



Please do not send this newsletter back to Crossroads.

“The day is yours, and yours also the night;
you established the sun and moon.
It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;
you made both summer and winter.”

– Psalm 74:16–17 (NIV)

Bible commentators have said that Psalm 74 was written after the Babylonians destroyed the temple in Jerusalem, a dark time for God’s people. The writer of this psalm recognized that everything is under God’s control. The same God who made the sun and moon also produces changes in the seasons. Even though we might face tough times, God creates change and new life according to His plans. For farmers, summer is a time of abundance as they see their spring crops growing for harvest.

Our prayer for you is that this summer will be a time of spiritual growth. Make the most of every opportunity to take care of both your body and soul. Invest time in forming new spiritual friendships. Share the good news of Jesus throughout your facility.

A Message from Crossroads’ President, Joe Pryor

Thank you for being a faithful student. To us, you are more than just a student—we see our students as brothers and sisters in Christ as we all strive to live out our Christian faith. Matthew 5:14–16 says, “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

The command Jesus gave has three parts: **First**, let your light shine. The richness you have through your relationship with Jesus is not something to keep to yourself. You are a beacon of hope! **Second**, shine your light where it can be seen. Wherever you are in your facility, be aware of those around you—someone needs to see the light of Christ. **Third**, do all this for God’s glory. At Crossroads, we are committed to sharing not our own stories but rather the good news of the Gospel of Christ. Our goal is to bring glory to God! We consider each of you a missionary to spread the Gospel. Invite someone to experience Crossroads and study alongside you. All glory be to God!

More Content Available on Tablets

God continues to open doors for Crossroads to deliver video content to tablets in jails and prisons across the country. Our *Doing Time* video podcasts are now available on over 400,000 tablets. If your facility has tablets provided by NCIC, Paytel, or Edovo, you should be able to access those videos. If you have the Pando App on your tablet, you can find not only the *Doing Time* videos but also inspiring films like *Turnipseed* and *The True Summit*. Please write to us and let us know what other type of content you would like to see on tablets.

Here is a summary of *Turnipseed* from the website of its production company, Five Stone Media:

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This is a story of tragic loss and blessed gain. This is the story of John Turnipseed, who spent his youth fighting disadvantages and hardship, learning life by making the greatest mistakes. Mistakes that cost him a life he created and ten years in prison, after which he came into the Fathering Center at Urban Ventures and now has built a program that reaches 600 men and 200 women. This is a story of truth.

If your facility does not provide electronic tablets, please write to us and request that we contact your chaplain about the possibility of sending DVDs to your facility.

New Lesson Format: What You Need to Know

Crossroads continues to adapt to changes in how mail is handled in correctional facilities. Starting this summer, you will notice a shift from the lesson booklets you currently receive to lessons formatted on standard 8.5-by-11-inch sheets of paper.

Many facilities across the country are now scanning incoming mail for distribution. However, some scanning services struggle to accurately process Crossroads' current lesson booklets, leading some facilities to stop accepting our lessons altogether. By switching to these reformatted lessons, we hope to reach more students who have faced challenges in receiving their lessons.

While the new format will look a little different, the content remains unchanged. We are committed to making the reformatted lessons visually appealing, although they will now feature black and white artwork instead of color. This adjustment is necessary because scanning services typically cannot handle color artwork.

Watch for the updated lessons coming your way soon!

Scripture Reading and Prayer Guide: The Book of Acts

This June and July, we will study the book of Acts (also known as the Acts of the Apostles). During the earliest years of Christianity, Christians faced severe persecution in Jerusalem, but God opened many doors for the apostles to bring the good news of the Gospel to the nations. We hope you are encouraged and strengthened as you see how God shared His love with the world through His apostles despite very challenging circumstances.

