

#### **EXTRA THINGS**

Paul was a faithful Jewish religious leader who was devoted to the one true God. He studied the Hebrew scriptures diligently and did his best to follow them carefully.

When he heard that people were following and worshipping someone named "Jesus of Galilee" Paul went into action, doing all he could to protect the honor of the true God by oppressing Christians.He did not realize that Jesus himself was the true God and promised Messiah until God grabbed his attention and changed his life. You can read about that in Acts 9.

Paul went on many missionary journeys and helped establish some of the first churches.

Paul is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Saul.

## EXTRA VERSES

EXTRA STUFF

Listen to "Gospel" by Propaganda <u>HERE.</u>

# GOD'S FELLOWSHIP - A RESCUE STORY (12)

#### START HERE:

Paul of Tarsus (see "EXTRA THINGS" for more information about him) wrote many of the New Testament letters — also called *epistles* — to new churches throughout the ancient world. The letters were first read out loud to a specific church, then they were passed on to other churches so those believers could also listen and learn. Paul's letters include both important doctrines (things that are true about God and his creation) and practical advice.

2,000 years later, the doctrines are still true and the advice is still solid.

God's children should learn the doctrines and pay attention to the advice. When the advice includes God's commands or directives, God's children should practice obedience.

Romans 4:25-5:11 is a summary of Christ's rescue mission that inaugurated God's restoration plan. In just 12 verses, you'll read about sin, the crucifixion, the resurrection, a new relationship with God, and the role of the Holy Spirit in new life.

Just before these verses, Paul wrote about God's promise to Abraham, made thousands of years earlier. As you read these verses, remember that Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are connected to the events of history recorded in the Old Testament. The crucifixion and resurrection are the centerpiece of Jesus' earthly life, but the full story of Jesus begins in Genesis and lasts into eternity.

**READ THIS:** Romans 4:25 - 5:11

# THINK ABOUT:

Look for all the cause-effect relationships in these verses. Can you see how they show the connections between the crucifixion, the resurrection, sin, faith, and more.

For example: our sins →Jesus' death

Jesus' resurrection  $\rightarrow$ we are made right with God  $\rightarrow$ we have peace with God

Verse 2 talks about both our present and future lives.

How have you experienced joyful hope because of what lies ahead?

How have you experienced joyful hope while facing present difficulties?

Truth about God:

Truth about Jesus Christ:

Truth about the Spirit:

Truth about God's children:

### AM / PM:

**AM:** Today, reflect on this truth: "He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God."

PM: Today, how did you experience joyful hope while facing the current difficult situations?

