



Paul and the Shipwreck

Lesson Aim: To learn to trust God and help others be brave.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The Spirit Who Connects Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43b-44

What He has done: God saved everyone on the ship just as He had promised.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Keep up your courage."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God." 1 John 4:7a

| Unit 4: The Promise of Connection | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
| 17 | Paul Visits Ephesus, Acts 19:1, 8-11 | God sent Paul to start churches in different places and help them grow. | To know we can help the church. |
| 18 | Paul Speaks to the Crowd, Acts 21:33-36, 39-40; 22:1-11 | God gave Paul boldness to tell his story to the people of Jerusalem. | To know God wants us to tell our stories about Him. |
| 19 | Paul and King Agrippa, Acts 26:2, 13-14, 17-19, 24-29 | God made Paul bold to speak about Jesus to King Agrippa. | To know we can pray for others to know who Jesus is. |
| 20 | Paul and the Shipwreck, Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43b-44 | God saved everyone on the ship just as He had promised. | To learn to trust God and help others be brave. |
| 21 | Paul Imprisoned in Rome, Acts 28:16, 30-31 | God brought many people to visit Paul while he was awaiting trial. | To know wherever you are, you can tell people about Jesus. |

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Jeremiah 29:10-14. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the plans You have for each of us. Please encourage the children with Your plans for them. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 15 | Treasure Chest | Stamp or sticker of a ship |
| | | Whisper Verse | Sign language for "Keep up your courage." |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. | Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Love One Another" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "It's Praise Time!" "We Love" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Jesus Loves the Little Children" "This Is the Day" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Sunday School Songs by Songtime Kids America's 25 Favorite Praise & Worship Choruses for Kids by Brentwood Kids |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | <i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 4, Lesson 20 |
| THE WORD | Up to 10 | Watch the Word: Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43b-44 | Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 27:23 Visual: Life preserver or flotation device |
| THE WAY | Up to 25 | Craft: Paul's Ship | Sturdy blue and other brightly colored paper, thin blue paper (tissue or crepe paper), 2 cotton balls, glue |
| | | Game: Keep Up Your Courage | Sheet or blanket |
| | | Game: Friendly Freeze | Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player |
| | | Snack: Sailors on a Ship | Celery, raisins |
| | Circle of Prayer | None | |
| Final 5 | Final Five | Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 4, Lesson 20 Color This Story: "Paul and the Shipwreck" | |
| GOT TIME? | Up to 10 | Say & Do: Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43b-44 | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Let Us Love! | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Love One Another | Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player |
| | Up to 10 | Story Time | Any story about trusting God and being brave |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Keep up your courage

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____ . I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a ship. **Let this sticker of a ship remind you that God used Paul to help everyone on the ship to be brave by telling them to keep up their courage. Today's Whisper Verse is "Keep up your courage."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Keep up your courage."

(For visual demonstrations, see commtechlab.msu.edu/Sites/aslweb/browser.htm)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- "Keep (up)"** Each hand creates the letter "K" hand shape by resting the thumb on the webbing of the extended middle and index fingers with the other two fingers curled into a fist. Lightly tap one letter "K" hand shape on top of the other.
- "your"** The right hand is pushed forward from the body with fingers together and palm facing out.
- "courage."** Both hands start with the fingertips resting on the front of the shoulder: left fingertips on left shoulder, right fingertips on right shoulder. Fingertips pull away from the shoulder and make a fist to indicate grabbing strength from the body and holding it forth in a gesture of bravery.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Keep up your courage," Acts 27:25a. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The Spirit who connects us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to God. The Holy Spirit connects us to God and to each other. In today's story, God sends an angel to help Paul have courage in the storm. Then, Paul helps the people with him to keep up their courage. Today's Whisper Verse is "Keep up your courage." It means be brave. Let's try it together. Review Whisper Verse together: "Keep up your courage." Include sign language.



The angel tells Paul to not be afraid. The Bible tells us we don't have to be afraid or worried because we can trust in God. Sing: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."

When the others see God keeps His promise to save them, they learn Paul's God is mighty to save. As we give our offering today, let's praise God for He is mighty to save! Sing: "He Is Mighty to Save" while collecting the offering.



Today, we will learn about a storm which causes Paul's ship to wreck. Even though the ship does not make it to land, everyone is saved just as the angel said. Let's see what our friends Delbert and Lello know about Paul's shipwreck. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 4, Lesson 20.



Paul helps others to keep up their courage and stay with the ship. We can love one another by helping others be brave as Paul did. Sing: "Love One Another."

When the ship wrecks, God protects everyone and they make it safely to shore. They had many reasons to praise God for that day. We can praise God for today! Sing: "This Is the Day."



