

- Song 73 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

• “Paul Appeals to Caesar and Then Witnesses to King Herod Agrippa”: (10 min.)

25:11; 26:1-3, 28

Although we need not be anxious about what to say when “brought before governors and kings,” we should be “ready to make a defense” before everyone who demands a reason for our hope. (Mt 10:18-20; 1Pe 3:15) If opposers try to frame “trouble in the name of the law,” how can we imitate Paul's example?—Ps 94:20.

- We make use of legal provisions to defend the good news.—Ac 25:11
- We are respectful when speaking to the authorities.—Ac 26:2, 3
- If appropriate, we explain how the good news has benefited us and others.—Ac 26:11-20

- (Acts 25:11) If I am really a wrongdoer and have committed anything deserving of death, I do not beg off from dying; but if there is no substance to the accusations these men have made against me, no man has the right to hand me over to them as a favor. I appeal to Caesar!”
- (Acts 26:1-3) A·grip'pa said to Paul: “You are permitted to speak in your own behalf.” Then Paul stretched out his hand and proceeded to say in his defense: 2 “Concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, King A·grip'pa, I consider myself happy that it is before you I am to make my defense this day, 3 especially because you are an expert on all the customs as well as

the controversies among the Jews. Therefore, I beg you to hear me patiently.

- (Acts 26:28) But A·grip'pa said to Paul: “In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian.”
- (Matthew 10:18-20) And you will be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a witness to them and the nations. 19 However, when they hand you over, do not become anxious about how or what you are to speak, for what you are to speak will be given you in that hour; 20 for the ones speaking are not just you, but it is the spirit of your Father that speaks by you.
- (1 Peter 3:15) But sanctify the Christ as Lord in your hearts, always ready to make a defense before everyone who demands of you a reason for the hope you have, but doing so with a mild temper and deep respect.
- (Psalm 94:20) Can a throne of corruption be allied with you While it is framing trouble in the name of the law?
- (Acts 25:11) If I am really a wrongdoer and have committed anything deserving of death, I do not beg off from dying; but if there is no substance to the accusations these men have made against me, no man has the right to hand me over to them as a favor. I appeal to Caesar!”
- (Acts 26:2, 3) “Concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, King A·grip'pa, I consider myself happy that it is before you I am to make my defense this day, 3 especially because you are an expert on all the customs as well as the controversies among the Jews. Therefore, I beg you to hear me patiently.

- (Acts 26:11-20) By punishing them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to recant; and since I was extremely furious with them, I went so far as to persecute them even in outlying cities. 12 “While doing this as I was traveling to Damascus with authority and a commission from the chief priests, 13 I saw at midday on the road, O King, a light beyond the brilliance of the sun flash from heaven around me and around those traveling with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice say to me in the Hebrew language: ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? To keep kicking against the goads makes it hard for you.’ 15 But I said: ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said: ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 16 But rise and stand on your feet. This is why I have appeared to you, to choose you as a servant and a witness both of things you have seen and things I will make you see respecting me. 17 And I will rescue you from this people and from the nations, to whom I am sending you 18 to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those sanctified by their faith in me.’ 19 “Therefore, King A·grip'pa, I did not become disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but to those in Damascus first and then to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of Ju·de'a, and also to the nations, I was bringing the message that they should repent and turn to God by doing works that befit repentance.

[Box on page 4]

Have you given thought to how you might respond to those who question your beliefs?

Ac 25:11—Paul availed himself of a legal provision and appealed to Caesar (bt 198 ¶6)

(Acts 25:11) 11 If I am really a wrongdoer and have committed anything deserving of death, I do not beg off from dying; but if there is no substance to the accusations these men have made against me, no man has the right to hand me over to them as a favor. I appeal to Caesar!”

