

KID ZONE



Go for Gold

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Olympic athletes need to be tough. With less than 100 days to go, now is the time to keep focused on the goal of winning and keep training through difficulties and troubles. Paul was like that in his race with Jesus. Things got tough but he didn't give up

WHEN IT'S TOUGH

He had never walked in his whole life. Every day he sat begging, so everyone in the town knew him. The lame man was one of the first people Paul and Barnabas met when they arrived in Lystra on their missionary journey.

As Paul preached, the lame man listened and trusted in Jesus. Paul knew that Jesus could heal him. He looked at him.

"Stand up straight on your feet," Paul told him.

Suddenly his legs became strong and he jumped up and started to walk. A big crowd gathered to see. They were all amazed.

Someone shouted: "These people must be gods if they can do this!"

Just outside the city there was a temple. People went there to worship Zeus and other gods. The priest in the temple heard this and came with flowers and bulls to pray and sacrifice to Paul and Barnabas as gods.

Paul and Barnabas were shocked. They ran through the crowd shouting: "Stop! Stop! We're just humans like you. We're not gods."

Then Paul said, "We've come to tell you about the one true God, who made the earth, land, sea and sky. This God sends you rain to make your plants grow and give you food. Don't worship false gods. Only worship the one true God."

He was going to go on to tell them that God had sent Jesus but he was interrupted. Some people arrived

who had forced Paul and Barnabas to leave the other towns they had visited. They spoke against Paul and Barnabas and the feelings of the crowd suddenly changed.

People picked up stones and started to throw them at Paul. Some stones hit him and he fell down on the ground. Thinking he was dead, they dragged Paul out of the city gate.

Some friends of Paul stood around him as he lay on the ground. They were Barnabas, the lame man who was healed and others who now believed in Jesus. They wondered what to do.

Then Paul opened his eyes and stood up. He wasn't dead but had been knocked unconscious. He was bruised, sore and stiff.

But Paul was tough and he didn't give up telling people about Jesus. The next day he set out with Barnabas to walk 100 kilometres to another city named Derbe. Many

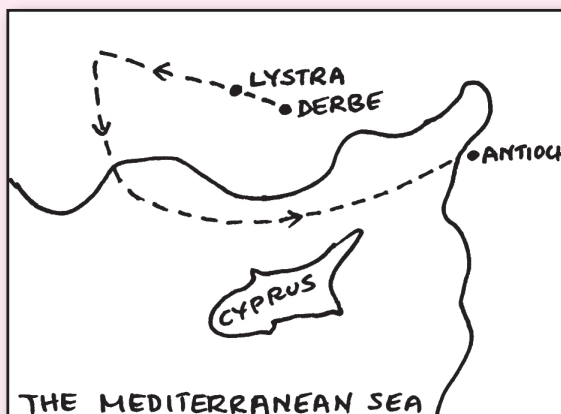
people there believed in Jesus.

Then Paul and Barnabas walked back to Lystra and all the other towns they had been to. In every place they prayed with the new Christians and chose elders to lead the new churches.

Then they sailed back to Antioch, their home church. There was a great welcome for them. All the Christians gathered to

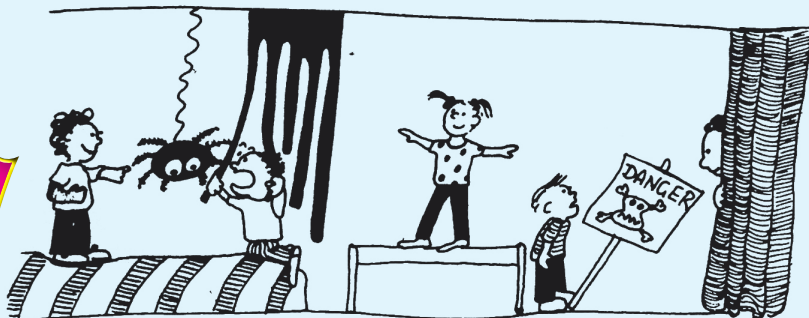
hear about the new churches and all the exciting adventures on their journey. The Holy Spirit had helped them finish what he sent them to do.

Read the story for yourself from the Bible in Acts 14: 8 – 28



BE AN ATHLETE!

Ask an adult to help you make an obstacle course. Make it tough but check to be sure it's safe. If you do it indoors, use furniture and other things to climb over and under. If it's outdoors, use garden furniture, games equipment, boxes, planks and whatever you can find. Perhaps you could go to a play park and use the things there. Time yourself or have a race with your friends or others in your family. Ask someone to photograph you doing it.



A VERSE FOR TOUGH TIMES

Decode some of the key words in this Bible verse. Some letters are not in code.

Here's the code:

1 = A	2 = E	3 = I	4 = L	5 = N
6 = R	7 = S	8 = T	9 = U	

Here's the verse:

In everything we do we show that we
are God's 7 2 6 V 1 5 8 7 by
P 1 8 3 2 5 8 4 Y 2 5 D 9 6 3 5 G
8 6 O 9 B 4 2 7, H 1 6 D 7 H 3 P 7 and
D 3 F F 3 C 9 4 8 3 2 7.

2 Corinthians 6: 4 (Good News Bible)

Learn the verse by heart.

YOUR OLYMPIC SCRAPBOOK



How's your Olympic Scrapbook? It's not too late to start. Remember to stick in stories and pictures of Olympic athletes from newspapers, magazines and the internet. Don't forget to include track and field athletes, cyclists, swimmers, those in the Paralympics, rowers, team sports, etc.

TALKING WITH THE COACH

Pray this prayer to the Lord Jesus our Coach:

"Lord Jesus, when I come to tough times in my race with you, please help me to know you are with me to help me keep going.

Amen."

TOUGH CHOICES

HERE ARE THE TOUGH CHOICES

Here are three athletes who are facing some tough situations. Follow the lines to find out what they can choose to do. What would you choose if you were them?

I didn't win but I know I raced honestly.

I won but only because I cheated.

It's not fair. I was tripped.

That was so hard. But I'll try again next time.

I hate the crowd. The booing put me off.

I still won even though the crowd booed me.