

FIGHT ON

The Prophet Agabus took Paul's belt and tied up his own hands and feet.

"This is what will happen to you, Paul, if you go to Jerusalem," he warned. "You will be put in prison."

Everyone begged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. They knew he had many enemies there. There were tears in their eyes.

"Don't make me so sad or try to stop me," Paul said. "I am ready to go to prison and even die in Jerusalem. I must fight on in my race with Jesus."

After visiting many cities and starting many new churches in Turkey and Greece, Paul had decided to go to Rome, the capital of the Empire.

"But first I must go to Jerusalem," he said.

Paul had encouraged all the churches to give money to help poor Christians in Jerusalem. Now he wanted to visit them all to collect the money and say goodbye. Each church sent someone with Paul to give the gift to the church in Jerusalem.

They went by ship to the cities where Paul had worked. In each place the Christians met in a home. They shared a meal, taking bread and wine to remember Jesus. Paul spoke to them all.

"You won't see me again," he said. "Keep on in your race with Jesus. Never follow false teachers. Remember all I have taught you."

In Troas they met upstairs in a house with three storeys. There were lots of oil-burning lamps and the air was full



They're here at last. How exciting! The Olympics have begun. How many medals will New Zealand win? Who will be our new heroes?

Some of the bravest athletes compete in the Paralympics for the disabled. They fight on to overcome extra challenges. Paul was like that too. He spent years in prison but that didn't stop him running the race with Jesus.

of fumes. The room was so crowded that a young man named Eutychus sat in the window. He tried hard not to go to sleep. But with the hot, crowded room and the fumes from the lamps he couldn't stay awake. At midnight he fell from the third floor to the ground.

Everyone rushed downstairs to help but he was dead.

Paul lay on top of him and prayed. Eutychus opened his eyes and came back to life. Everyone was very glad

that he was all right and some people took him home.

All the others went back upstairs and the meeting went on until the sun came up.

In every place, when Paul's ship left, the whole church, including the children, came to say goodbye. They knelt beside the sea and prayed. Then sadly they waved until the ship was out of sight.

At last Paul's ship reached Caesarea. This was where the Prophet Agabus warned him not to go on. But Paul was determined to fight on and his friends took him to Jerusalem. Everyone was afraid about what might happen next.

Read the story yourself from the Bible in Acts 19:21 and 20:7 – 21:16.



BE AN ATHLETE!

Find out a little of what it would be like to be a disabled athlete in the Paralympics.

1. DISABLED SKITTLES

Which hand do you use to write? Wear a big t-shirt with the hand you usually use dangling down inside. Use plastic bottles for skittles. Using your free hand, throw tennis or other soft balls to knock down as many skittles as you can. Run this as a competition with your friends or others in your family.

2. BLINDFOLD DRESSAGE

For each player you will need four plastic pottles for horse shoes, a chair for the horse and a blindfold for each player. Put the chair at one end of the room. Put the pottles in the middle. Start to play blindfolded at the other end. You have to find the pottles one at a time and place each of them under a leg of the chair. When the horse has four shoes on its four feet, sit on the horse. Someone who can see can give you instructions but only you can touch the pottles. Run this as a competition with others or as a race against time.



Talking with the Coach

Thank you, Lord, that you love all of us. Please give your special help to those who have a disability. Please help me to help others who are disabled. Amen.

YOUR OLYMPIC SCRAPBOOK

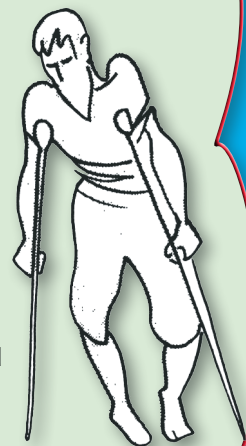
Now is the time to collect Olympic stories from newspapers, magazines and the internet and stick them into your scrapbook. Keep the book. In a few years it will be a valuable record. It is still not too late to start this.



BIBLE QUIZ

Here are some people in the Bible with disabilities. Do you know their names? Look up the references to find or check your answers.

1. He was blind and his younger son told him lies to get a blessing that he wanted to give to his older son (*Genesis 27:1 – 29*).
I _ _ _ _ _
2. He wrestled with God and always walked with a limp after that (*Genesis 32:30*). J _ _ _ _ _
3. The Philistines made him blind but he used his great strength to kill many of them (*Judges 16:21 – 30*). S _ _ _ _ _
4. His nurse dropped him when she ran away in fear and he never walked. King David was very kind to him, because his father used to be David's best friend (*2 Samuel 9:1 – 13*).
M _ _ _ _ _
5. He had a skin disease like leprosy but he was cured by the prophet Elisha after he washed in the River Jordan (*2 Kings 5:1 – 15*). N _ _ _ _ _
6. He couldn't speak for a time because he wouldn't believe that God would give him and his wife a baby son in their old age (*Luke 1:5 – 25, 57 – 66*).
Z _ _ _ _ _
7. He was blind but Jesus healed him after he shouted to Jesus for help. (*Mark 10:46 – 52*).
B _ _ _ _ _



A VERSE TO LEARN

The vowels have been left out of this verse. Can you read it? The number of letters you will need are in brackets: A(5), E(13), I(5), O(7), U(3). Look up the reference in a Good News Bible to check your answer.

Th _ L _ rd g _ _ d _ s _ nd
pr _ t _ cts th _ s _ wh _ pl _ _ s _
h _ m. _ f th _ y f _ ll, th _ y
w _ ll n _ t st _ y d _ wn,
b _ c _ _ s _ th _ L _ rd w _ ll
h _ lp th _ m _ p.

Psalm 37:23 – 24