*** bt chap. 25 p. 198 par. 6 “I Appeal to Caesar!” ***

6 Festus’ desire to indulge the Jews could have put Paul in mortal danger. Therefore, Paul used a right he possessed as a Roman citizen. He told Festus: “I am standing before the judgment seat of Caesar, where I ought to be judged. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also are finding out quite well. . . . I appeal to Caesar!” Once made, such an appeal was usually irrevocable. Festus emphasized this, saying: “To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go.” (Acts 25:10-12) By appealing to a higher legal authority, Paul set a precedent for true Christians today. When opposers try to frame “trouble by decree,” Jehovah’s Witnesses avail themselves of legal provisions to defend the good news.—Ps. 94:20.

- (Acts 25:10-12) But Paul said: “I am standing before the judgment seat of Caesar, where I ought to be judged. I have done no wrong to the Jews, of which you are also becoming well-aware. 11 If I am really a wrongdoer and have committed anything deserving of death, I do not beg off from dying; but if there is no substance to the accusations

these men have made against me, no man has the right to hand me over to them as a favor. I appeal to Caesar!”
12 Then Festus, after speaking with the assembly of counselors, replied: “To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you will go.”

- (Psalm 94:20) Can a throne of corruption be allied with you While it is framing trouble in the name of the law?

Ac 26:1-3—Paul gave a skillful defense before King Herod Agrippa (bt 198-201 ¶10-16)

(Acts 26:1-3) 26 A·grip'pa said to Paul: “You are permitted to speak in your own behalf.” Then Paul stretched out his hand and proceeded to say in his defense: 2 “Concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, King A·grip'pa, I consider myself happy that it is before you I am to make my defense this day, 3 especially because you are an expert on all the customs as well as the controversies among the Jews. Therefore, I beg you to hear me patiently.

*** bt chap. 25 pp. 198-201 pars. 10-16 “I Appeal to Caesar!” ***

10 Paul respectfully thanked King Agrippa for the opportunity to present a defense to him, acknowledging that the king was an expert on all the customs as well as the controversies among Jews. Paul then described his past life: “According to the strictest sect of our form of worship I lived a Pharisee.” (Acts 26:5) As a Pharisee, Paul had hoped in the coming of the Messiah. Now, as a Christian, he boldly identified Jesus Christ as that long-awaited one. A belief that he and his accusers had in common—that is, the hope of the fulfillment of God’s promise to their forefathers—was the reason that Paul was on trial that day. This

situation left Agrippa even more interested in what Paul had to say.

11 Recalling his past outrageous treatment of Christians, Paul said: “I, for one, really thought within myself I ought to commit many acts of opposition against the name of Jesus the Nazarene . . . Since I was extremely mad against them [the followers of Christ], I went so far as to persecuting them even in outside cities.” (Acts 26:9-11) Paul was not exaggerating. Many people knew of the violence he had done to the Christians. (Gal. 1:13, 23) ‘What could have changed such a man?’ Agrippa may have wondered.

12 Paul’s next words provided the answer: “As I was journeying to Damascus with authority and a commission from the chief priests, I saw at midday on the road, O king, a light beyond the brilliance of the sun flash from heaven about me and about those journeying with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground I heard a voice say to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? To keep kicking against the goads makes it hard for you.’ But I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.’”—Acts 26:12-15.

13 Before this supernatural event, Paul had figuratively been “kicking against the goads.” Just as a beast of burden would injure itself unnecessarily by kicking against the sharp end of an oxgoad, Paul had hurt himself spiritually by resisting the will of God. By appearing to Paul on the road to Damascus, the resurrected Jesus caused this sincere but clearly misguided man to change his thinking.—John 16:1, 2.

14 Paul did indeed make drastic changes in his life. Addressing Agrippa, he said: “I did not become disobedient to the heavenly sight, but both to those in Damascus first and to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of Judea, and to the nations I went bringing the message that they should repent and turn to God by doing works that befit repentance.” (Acts 26:19, 20) For years, Paul had been fulfilling

the commission that Jesus Christ had given him in that midday vision. With what results? Those who responded to the good news that Paul preached repented of their immoral, dishonest conduct and turned to God. Such ones became good citizens, contributing to and showing respect for law and order.

