his name to Paul.



On the Sabbath, the Jews' holy day, Paul and Barnabas went to the synagogue. The leader invited Paul to speak.

Paul said: "God sent prophets like Moses and David to his people the Jews. These prophets promised that God would send us a Saviour. I've great, good news for you! This Saviour has now come. He is Jesus, the Son of God."

"Our leaders in Jerusalem didn't believe Jesus was the Saviour God promised. They got Pilate, the Roman Governor, to kill Jesus by nailing him to a cross. He was buried in a cave grave. But God raised him to life. Jesus came back to his disciples who saw him alive."

"Because of this God can set you free from your sins. But you must believe in Jesus and ask God to forgive you."

As the people left the synagogue, they said, "Please come back next Sabbath to tell us more."

Next Sabbath nearly everyone came to hear Paul. But the Jewish leaders became jealous and argued rudely with Paul.

Paul said, "We had to come to you first. But since you reject God's messages, God has told us to go to the Gentiles."

But many wanted to hear more and were full of joy because they started their race with Jesus.

The Jewish leaders stirred up trouble against Paul and Barnabas and forced them to leave. But they didn't give up. They went on to the next town.

Read the story for yourself from the Bible in Acts 13:1 – 52.



## BE AN ATHLETE!

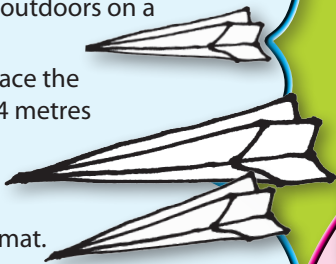
Here are some athletic field events you can do yourself or with friends. You will need some masking tape or chalk to make lines, a tape measure and a medium sized mat.

### 1. Standing Long Jump (indoors or outdoors)

Stand with feet together behind a line. Jump as far as you can. Measure your jump. Try to improve your distance.

### 2. Archery (indoors or outdoors on a calm day)

Make paper darts. Place the mat between 3 and 4 metres from the line. Stand behind the line and aim your darts to land on the mat.



### 3. Discus (outdoors)

Tape some plastic or disposable paper plates together to make a discus. Use the same court as for Archery. Throw your discus to land on the mat.

## AN EASTER VERSE

Can you decode this verse? The spaces between the words are wrong.

To check your answer look up Hebrews 12:3 in a Good News Bible.

Thin kofw hatJe suswe  
ntthro ugh; ho whelp utu  
pwit hsom uch hat redf  
roms inn ers! Sodon otle  
tyou rsel vesbe comed is  
cour age dan dgiv eup.

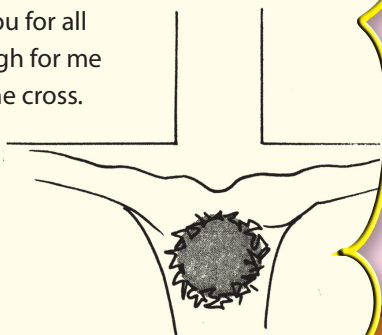
Copy the verse and learn it.

## Talking with the Coach

**Pray this prayer to the Lord Jesus, our Coach.**

"Lord Jesus, thank you for all that you went through for me when you died on the cross. You didn't give up. Please help me to keep on going in my race with you.

**Amen."**



## YOUR OLYMPIC SCRAP BOOK

Here are the NZ track and field athletes who have so far been selected for the Olympics. Find stories about them or others for your Olympic Scrap Book:

**Valerie Adams** – Shot put

**Nick Willis** – 1500 metres

**Stuart Farquhar** – Javelin

**Kimberley Smith** – Marathon

## AN EASTER QUIZ

Paul told the people in the synagogue the Easter story about the death and resurrection of Jesus. How much do you know about this? Test yourself with these questions and check your answers from the Bible.

Who betrayed Jesus?

J \_ \_ \_ \_ (Luke 22:3 – 4)

Which Roman Governor condemned Jesus to death?

P \_ \_ \_ \_ (John 19:16)

Who said three times that he didn't know Jesus?

P \_ \_ \_ \_ (Mark 14:72)

Who carried Jesus' cross for him?

S \_ \_ \_ \_ (Mark 15:21)

Who was the first person to see Jesus after he rose from death?

M \_ \_ \_ \_ M \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
(John 20:1 and 14)

Name one of the two people who walked with Jesus to Emmaus.

C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (Luke 24:18)

Who said three times that he really did love Jesus?

P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (John 21:17)

