

**June 21, 2020**

## Mission Report

*Free Grace Presbyterian Church*

## SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

**Romans 1:20–21**

Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you.

Corrie Ten Boom  
20<sup>th</sup> century Dutch watchmaker

There is a gap between an intellectual recognition of who Jesus is and a commitment to Him. Logically, it would seem that anyone who admits that Jesus is the Son of God should be willing to follow Him and obey Him. It is a truth which ought to transform their lives. But in fact there are many people who will give at least verbal assent to the proposition "Jesus is God," but who do not seem to care very much about Jesus, or even pay Him much attention. It is clear then that what is necessary to become a Christian is not merely acceptance of a proposition on the basis of evidence, but a *change in a person's whole orientation to life*.

C. Stephen Evans  
philosopher

I know that I have myself failed over and over again, that I am a moral and spiritual weakling. But here also it is true that God's strength is made perfect in weakness. The Church is not an organization of spiritual giants. It is broken men and women who can lead others to the Cross... For what is the work of the ministry if it is not to lead others in following Jesus on the way to the Cross?

Lesslie Newbigin  
British missionary to India and theologian

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

**Matthew 16:24-25**

At the heart of the gospel, the *good news*, is a historical reality of excruciating pain and suffering on a cross in Jerusalem. Fragments of this message often pierce our lives, causing the contours of our lives to be cross-shaped.

Derek Thomas  
Welsh Presbyterian pastor

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**2 Corinthians 4:16–18**

# GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

Psalms 145

**People: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

Leader: The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

**People: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**

## We speak the praise of the Lord, blessing his name forever and ever

*"God, My King, Thy Might Confessing"*

1. God, my King, thy might confess - ing, ev - er will I bless thy name;  
2. They shall talk of all thy glo - ry, on thy might and great - ness dwell,  
3. Full of kind - ness and com - pass - ion, slow to an - ger, vast in love,

5  
day by day thy throne address - ing, still will I thy praise pro - claim.  
speak of thy great acts the sto - ry, and thy deeds of won - der tell.  
God is good to all cre - a - tion; all his works his good - ness prove.

9  
Hon - or great our God be - fit - teth; who his ma - jes - ty can reach?  
Nor shall fail from mem - 'ry's trea - sure works by love and mer - cy wrought;  
All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee; thee shall all thy saints a - dore.

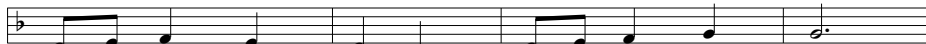
13  
Age to age his works trans - mit - teth; age to age his pow'r shall teach.  
works of love sur - pass - ing mea - sure, works of mer - cy pass - ing thought.  
King su - preme shall they con - fess thee, and pro - claim thy sov - 'reign pow'r.

God calls us to worship him by reminding us of his glory. When we truly accept who he is, we have no choice but to respond in worship.

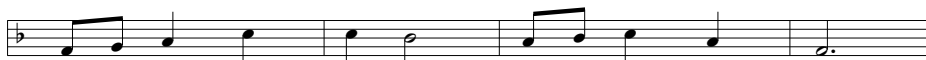
"At the Name of Jesus"



1. At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow;  
 2. At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight;  
 3. Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name  
 4. In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
 5. Bro - thers, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



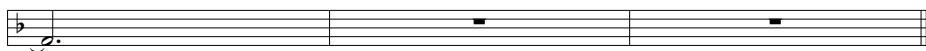
ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now.  
 all the an - gel fa - ces, all the hosts of light,  
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came.  
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.  
 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign.



Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
 thrones and do - mi - na - tions, stars u - pon their way,  
 Faith - ful - ly he bore it, spot - less to the last,  
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 For all earth - ly po - wers meet u - pon his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the migh - ty Word.  
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray,  
 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed.  
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.  
 and our hearts con - fess him King of Glo - ry now.