15 Those benefits, however, meant nothing to Paul's Jewish opposers. Paul said: "On account of these things Jews seized me in the temple and attempted to slay me. However, because I have obtained the help that is from God I continue to this day bearing witness to both small and great."—Acts 26:21, 22.

16 As true Christians, we must be "always ready to make a defense" of our faith. (1 Pet. 3:15) When speaking to judges and rulers about our beliefs, we may find it helpful to imitate the method Paul used in speaking to Agrippa and Festus. By respectfully telling them how Bible truths have changed lives for the better—our own life as well as the lives of those who respond to our message—we may touch the hearts of these high officials.

- Paragraph 10
- (Acts 26:5) who were previously acquainted with me, if they would be willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our form of worship, I lived as a Pharisee.
- Paragraph 11
- (Acts 26:9-11) I, for one, was convinced that I should commit many acts of opposition against the name of Jesus the Naz·a·rene'. 10 This is exactly what I did in Jerusalem, and I locked up many of the holy ones in prisons, for I had received authority from the chief priests; and when they were to be executed, I cast my vote against them. 11 By punishing them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to recant; and since I was extremely

furious with them, I went so far as to persecute them even in outlying cities.

- (Galatians 1:13) Of course, you heard about my conduct formerly in Ju'da-ism, that I kept intensely persecuting the congregation of God and devastating it;
- (Galatians 1:23) They only used to hear: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now declaring the good news about the faith that he formerly devastated."
- Paragraph 12
- (Acts 26:12-15) "While doing this as I was traveling to Damascus with authority and a commission from the chief priests, 13 I saw at midday on the road, O King, a light beyond the brilliance of the sun flash from heaven around me and around those traveling with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice say to me in the Hebrew language: 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? To keep kicking against the goads makes it hard for you.' 15 But I said: 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said: 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.
- Paragraph 13
- (John 16:1, 2) "I have said these things to you so that you may not be stumbled. 2 Men will expel you from the synagogue. In fact, the hour is coming when everyone who kills you will think he has offered a sacred service to God.
- Paragraph 14
- (Acts 26:19, 20) "Therefore, King A·grip'pa, I did not become disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but to those in Damascus first and then to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of Ju·de'a, and also to the nations, I was bringing the message that they should

repent and turn to God by doing works that befit repentance.

- Paragraph 15
- (Acts 26:21, 22) This is why the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. 22 However, because I have experienced the help that is from God, I continue to this day bearing witness to both small and great, saying nothing except what the Prophets as well as Moses stated was going to take place—
- Paragraph 16
- (1 Peter 3:15) But sanctify the Christ as Lord in your hearts, always ready to make a defense before everyone who demands of you a reason for the hope you have, but doing so with a mild temper and deep respect.

Ac 26:28—Paul’s words had a profound effect on the king (bt 202 ¶18)

(Acts 26:28) 28 But A·grip'pa said to Paul: “In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian.”

*** bt chap. 25 p. 202 par. 18 “I Appeal to Caesar!” ***

18 But Paul had a reply for the governor: “I am not going mad, Your Excellency Festus, but I am uttering sayings of truth and of soundness of mind. In reality, the king to whom I am speaking with freeness of speech well knows about these things . . . Do you, King Agrippa, believe the Prophets? I know you believe.” Agrippa responded: “In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian.” (Acts 26:25-28) These words, sincere or not, show that Paul’s witness had a profound effect on the king.

- (Acts 26:25-28) But Paul said: “I am not going out of my mind, Your Excellency Festus, but I am speaking words of truth and of a sound mind. 26 For a fact, the king to whom I am speaking so freely

well knows about these things; I am convinced that not one of these things escapes his notice, for none of this has been done in a corner. 27 Do you, King A·grip'pa, believe the Prophets? I know that you believe.” 28 But A·grip'pa said to Paul: “In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian.”