Facts about the book of Acts include:

- It is the only biblical history of the Church, picking up where the Gospels end.
- It spans about thirty years, from the resurrection of Jesus around 30 AD to the early 60s AD.
- It details the spread of the Gospel and the growth of the Church from Jerusalem to Rome.
- It begins with the outpouring of God's promised Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.
- It records the conversion and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

Date	Passage	Reading Topic	Prayer Focus
June 1	Acts 1:1–11	Jesus' final words	That God will use you as His witness
June 2	Acts 1:12–26	Matthias replaces Judas	That God will raise up disciples
June 3	Acts 2:1–13	The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost	For the Holy Spirit to fill you
June 4	Acts 2:14–47	Peter's first sermon	For the willingness to repent of your sins
June 5	Acts 3:1–16	God heals through the apostles	That God will heal those who are sick
June 6	Acts 3:17–26	Return to God for forgiveness	Thank God for sending His Son
June 7	Acts 4:1–12	Peter and John arrested	For strength to endure persecution
June 8	Acts 4:13–22	Peter and John testify boldly	For boldness to share the Gospel
June 9	Acts 4:23–37	The first Christians are strengthened	That God will strengthen His children everywhere
June 10	Acts 5:1–16	Ananias and Sapphira	For a heart of honesty

June 11	Acts 5:17–42	The apostles arrested	For the courage to obey God
June 12	Acts 6:1–7	The Church grows	For the growth of the Church in your community
June 13	Acts 6:8–15	Stephen arrested	For persecuted Christians everywhere
June 14	Acts 7:1–19	Stephen testifies about the patriarchs	For your leaders
June 15	Acts 7:20–50	Stephen testifies about Moses	For those who make laws in our country
June 16	Acts 7:51–60	Stephen is put to death	For those facing death for their faith in Jesus
June 17	Acts 8:1–25	Simon tries to buy the Holy Spirit	For a heart that is right before God
June 18	Acts 8:26–40	Philip and the Ethiopian	For increased faith in Jesus Christ
June 19	Acts 9:1–19	Saul’s conversion	That enemies of God will come to faith
June 20	Acts 9:20–31	Believers question Saul’s conversion	For discernment to see as God sees
June 21	Acts 9:32–43	Tabitha is raised from the dead	That God will perform miracles
June 22	Acts 10:1–26	Cornelius and Peter have visions	For God to supernaturally reveal His will to you
June 23	Acts 10:27–48	Peter’s revelation for the Gentiles	That the Gospel will be spread around the world
June 24	Acts 11:1–18	Peter shares hope for the Gentiles	That God’s love for others will fill your heart
June 25	Acts 11:19–30	The Church continues to grow	For friends and family who don’t know Jesus
June 26	Acts 12	Herod attacks the apostles	For people who oppose God
June 27	Acts 13:1–12	Paul and Barnabas travel	To know and follow God’s calling on your life
June 28	Acts 13:13–25	Paul preaches in a synagogue	Thank God for preachers of the Gospel
June 29	Acts 13:26–52	Salvation through Jesus	Thank God for the gift of salvation
June 30	Acts 14:1–20	Paul left for dead	For protection for missionaries around the world
July 1	Acts 14:21–28	Appointing church elders	For your elders in the faith
July 2	Acts 15:1–21	The council at Jerusalem	For freedom from legalistic religion
July 3	Acts 15:22–41	Letter to Gentile believers	For new believers to grow in their faith
July 4	Acts 16:1–15	Paul’s vision about Macedonia	For spiritual vision in your life
July 5	Acts 16:16–40	Paul and Silas in prison	For strength to endure what imprisons you
July 6	Acts 17:1–15	Trouble in Thessalonica	For the troubles of this present life
July 7	Acts 17:16–34	Paul’s speech in Athens	That God will use you to share the Gospel
July 8	Acts 18:1–17	Paul in Corinth	That God will order the steps of your life
July 9	Acts 18:18–28	Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos	That God will bring Christian friends into your life
July 10	Acts 19:1–22	Paul in Ephesus	For God’s spirit to fill the earth
July 11	Acts 19:23–41	The riot in Ephesus	For peace in the place where you live
July 12	Acts 20:1–12	Eutychus raised from the dead	For eyes to see God’s miraculous work
July 13	Acts 20:13–38	Paul’s farewell	For those from whom you are separated
July 14	Acts 21:1–26	To Jerusalem	For the Christian Church everywhere
July 15	Acts 21:27–40	Paul arrested again	For integrity in the justice system
July 16	Acts 22:1–21	Paul’s testimony	For opportunities to share your testimony
July 17	Acts 22:22–30	Paul beaten and interrogated	For the courage to speak the truth
July 18	Acts 23:1–11	Paul testifies to leaders	For leaders in government
July 19	Acts 23:12–35	A plot to kill Paul	For protection from the plans of the devil
July 20	Acts 24	Trial before Felix	For wisdom in the battles you face
July 21	Acts 25	Trial before Festus and Agrippa	That judges will judge fairly
July 22	Acts 26	Paul gives his testimony again	For an opportunity to share Jesus with a friend
July 23	Acts 27:1–12	Paul sails to Rome	For your family and community
July 24	Acts 27:13–44	The storm	For safety in the storms of life
July 25	Acts 28:1–10	Paul on Malta	That God will help you use your time wisely
July 26	Acts 28:11–31	Paul in Rome	For Crossroads Prison Ministries

