



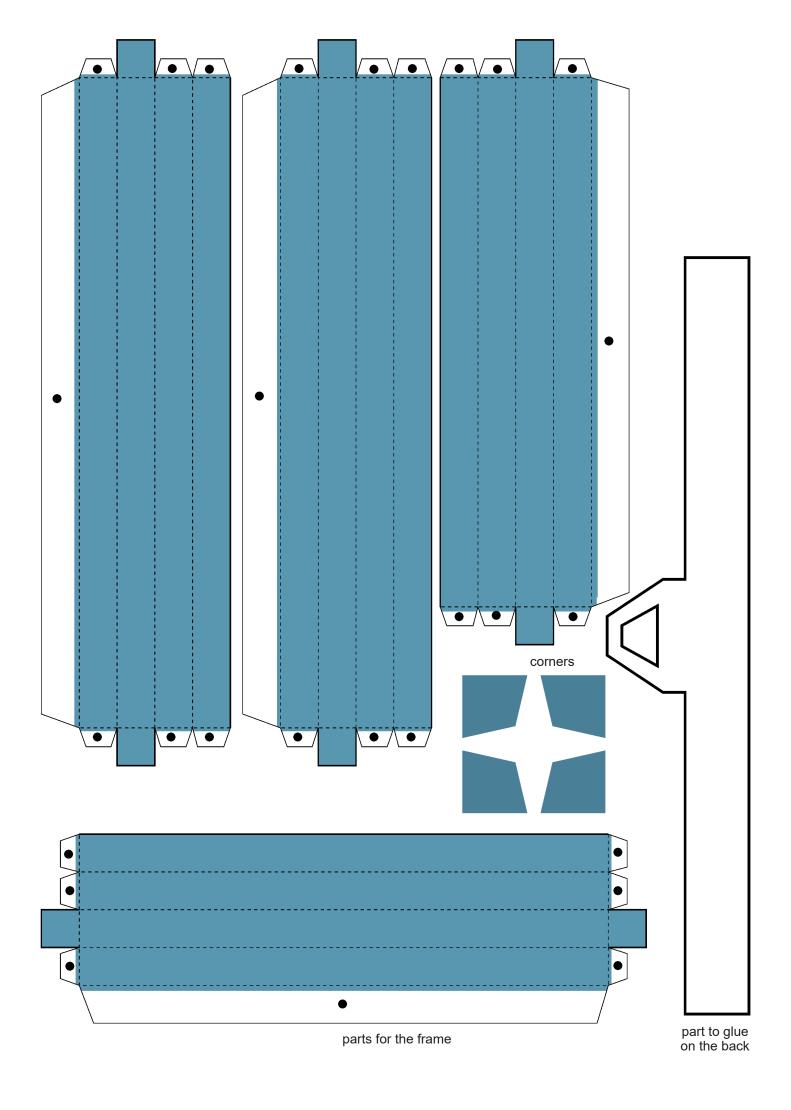
Tarsus was located in south central Turkey, 20 kilometers inland from the Mediterranean Sea. It still exists in Turkey today. During the time of the New Testament, the great trade routes that led East and West passed through Tarsus. These routes, along with the access to the Mediterranean, made Tarsus an important stop for many people. As well as being a city of wealth, Tarsus was also known for its great schools. (See Acts chapter 21, verse 39.)

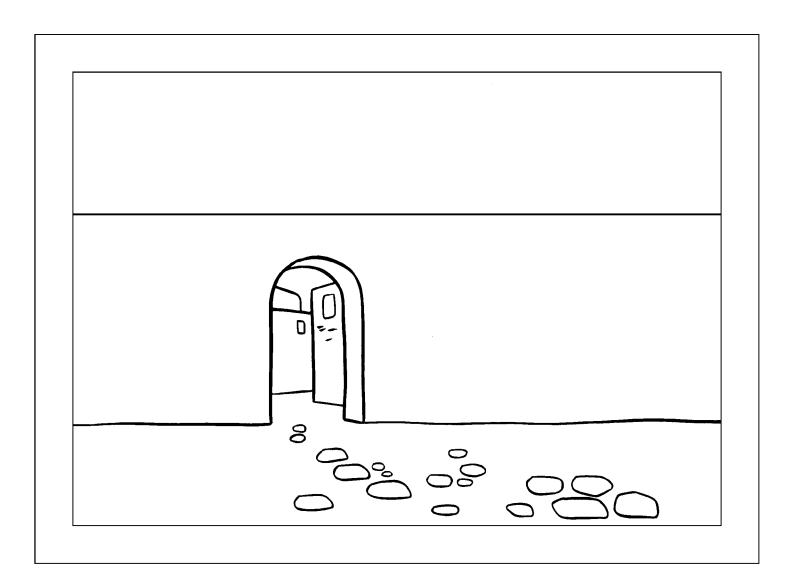
Tarsus was the city where Paul the Apostle (Saul) was born. Because of this, he was also known as Saul of Tarsus, though he spent most of his youth in Jerusalem. Paul returned to Tarsus after his conversion. Eight years later, Barnabas travelled to Tarsus to meet with Paul.

Paul was born a Jew, but was also born a Roman citizen. Roman emperors conferred citizenship on some of the citizens of Tarsus.