Digging for Spiritual Gems:

Ac 26:14—What is a goad? (“kicking against the goads” study note on Ac 26:14, nwtsty; “Goad,” nwtstg)

(Acts 26:14) 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice say to me in the Hebrew language: ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? To keep kicking against the goads makes it hard for you.’

*** nwtsty Acts Study Notes—Chapter 26 ***

kicking against the goads: A goad is a pointed rod used to urge on an animal. (Jg 3:31) The expression “to kick against the goads” is a proverb found in Greek literature. It is based on the image of a stubborn bull that resists the prodding of the goad by kicking against it, resulting in injury to the animal. Saul behaved in a similar manner before becoming a Christian. By fighting against Jesus’ followers, who had the backing of Jehovah God, Paul risked causing serious injury to himself. (Compare Ac 5:38, 39; 1Ti 1:13, 14.) At Ec 12:11, “oxgoads” are mentioned in a figurative sense, referring to a wise person’s words that move a listener to follow counsel.

Goad

A long rod with a sharp metal point, used by farmers to prod an animal. The goad is compared to the words of a wise person that move the listener to heed wise counsel. “Kicking against the goads” is drawn from the action of a stubborn bull that resists the prodding of the goad by kicking against it, resulting in injury to itself.—Ac 26:14; Jg 3:31.

Ac 26:27—What dilemma did King Agrippa face when Paul asked him if he believed the prophets? (w03 11/15 16-17 ¶14)

(Acts 26:27) 27 Do you, King A·grip'pa, believe the Prophets? I know that you believe."

*** w03 11/15 pp. 16-17 par. 14 Help Others to Accept the Kingdom Message ***

14 Paul knew that Agrippa was nominally a Jew. Appealing to Agrippa's knowledge of Judaism, Paul reasoned that his preaching really involved "saying nothing except things the Prophets as well as Moses stated were going to take place" regarding the Messiah's death and resurrection. (Acts 26:22, 23) Addressing Agrippa directly, Paul asked: "Do you, King Agrippa, believe the Prophets?" Agrippa faced a dilemma. If he said that he rejected the prophets, his reputation as a Jewish believer would be ruined. But if he concurred with Paul's reasoning, he would be taking a position of public agreement with the apostle and would risk being called a Christian. Paul wisely answered his own question, saying: "I know you believe." How did Agrippa's heart move him to answer? He responded: "In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian." (Acts 26:27, 28) Although Agrippa did not become a Christian, Paul evidently affected his heart to some extent with his message.—Hebrews 4:12.

- (Acts 26:22, 23) However, because I have experienced the help that is from God, I continue to this day bearing witness to both small and great, saying nothing except what the Prophets as well as Moses stated was going to take place— 23 that the Christ was to suffer and that as the first to be resurrected from the dead, he was going to proclaim light both to this people and to the nations."
- (Acts 26:27, 28) Do you, King A·grip'pa, believe the Prophets? I know that you

believe." 28 But A·grip'pa said to Paul: "In a short time you would persuade me to become a Christian."

- (Hebrews 4:12) For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints from the marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart.

What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

Bible Reading:) Ac 25:1-12 (th study 5)
(4 min. or less) •

(Acts 25:1-12) 25 Therefore Festus, after arriving in the province and taking charge, went up three days later to Jerusalem from Caes·a·re'a. 2 And the chief priests and the principal men of the Jews gave him information against Paul. So they began to beg Festus 3 as a favor to send for Paul to come to Jerusalem. But they were planning to ambush Paul and kill him along the road. 4 However, Festus answered that Paul was to be kept in Caes·a·re'a and that he himself was about to go back there shortly. 5 "So let those who are in power among you," he said, "come down with me and accuse him if, indeed, the man has done something wrong." 6 So when he had spent not more than eight or ten days among them, he went down to Caes·a·re'a, and the next day he sat down on the judgment seat and commanded Paul to be brought in. 7 When he came in, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing against him many serious charges that they were unable to prove.

