



BIBLE STORY RECAP

Bible Passage | Acts 15-18

Main Point | Paul and Silas planted churches

Key Passage | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Big Picture Question | What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

READ THE BIBLE STORY

Paul's Second Journey

One night, God told Paul in a vision to go to Macedonia to share the gospel there. On the way, Paul and his friends stopped for a few days in a city called Philippi. They went to the river to pray. Some women were there, and Paul started talking to them. A woman named Lydia was listening, and God opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. Lydia and everyone in her house were baptized. On another day, a servant girl met Paul and Silas. She had a spirit in her that allowed her to predict the future. The girl followed Paul and Silas, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God!" Finally, Paul turned and said to the spirit in her, "By the power of Jesus, I command you to come out of her!" And the spirit came out right away.

Now the girl's owners were upset because she could no longer tell the future. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities. The officials put Paul and Silas in jail. About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God. Suddenly, a violent earthquake shook the jail. All the

doors flew open, and all the prisoners' chains came loose. The jailer woke up and thought the prisoners had escaped, so he took out his sword and was about to kill himself.

"Don't hurt yourself!" Paul said. "We are all here!"

The jailer took Paul and Silas outside. "Men, what must I do to be saved?" he asked. They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." The jailer and everyone in his household believed and were baptized. Later that day, Paul and Silas were set free.

When Paul got to Athens, he was upset that the people there did not worship the one true God. Instead, they worshiped many idols. Paul told the people the good news about Jesus. He said, "Men of Athens, I saw in your city an altar that said: 'To an Unknown God.' You worship without knowing." Paul told the people about the one true God. He explained that God made everything. He is not like the idols in Athens that are made of gold, silver, or stone. God does not need anything, and He is not far away. Paul also said that God wants everyone in the world to repent, to turn away from their sin and turn to Him.

When the people heard about Jesus being raised from the dead, some of them laughed; however, some people believed in Jesus.

Christ Connection: *Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ELEM AND KINDERGARTEN DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have kids open their Bibles to Acts 15.

1. Where did Paul and Silas meet Lydia?
(outside the city gate in Philippi, Acts 16:12-14)
2. What did Paul and Silas do in prison?
(pray and sing hymns to God, Acts 16:25)
3. What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas after God rescued them with an earthquake? ("What must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30)
4. How is anyone saved? (Romans 10:9)
Guide kids to discuss Paul and Silas' response to the jailer's question about salvation. Lead kids to understand that faith is all we need for salvation, and remind them that after salvation, the Holy Spirit helps us obey God in love.
5. Who can be saved? (John 3:16)
Guide kids to see that Lydia, the slave girl, the jailer, and the people of Athens were all very different—yet they all had the opportunity to be saved by faith. Paul and Silas preached the same message to everyone. Everyone who has faith in Jesus will be saved.
6. Why does God save people?
Guide kids to see that God's plan to save people glorifies Him and shows His love to the world. Help kids understand that God doesn't save us because He needs us [see Acts 18:24-25] but rather because His love and power are so great He chooses to use us in His plan to glorify Himself.

TODDLER/PRE-K STORY AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Recap the Story |

Paul and Silas went to a city called Philippi to tell people about Jesus. There, they met a woman named Lydia and told her about Jesus. Lydia and her family believed! While they were in Philippi, some people made trouble for Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas were put in jail! In jail, Paul and Silas were singing and praying when there was an earthquake. Their chains fell off, and the doors opened! The jailer came to see what happened, and he was scared. Paul said, "We are all here!" The jailer said, "What do I need to do to be saved?" Paul said, "Believe in Jesus!" The jailer and his whole family believed.

Review Points |

- God sent Paul on another trip.
- Paul and Silas told Lydia about Jesus.
- Paul told people about Jesus even in jail.
- We are saved when we hear and believe the gospel.

Discussion Questions |

1. What did Paul and Silas do as they traveled? (Paul and Silas told many people about Jesus.)
2. What happened when Lydia heard the gospel about Jesus? (God helped her believe and she was saved.)
3. What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas after the earthquake? (What must I do to be saved?)
4. What message did Paul and Silas preach to everyone? (Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.)
5. What is the Bible about? The Bible is about God's plan to save people through Jesus.

ACTIVITIES

GOING SOMEWHERE

Instructions |

Direct kids to sit in a large circle. Give one kid a numbered cube and direct him to roll it. Based on the number rolled, announce a letter. (1: S; 2: R; 3: H; 4: L; 5: D; 6: C) Challenge kids to think of some things they would need to bring on a long trip that begin with the assigned letter. Ask them to share some of their ideas with the group. Let other kids roll the cube. Play additional rounds with new letters as time allows.

Christ Connection |

In today's Bible story, we will hear about people who took long trips to tell people about Jesus. How do you think they traveled? How might they have carried their supplies? What supplies do you think you would want to bring if you were going to tell people about Jesus?

BEARS IN JAIL

Before the session, carefully make holes in a clear, wide-mouth clear plastic cup. Thread chenille craft stems from one side of the jar and out the other, weaving other stems up and over. During the session, drop bear-shaped graham crackers onto the "trap." Invite toddlers to free the bears by pulling out the sticks. Tell the Bible story.

Christ Connection |

Paul told people about Jesus even in jail. The Bible is God's Word. The Bible says we are saved when we hear and believe the gospel.

BACKPACK RACE

Instructions |

Stuff two backpacks with a jacket or towel or other lightweight item. Set up two chairs spaced far apart on one end of the room. Form two groups. Invite children to line up single-file in their groups on the opposite end of the room from the chairs. Clear any obstacles. Give the child at the front of each line one of the backpacks. Tell the children that when you say go, they should put on the backpack, walk quickly to the other end of the room, around the chair, and back to the next person in line. Continue until each child in each line has carried the backpack. The group that finishes first is the winner.

Christ Connection |

Backpacks are used to carry things we need. In our Bible story today, Paul traveled from place to place telling people about Jesus. He probably carried his extra clothes in a bag or rolled up in a blanket. Listen to the story to hear why Paul traveled to different places.

COLORING

Instructions |

Print off the coloring and activity sheets. Talk about the Bible story and review points as your child works on them.

What's Different?

Find and circle what is different between the two pictures. Can you find more than 10?



Order of Events | Number the events in the order they happened.

- ___ The officials put Paul and Silas in jail.
- ___ The jailer asked how he could be saved.
- ___ God spoke to Paul in a vision at night.
- ___ Paul commanded a spirit to come out of a servant girl.
- ___ Paul spoke to Lydia in Philippi, and Lydia believed in Jesus.
- ___ The jailer believed in Jesus.
- ___ An earthquake shook the jail where Paul and Silas were praying and singing.
- ___ Paul went to Athens and told the people about the one true God.

Hidden Images

INSTRUCTIONS: Find the picture outlines from the image bank hidden in the Bible story art below.



Younger Kids Activity Pages

Unit 33 • Session 2

Paul's Second Journey

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- God told Paul and Silas to travel to Macedonia.
- On the way, Paul and Silas met many people, and shared the gospel with them.
- In Athens, Paul preached to people who worshiped many false gods.
- Paul and Silas planted new churches.

KEY PASSAGE: Acts 4:12

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why do you think Paul and Silas worshiped God while in prison?
- How can we worship God in hard times?
- Why doesn't God need anything from people?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Research a local prison ministry. Help your kids write encouraging notes or draw pictures that could be delivered to prisoners who are being reached by the ministry.



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