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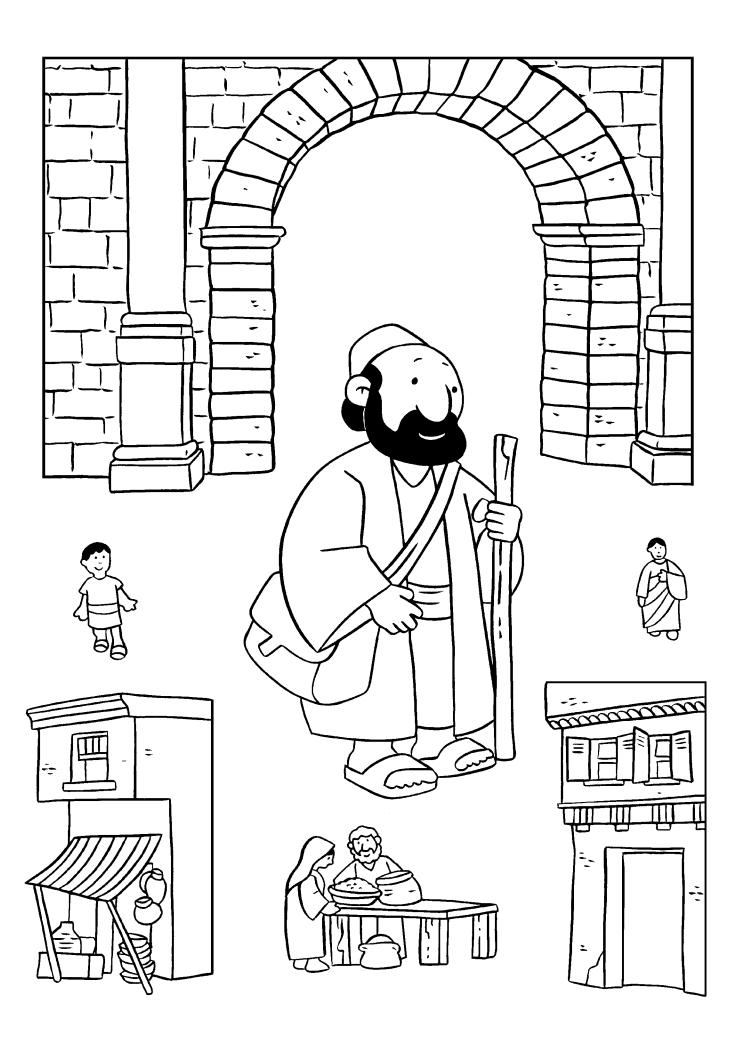


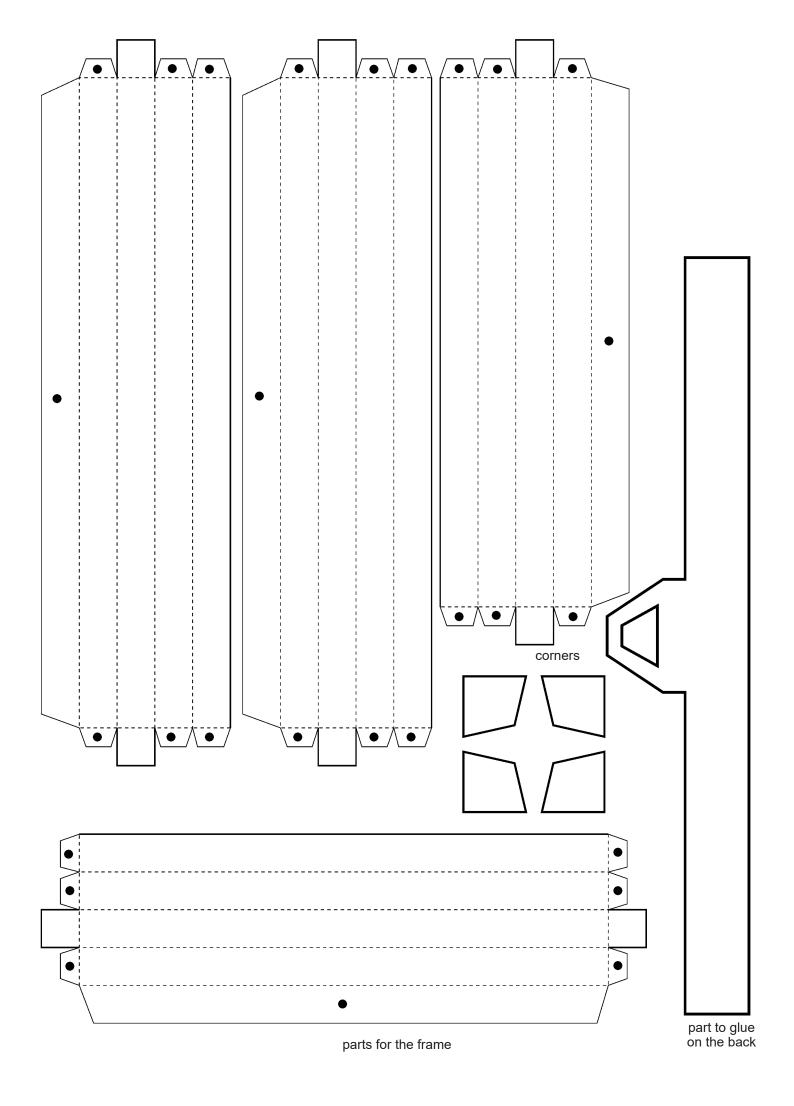


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