8 But Paul said in defense: "Neither against the Law of the Jews nor against the temple nor against Caesar have I committed any sin." 9 Festus, desiring to gain favor with the Jews, said in reply to Paul: "Do you wish to go up to Jerusalem and be judged before me there concerning these things?" 10 But Paul said: "I am standing before the judgment seat of Caesar, where I ought to be judged. I have done no wrong to the Jews, of which you are also becoming well-aware. 11 If I am really a wrongdoer and have committed anything deserving of death, I do not beg off from dying; but if there is no substance to the accusations these men have made against me, no man has the right to hand me over to them as a favor. I appeal to Caesar!" 12 Then Festus, after speaking with the assembly of counselors, replied: "To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you will go."

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

• **First Return Visit Video: (5 min.) Play and discuss the video.**

• **First Return Visit: (3 min. or less) Use the sample conversation. (th study 2)**

○●○ FIRST RETURN VISIT

Question: How do we know that Jehovah God wants us to become his friends?

Scripture: Jas 4:8

Link: How can we become God's friends?

- (James 4:8) 8 Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you indecisive ones. . .

*** th study 2 p. 5 Conversational Manner ***

STUDY 2

Conversational Manner

2 Corinthians 2:17

SUMMARY: Speak in a natural, sincere way that conveys how you feel about the topic and your listeners.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Prepare prayerfully and carefully. Pray for help to concentrate, not on yourself, but on your message. Fix in your mind the main points you need to convey. Express thoughts in your own words; do not simply recite expressions word for word as they appear in print.

If you plan to read from the Bible or another publication, get to know the passage well so that your reading will be fluent. If people are quoted, read their words with feeling, without being overly dramatic.

- Speak from the heart. Think about why your listeners need to hear the message. Focus on them. Then your posture, gestures, and facial expressions will convey warm sincerity and friendliness.

Do not confuse naturalness with casualness. Maintain the dignity of your message by using clear speech and proper grammar.

- Look at your listeners. Maintain eye contact where it is not offensive to do so. When you give a discourse, look at one individual in the audience at a time, rather than looking at or scanning over the entire group.

• First Return Visit: (4 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then introduce the Teach Us book. (th study 3)

○●○ FIRST RETURN VISIT

Question: How do we know that Jehovah God wants us to become his friends?

Scripture: Jas 4:8

Link: How can we become God's friends?

- (James 4:8) 8 Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you indecisive ones.

STUDY 3

Use of Questions

Matthew 16:13-16

SUMMARY: Ask tactful questions to arouse and maintain interest, to reason with your listeners, and to emphasize important points.

HOW TO DO IT:

- Arouse and maintain interest. Ask rhetorical questions that stimulate a mental response or curiosity.
- Reason on a subject. Help your listeners to follow the logic of an argument by posing a series of questions that lead to a reasonable conclusion.
- Emphasize important points. Ask an intriguing question to introduce a key thought. Use review questions after discussing an important point or when concluding your presentation.

After reading a scripture, use questions to emphasize the key idea of the verse(s) you just read.

[Box on page 6]

IN THE MINISTRY

Ask your listener to express his viewpoint on a topic. Listen attentively to his response. Use discernment to determine when and how to ask tactful questions.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 38

• **“The Legalization of the Work in Quebec”:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video.

When Paul was on trial, he appealed to Caesar. By using his right as a Roman citizen, he set a precedent for us today. Watch the video The Legalization of the Work in Quebec, and learn how our brothers used legal provisions to defend the good news in Quebec. Then answer the following questions:

• What challenges did our brothers in Quebec face?

• What special tract did they distribute, and what was the result?

• What happened to Brother Aimé Boucher?

• How did the Supreme Court of Canada rule in Brother Boucher’s case?

• What rare legal provision did the brothers use, and what was the result?

• What happened after a Christian meeting was interrupted by the police at the instigation of priests?