Therefore God has  
 highly exalted him  
 and bestowed on  
 him the name that  
 is above every  
 name, so that at  
 the name of Jesus  
 every knee should  
 bow, in heaven  
 and on earth and  
 under the earth,  
 and every tongue  
 confess that Jesus  
 Christ is Lord, to  
 the glory of God  
 the Father.  
 Philippians 2

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# GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

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## God reminds us of what he requires of us

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

Micah 6

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

## We humble ourselves, crying out of our guilt and need for him

Gracious Lord, we who talk loudly of justice,  
    speak of our own kindness,  
    and boast in our humility,  
    come asking your forgiveness.  
We seek your salvation, then act like we save ourselves.  
    We beg your forgiveness, then repeat our errors.  
We experience your grace, and then act defeated.  
    We rely on your power, but only when times are hard.  
Forgive our wandering from you  
    as we run to other things for comfort and hope.  
Grant that through the tears of our repentance  
    we may see the glories of Christ's death and resurrection.  
Be at work in us for your name's sake,  
    through Jesus Christ, whose blood has paid for our sin.  
Amen

A full prayer of confession acknowledges that our sin is more than an isolated example of bad judgment; it is a way of life. Sin is our response to God—fleeing from him and running to other things. We confess that we are sinful people, and we live in need of a Savior.

## God declares that he has taken our sin and made us rich through Christ

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea...For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Micah 7  
2 Corinthians 8

As a deer pants for  
flowing streams,  
so pants my soul  
for you, O God.  
My soul thirsts for  
God, for the living  
God.  
Psalm 42

# We rejoice that he has found us, the one we have longed for to answer our desperate need

"Satisfied"

1. All my life long I had pant-ed  
2. Feed-ing on the filth a-round me  
3. Poor I was and sought for rich-es  
4. Well of wa-ter ev-er spring-ing

3 for a drink from some cool spring  
'till my strength was al-most gone  
some-thing that would sat-is-fy  
Bread of Life so rich and free

5 that I hoped would quench the burn-ing  
Longed my soul for some-thing bet-ter  
But the dust I gath-ered 'round me  
un-told wealth that ne-ver fail-eth

7 of the thirst I felt with-in  
on-ly still to hun-ger on  
on-ly mocked my soul's ger-on  
my Re-deem-er is to cry-me!

9 Hal-le-lu-jah! He has found me,  
the One my soul so long has craved! Je-sus sat-is-fies  
all my long-ings; through his blood I now am saved.

14 Last time only:  
17 through his blood I now am saved.

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## GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

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Acts 14

<sup>1</sup>Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. <sup>2</sup>But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. <sup>3</sup>So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. <sup>4</sup>But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. <sup>5</sup>When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, <sup>6</sup>they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, <sup>7</sup>and there they continued to preach the gospel.

<sup>8</sup>Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. <sup>9</sup>He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, <sup>10</sup>said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he sprang up and began walking. <sup>11</sup>And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. <sup>14</sup>But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, <sup>15</sup>"Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup>In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. <sup>17</sup>Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." <sup>18</sup>Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

<sup>19</sup>But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. <sup>20</sup>But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. <sup>21</sup>When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, <sup>22</sup>strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. <sup>23</sup>And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

These words are  
God's... Thou  
book of vast  
authority, thou art  
a proclamation  
from the Emperor  
of Heaven; far be it  
from me to  
exercise my reason  
in contradicting  
thee... This is the  
book untainted by  
any error; but it is  
pure unalloyed,  
perfect truth. Why?  
Because God  
wrote it.  
Charles Spurgeon

<sup>24</sup>Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. <sup>25</sup>And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, <sup>26</sup>and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. <sup>27</sup>And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. <sup>28</sup>And they remained no little time with the disciples.

**Sermon**

Rev. Per Almquist

## **Mission Report**

The Church that God Built

Preaching is how  
we learn to think  
God's thoughts  
after him in this  
world.



**We listen to hear God speak that our souls may be strengthened to continue in the faith** “Speak, O Lord”

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you, to re - ceive the food of your

2. Teach us Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly re - ver - ence, true hu -

3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of your

4

ho - ly Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and  
mi - li - ty. — Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the  
plans for us. — Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will

7

fash - ion us — in your like - ness. That the light of Christ might be  
ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our  
e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on your

10

seen to - day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
eyes to see your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty.  
prom - is - es; — and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.

