

*The New Testament:*

# Cities of the Roman Empire, First Century AD

1. **Circle the city you have selected to research. Note that each city is listed with an accompanying Scripture passage from the Acts of the Apostles.**

**Jerusalem (3:1–26), Samaria (8:4–25), Damascus, (9:1–22), Philippi (16:11–40), Thessalonica (17:1–9), Corinth (18:1–11), Ephesus (19:23–40), Rome (28:11–31).**

2. **Using the Internet, conduct some basic research about your city at the time described in the Acts of the Apostles (the first century AD, approximately 30–60). Take notes on a separate piece of paper. Use the following questions to guide your research:**

What was the population of the city?

What different religious groups lived there? For example, Jews, Gentiles, pagan groups, or others.

On what was the economy of the city based? For example, trade, shipbuilding, agriculture, other things. How might the city have been economically or politically useful to the larger enterprise of the Roman Empire?

What were the city's notable geographic features?

What languages were spoken in the city?

What else was notable about the city? For example, any particular landmarks, customs, traditions, or events.

How does learning more about this city help you to recognize both the challenges and the value of the Apostles' ministry there?