

Luke, Paul's Friend

Acts 28:11-16

Do you remember the man who helped Barnabas in the church at Antioch? We learned about him last week. His name was Paul. That's the same man who made tents with Aquila and Priscilla. Paul was a missionary. He went to many, many places telling people about Jesus.

One of the men who traveled with Paul some of the time was a doctor. Dr. Luke. He loved God too and wanted to help people know about him.

Paul and Dr. Luke were on a long trip to Jerusalem. They stopped at many towns along the way to tell people about Jesus.

One night Paul preached a long sermon. It was late at night when he finished. Paul's friend, Dr. Luke, was right there with him – even late at night.

In one of the towns Paul and Dr. Luke visited, Paul met Agabus again. Do you remember him? He was the man who told the Antioch church about the troubles the Christians in Jerusalem were having.

“May I use your belt?” Agabus asked Paul. He took Paul's belt and tied up his own hands. “This is what the people in Jerusalem will do to you, Paul,” Agabus warned. “They do not want you preaching about Jesus.”

But Paul wasn't afraid. He knew God wanted him to go to Jerusalem. Paul continued to Jerusalem – with his friend Dr. Luke.

Just as Agabus said, Paul was arrested in Jerusalem. The soldiers put him on a ship, headed for Rome. Dr. Luke went with his friend.

When Paul got to Rome, he was put in a house-jail. A soldier guarded him all the time. At first, many people came to visit Paul and talk about Jesus. But slowly the people stopped coming.

One day Paul wrote a letter to his friend Timothy. That letter is in our Bible. “Only Luke is with me,” wrote Paul (II Timothy 4:11). Dr. Luke was Paul's faithful friend. He loved Paul at all times.

Bible Verse to Learn

“A friend loveth at all times” . . . (Proverbs 17:17).

Our Bible verse today tells us what kind of friend Dr. Luke was to Paul. “A Friend loveth at all times” (Proverbs 17:17). He was a loving friend to Paul. God wants us to be loving friends to other people.