13

Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us — all your  
Words of pow'r and that can ne - ver fail; let their  
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the

15

pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.  
truth o - ver un - be - lief.  
earth is filled with your glo - ry.

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.  
Hebrews 1

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# GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

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## **God strengthens our souls as we proclaim Christ's death by celebrating the Lord's Supper**

*We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized followers of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup, you proclaim that you are in covenant relationship with God, that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ and so we follow his example.*

Romans 8:1–5, 12-18

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit...

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. <sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

When we partake of the cup in faith it is the Lord's own certification to us that all that the new covenant in his blood involves is ours. It is the seal of his grace and faithfulness.

John Murray

We give our tithes and offerings to him to declare our faith

"All for Jesus"

1. All for Je - sus, all for Je - sus,  
2. Let my hands per - form his bid - ding,  
3. World - lings prize their gems of beau - ty,  
4. Since my eyes were fixed on a Je - sus,  
5. O what won - der! how a ma - zing!

all my be - ing's ran - somed pow'rs,  
let my feet run in his ways;  
cling to gild - ed toys of dust;  
I've lost sight of all be - side;  
Je - sus, glo - rious King of kings,

all my thoughts and words and do - ings,  
let my eyes see Je - sus on - ly,  
boast of wealth and fame and plea - sure;  
so deigns to - chained call my spi - rit's vi - sion,  
lov - ed,

all my days and all my hours.  
let my lips Je - sus praise.  
on - ly Je - sus trust.  
look - ing at the be - neath his I - ci - fied.  
lets me rest wings.

You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body  
1 Corinthians 6

We pray because  
we are children,  
weak enough to  
need God's help,  
and also believers,  
wise and confident  
enough to ask  
God, our Father to  
help us.

**We come to God in prayer that he would strengthen the souls of his church to continue in the faith and carry out his mission to be witnesses to Jesus Christ**

*During this time we live in faith, trusting in the power of his grace,  
placing our lives and our church in his hands.*

*We ask that he would work in us and through us for his glory.*

# GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

**We sing out that Christ would be present with us strengthening our souls by his grace to engage in his mission**

"Jesus, with Thy Church Abide"

1. Je - sus, with thy church a - bid; be her Sav - ior,  
2. Keep her life and doct - rine pure; grant her pa - tience  
3. May she one in doct - rine be, one in truth and  
4. May she guide the poor and blind, seek the lost un -

4  
Lord, and guide, while on earth her faith is tried:  
to en - dure, trust - ing in thy prom - ise sure:  
char - i - ty, win - ning all to faith in thee:  
til she find, and the bro - ken - heart - ed bind:

8  
we be - seech thee, hear us. we be - seech thee, hear us.  
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.  
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.  
we be - seech thee, hear us, we be - seech thee, hear us.

## God declares his presence with us, strengthening us in Christ

**Leader:** Now may Christ dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

### People: Amen

*Please stay and join us for a time of refreshment and enjoying each other's company.*

*This is a time to share in life together as the gospel calls us  
as we reconnect with those we know and as we meet someone new.*

Ephesians 3

A benediction is a pronouncement of God's blessing; hence, the minister stands with hands outstretched, and an appropriate posture is for the worshipper to stand with their hands open, palms upward, to receive God's blessing as he promises.



## Welcome to Free Grace

We are a broken church full of broken people. We know we need God's free grace. Some of us have accepted this grace, some are exploring what it's all about. All of us are still trying to understand it. We are a church that seeks to proclaim this free grace of God with both our words and our lives. Not satisfied with simply talking about it, we want to live it out. We invite you to come, explore, and live God's free grace with us.

