Paul travels to Rome
After Paul had told King Agrippa, “I appeal to Caesar,” there was no choice but to send him on to Rome for final judgement.

A Roman soldier named Julius was sent to escort Paul and other prisoners to Rome.

They set sail for Rome, following the coast of the Mediterranean Ocean. They stopped at Sidon to restock up on supplies, and Paul was allowed to visit with the believers there.

Next they sailed to Cyprus on their way to Italy.
As the sailors docked the ship, the captain looked over the map and compared where they were to their goal and looked hesitantly up at the sky. “I don’t like this port for weathering the winter; I think we should continue on and find a better winter port.”

Julius nodded his head, and walked away. Paul stepped forward, “Sir, I have traveled much, and have become familiar with the weather and the troubles it can bring. If we continue on, we will hit storms and it will destroy the ship.”

The captain looked at Paul in disgust, “I’ve been sailing these seas for years, this is a terrible port. We must sail on.”

Julius looked at Paul, “I will listen to the captain. That is the end of the matter.”
The ship sailed out and not long after, winds rose up, tossing the ship to and fro on the waves.

As the hours passed the storm got worse and worse. The sailors started to mutter to each other and look fearfully up at the sky.

The captain called out, “Tighten up that rigging, lower the sails there.” But it was to no avail, the ship tossed in the waves, going further and further astray. They began to lighten the ship, throwing cargo overboard, but it didn’t help enough. The crew lost all hope of making it safely to shore.

Paul said calmly, “God has revealed no one will die, but the ship will sink. Have the sailors look for land.”
The sailors followed Paul’s instructions and dropped all of the ship’s anchors. But several of the sailors were afraid of dying, and tried to leave the ship using rowboats.

“If they leave the ship, we’ll all die!” Paul yelled to Julius. The centurion stepped forward with his men and forced the sailors back, and cut down the rowboats.

“Everyone eat a final meal, and then throw the remaining food overboard. The ship will break up in the night.” So, the sailors, soldiers, and everyone ate one final meal together.

Just as Paul had said, the ship broke up and they floated to shore.
Dejected the castaways gathered together on shore looking around for signs of a city. Julius looked around as he heard a shout, but relaxed as he realized these were Roman citizens.

“How did you survive that crash?” asked the leader, “Welcome to Malta, my name is Publius. It is an honor to have you here with us. Let us warm you up.”

And the natives of Malta built a fire and helped the shipwreck survivors get comfortable for the night.

As Paul held his hands over the fire, a snake leaped out and bit him. The people from Malta looked at each other and started whispering.
“He must have committed some terrible crime to be judged like this. He’ll be dead within the hour.” They all watched Paul to see signs of any sickness, but nothing happened. They started whispering again, “He must be a god. Who do you think he is?”

Paul rolled his eyes and continued warming himself. Finally Publius stepped forward, “Can I take you to my house? My father is very sick, and perhaps you can heal him?”

Paul agreed and went to the bed of the sick man, praying for him, and the man was healed. Paul and the rest of his shipmates stayed on Malta for several days, and during that time Paul healed many people.
Finally however the captain was able to obtain another ship and Paul sailed to Rome.

He arrived and was turned over to the Roman garrison who placed Paul under house arrest, he was allowed to receive visitors, but was not allowed to leave the house.

In the first week of Paul’s time in Rome he sent letters to all of the Jewish leaders there, who came and talked with Paul for several hours.

Paul spent two years under house arrest in Rome, during that time he was able to meet with several Jewish leaders, and spoke to the men guarding him. Everyone who came to visit Paul heard of God’s News.
Questions

Younger Kids
1. Why is Paul traveling to Rome?
2. Why did Paul say it was a bad idea to sail on?
3. Why did Paul know no one was going to be hurt?

Middle Kids
1. Paul is a prisoner this entire time. Did he try to escape? How could he have escaped during this trip? How is this like Jesus when He was arrested?
3. Why do you think God had Paul put under house arrest for at least two years? What did Paul do while he was arrested? How might God use bad things in your life for good?

Older Guys
1. Read Acts 27 and 28. Look for examples of God’s providence in protecting Paul and allowing Paul to witness to others.
2. Now look at chapters 27 and 28 and think of what Paul said to the sailors on the trip. What do you learn about Paul from what he said?

3. Read Acts 28:23 again. What did Paul use to talk to the Jewish people who came to him? How can you use this information when you are presenting the gospel?

Activities
1. Make a small ship for Paul’s shipwreck out of aluminum foil. Test it’s seaworthiness in a nearby creek or your bathtub. How many pennies can it hold?
2. Make a paper plate snake.

Online
2. Paul shipwrecked on his way to Rome lapbook- [http://www.biblefunforkids.com/2015/05/paul-is-shipwrecked-on-way-to-rome.html](http://www.biblefunforkids.com/2015/05/paul-is-shipwrecked-on-way-to-rome.html)
3. Paul bit by a snake on Malta-
   http://www.biblefunforkids.com/2015/05/paul-is-bit-by-snake-on-malta.html