



Your pilgrimage starts here!



Overview of the Pilgrimage of the Footsteps of St. Paul

The Pilgrimage of the Footsteps of St. Paul is a spiritual journey that traces the missionary routes taken by St. Paul the Apostle through Greece and Turkey. This pilgrimage allows pilgrims to explore significant historical and biblical sites associated with St. Paul's life and teachings.

It is intended to be a transformative spiritual experience that allows pilgrims to immerse themselves in the history of early Christianity. Pilgrims engage in prayer, reflection, and learning about the life of St. Paul and the early church.

Let us journey together as we allow tread the path of one of Christianity's most influential figures, deepening our faith and understanding of the early church!

Who is St. Paul?

Paul, originally known as Saul, had a remarkable journey from being an ardent opponent of Christianity to becoming one of the most influential Christian missionaries in history. Born into a Jewish family, Saul was sent to Jerusalem as a young man to study under the renowned teacher, Gamaliel. However, Saul harbored intense animosity towards Christians and played a significant role in the execution of Stephen, the first Christian leader to be martyred. Driven by his hatred, Saul was determined to eradicate all followers of Jesus, not only in Jerusalem but throughout the region (Acts 7:54 - 8:3).

In Jerusalem, Paul sought authorization from the chief priest to arrest any followers of Jesus in Damascus, located approximately 100 miles away. During his journey from Judea to Damascus, a blinding light from heaven descended upon him, causing him to fall to the ground. A voice then spoke, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Paul inquired, "Who are you?" The voice responded, "I am Jesus, the one you relentlessly persecute. Arise, enter the city, and you will be instructed on what to do." Paul was directed to proceed to a house and await the arrival of a Christian man named Ananias, who would restore his sight. (Acts 9:1-12)

In a profound encounter, the Lord addressed Ananias, instilling fear in his heart. Despite knowing Paul's infamous reputation, Ananias bravely ventured to his house. The Lord revealed His divine purpose for Paul, choosing him to carry His name to the Gentiles, their rulers, and even the Jewish community. With reverence, Ananias laid his hands upon Paul, and miraculously, Paul's sight was restored. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Paul underwent baptism and embarked on a remarkable journey. He boldly proclaimed his message in synagogues, passionately convincing people that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. His words captivated audiences, leaving them both amazed and perplexed. However, believers in Jerusalem struggled to accept Paul's transformation until Barnabas, a respected leader, vouched for him, affirming his authenticity.

Prayer for (Virtual) Pilgrims

Loving God,
As we embark on this virtual pilgrimage,
we humbly seek your guidance and protection.
Send your angels to walk beside us,
to shield us from harm,
and to guide us along the way.

Grant us the courage to allow ourselves
let go of worldly possessions and concerns,
to trust in your providence,
and to rely on your strength alone.
May we travel unhindered,
with hearts and minds open to your love.

As we pray and reflect during this virtual pilgrimage,
open our eyes to new experiences,
our ears to hear your voice,
and our hearts to receive your love.

Help us to see ourselves as we truly are,
and inspire us to become
the people you are calling us to be.

May this time of prayer together
deepen our understanding of one another
and bring us closer to you.
Remind us that our journey on earth is a pilgrimage,
a journey toward our true and everlasting home.

We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.