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)

1 Jy chap. 51 [Box on page 125]

(Matthew 14:1-12) At that time Herod, the district ruler, heard the report about Jesus 2 and said to his servants: “This is John the Baptist. He was raised up from the dead, and this is why these powerful works are operating in him.” 3 Herod had arrested John and had bound him and imprisoned him because of He-ro'di-as, the wife of Philip his brother. 4 For John had been saying to him: “It is not lawful for you to have her.” 5 However, although he wanted to kill him, he feared the crowd, because they took him for a prophet. 6 But when Herod’s birthday was being celebrated, the daughter of He-ro'di-as danced for the occasion and pleased Herod so much 7 that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. 8 Then she, at her mother’s prompting, said: “Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist.” 9 Grieved though he was, the king, out of regard for his oaths and for those dining with him, commanded it to be given. 10 So he sent and had John beheaded in the prison. 11 His head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. 12 Later his disciples came and removed his corpse and buried him; then they came and reported to Jesus.

(Mark 6:14-29) Now King Herod heard of this, for the name of Jesus became well-known, and people were saying: “John the Baptizer has been raised up from the dead, and that is why the powerful works are operating in him.” 15 But others were saying: “It is E-li'jah.” Still others were saying: “It is a prophet like one of the prophets of old.” 16 But when Herod heard it, he said: “The John whom I beheaded, this one has been raised up.” 17 For Herod himself had sent out and arrested John and had bound him in prison on account of He-ro'di-as, the wife of Philip his brother, because he had married her. 18 For John had been saying to Herod: “It is not lawful for you to have your

brother's wife." 19 So He-ro'di-as was nursing a grudge against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not. 20 For Herod was in fear of John, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man, and he was keeping him safe. After hearing him, he was at a great loss as to what to do, yet he continued to hear him gladly. 21 But a convenient day arrived when Herod spread an evening meal on his birthday for his high officials and the military commanders and the most prominent men of Gal'i-lee. 22 And the daughter of He-ro'di-as came in and danced and pleased Herod and those dining with him. The king said to the girl: "Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you." 23 Yes, he swore to her: "Whatever you ask me for, I will give it to you, up to half my kingdom." 24 So she went out and said to her mother: "What should I ask for?" She said: "The head of John the Baptizer." 25 She immediately rushed in to the king and made her request, saying: "I want you to give me right away on a platter the head of John the Baptist." 26 Although this deeply grieved him, the king did not want to disregard her request, because of his oaths and his guests. 27 So the king immediately sent a bodyguard and commanded him to bring John's head. So he went off and beheaded him in the prison 28 and brought his head on a platter. He gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

(Luke 9:7-9) Now Herod the district ruler heard about everything that was happening, and he was greatly perplexed because some were saying that John had been raised up from the dead, 8 but others were saying that E-li'jah had appeared, and still others that one of the ancient prophets had risen. 9 Herod said: "John I beheaded. Who, then, is this about whom I am hearing such things?" So he was trying to see him.

(Matthew 14:5) However, although he wanted to kill him, he feared the crowd, because they took him for a prophet.

(Mark 6:19) So He-ro'di-as was nursing a grudge against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not.

Paragraph 5 on Page 126

(Mark 6:22-24) And the daughter of He-ro'di-as came in and danced and pleased Herod and those dining with him. The king said to the girl: "Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you." 23 Yes, he swore to her: "Whatever you ask me for, I will give it to you, up to half my kingdom." 24 So she went out and said to her mother: "What should I ask for?" She said: "The head of John the Baptizer."

Paragraph 6 on Page 126

(Mark 6:24, 25) So she went out and said to her mother: "What should I ask for?" She said: "The head of John the Baptizer." 25 She immediately rushed in to the king and made her request, saying: "I want you to give me right away on a platter the head of John the Baptist."

Paragraph 9 on Page 126

(Luke 9:7) Now Herod the district ruler heard about everything that was happening, and he was greatly perplexed because some were saying that John had been raised up from the dead,

◇ Why is John the Baptist in prison?

◇ How does Herodias finally manage to have John killed?

◇ After John's death, why does Herod Antipas want to see Jesus?

* Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)

- Song 122 and Prayer