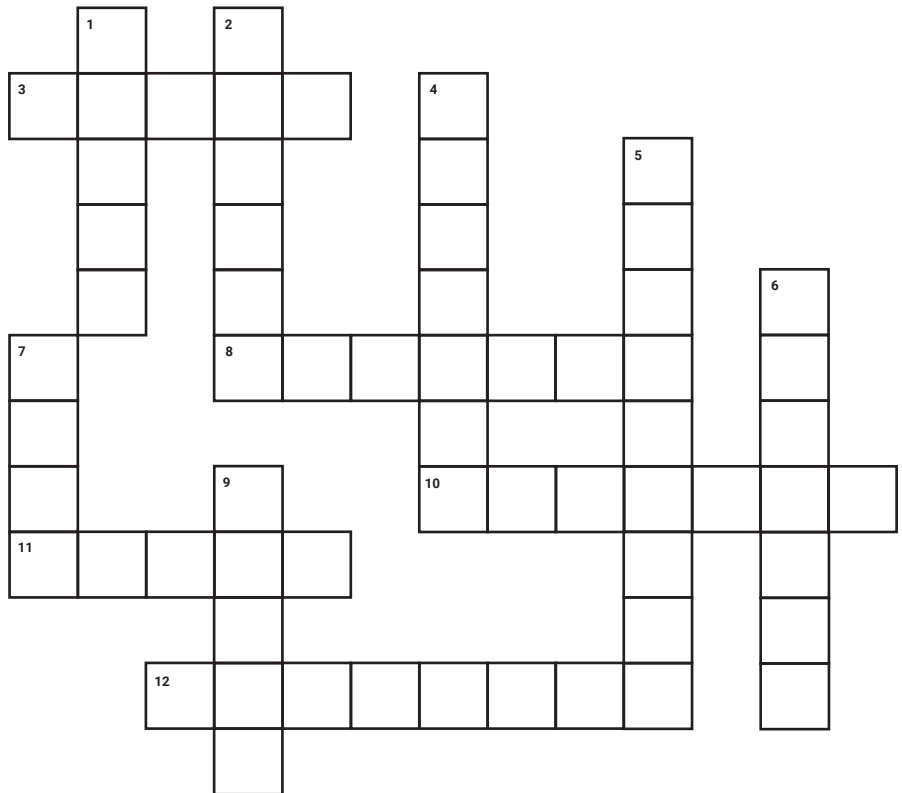
Crossword Puzzle: The People of Acts

Use the clues below to fill in the words.

- Words can go across or down.
- Letters are shared where two words cross each other.
- Scripture quotations are taken from the NIV Bible.

DOWN

- Governor of Caesarea who heard Paul's defense (Acts 24:1-4)
- He heard Paul's defense in his court (Acts 25:1-5)
- Paul testified in front of this king (Acts 26:1-3)
- A Roman soldier who had a vision from God (Acts 10)
- His mother was a Jewish Christian (Acts 16:1-3)
- As Saul, he met Jesus going to Damascus (Acts 9:1-6; 13:9)
- He and Judas (called Barsabbas) were chosen to accompany Paul (Acts 15:22)



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- He preached, and 3,000 were saved in one day (Acts 2:38-41)
- He was killed for his faith in Jesus (Acts 7:54-60)
- A Jewish convert from Alexandria (Acts 18:24-28)
- Woman who was Paul's first convert (Acts 16:11-16)
- In Lystra, he was thought to be Zeus (Acts 14:1-13)

From the Operations Department

- Please don't send *Just for Students* or the crossword puzzles back to Crossroads. They are yours to keep!
- If you move to a new facility or go home and want to continue your lessons, please let us know. To continue studying from home, please wait until you are living there to send us a note with the address.
- We will send the next *Just for Students* newsletter to you in September.
- On the back of your lessons, we write a six-digit number. This number is specific to that lesson and helps us process lessons. You do not need to pay attention to this number.