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## Our Connections

Free Grace is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a family of churches that seeks to be faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

## Our Leadership

Free Grace is lead by her elders, men called by God and set apart by the church to care and lead her as individual members, families, and as a whole. Our elders are:

Rev. Per Almquist (pastor)  
Brian Cosgrove  
Paul Martin  
Ken Morris  
Ben Van Dyke



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Joanne Crosby, *flute*; Shannon Van Dyke, *voice*; Beth Almquist, *voice*; Kyle Almquist, *piano*

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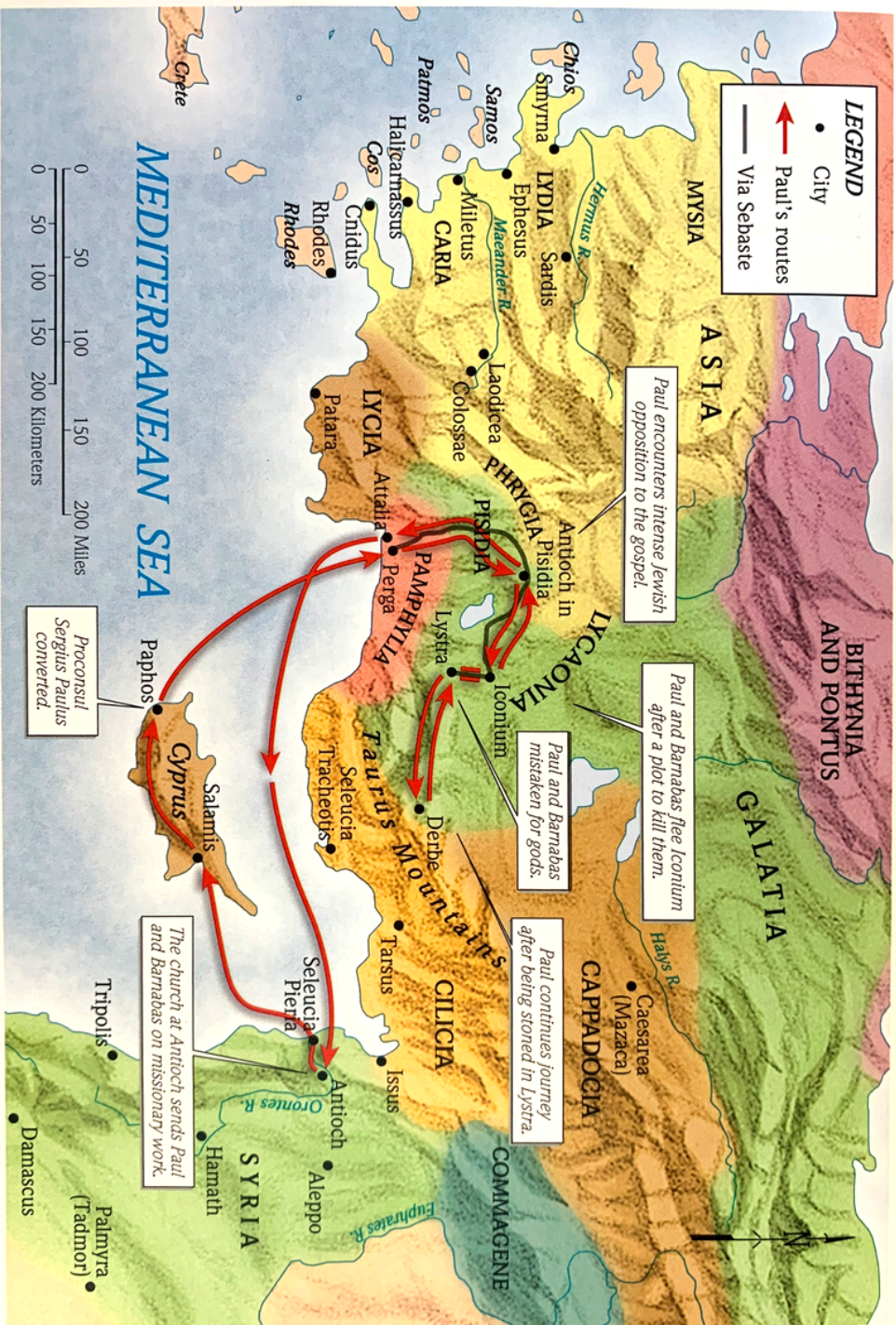
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# THE FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY OF PAUL



broken people  
bound together in Christ  
for God's glory