Paul helped others be brave

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

My mouth quiet as can be,

I will listen to hear,

How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

Cup hand around ear.

Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Paul prayed for King Agrippa. Today, we will hear how Paul helped everyone on the ship keep up their courage in the big storm. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 27:23.

WATCH THE WORD: ACTS 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43B-44

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a life preserver or flotation device. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **Paul was sailing through a storm;**
- **Strong winds blew the ship all around.**
- **Clouds hid the sun and all the stars;**
- **Big waves tossed the ship up and down.**

- **An angel told Paul, "Don't be afraid;**
- **Everyone on board will be saved!"**
- **"Keep up your courage!" Paul told the crew.**
- **"God will save us, if with the ship we stay."**

- **After many days the storm calmed down.**
- **The crew then saw some land.**
- **When the ship wrecked on their way to shore,**
- **God brought them safely to the sand.**



Who told Paul not to be afraid? (The angel.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Acts 27:23-24a from the teacher's Bible.

Everyone on the ship was afraid of the storm. What did Paul tell them to do? ("Keep up your courage.") **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Keep up your courage."** Include sign language or hand motions. **To keep up your courage means to be brave.**



Helping others be brave

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: PAUL'S SHIP

Purpose: To remind the children to help others keep up their courage.

Supplies: Sturdy blue and other brightly colored paper, thin blue paper (tissue or crepe paper), 2 cotton balls, glue

Prepare: From brightly colored paper (various colors may be used), cut a half-circle for the hull of the ship, a slender rectangle for a mast, and two triangles for sails. From thin blue tissue or crepe paper, cut a 2-inch strip the length of the sturdy blue paper. At the top of the sturdy blue paper, print: **Paul and the Shipwreck, Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43B-44**

Directions:

1. Glue the long strip of thin blue tissue or crepe paper to the bottom of the sturdy blue paper for the sea.
2. Glue the half-circle, rectangle, and two triangles on the sturdy blue paper for Paul's ship.
3. Stretch the cotton balls and glue them on the sturdy blue paper as storm clouds in the sky over Paul's ship.

Craft Discussion:

- **Paul was on a ship, which is a very big boat. What happened that made everyone afraid?** (A big storm came.)
- **What did Paul tell everyone on the ship to do?** ("Keep up your courage.")
- **That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **What does "keep up your courage" mean?** (Be brave.)
- **Who saved everyone on the ship?** (God.) **God kept them safe just as the angel had promised He would!**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: KEEP UP YOUR COURAGE

Purpose: Children will pretend they are on the ship with Paul and encourage each other.

Supplies: Sheet or blanket

Let's pretend we are on the ship with Paul and this room is the sea. In the storm, we must all stay with the ship. So, no matter what happens, hold hands! In the storm, we will see the waves get higher and the wind grow stronger, but we can keep up our courage together—you and me!

Directions:

1. Spread the sheet or blanket on the floor as the boat.
2. Sit in a circle on the sheet or blanket. Hold hands through the entire game.
3. Chant or sing the lyrics below to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."
**Row, row, row your boat, through the stormy sea.
We will keep our courage up, together, you and me!**
4. Whisper: **The storm is coming closer and closer! Keep up your courage!**
5. Everyone quietly sings or chants the song while swaying gently back and forth.
6. Say: **The wind is getting stronger and stronger! Keep up your courage!**
7. Everyone stands up, still holding hands. Sing the song while swaying back and forth.
8. Loudly say: **The waves are getting higher and higher! Keep up your courage!**
9. Loudly repeat the song one last time while walking forward to meet in the center of the circle with held hands raised.
10. Whisper: **Shhhhh! The storm is getting quieter, and quieter, and quieter! We kept up our courage!** Lead everyone in cheering.

GAME: FRIENDLY FREEZE

Purpose: Children will practice encouraging each other.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

Paul helped the people on the ship keep up their courage. Can you help each other keep up your courage? (Yes!)

Directions:

1. Help children find partners.
2. **When I play our Bible Memory Verse Song, I want you to choose one of the "Take Courage Actions" from the list below. When the music stops, freeze right where you are.**
 - Clap for your partner and say, "You are very brave!"
 - Shake your partner's hand and say, "Keep doing good work!"
 - Pat your partner on the back and say, "God loves you."
 - Hold hands, jump up and down, and say, "Don't give up!"
 - Sit down and whisper slowly to your partner, "Keep up your courage."
3. Play the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song. Partners do the action together as the music plays.
4. Stop the music. The children freeze in place.
5. Play again using a different "Take Courage Action."
6. Play as long as you like, choosing a different "Take Courage Action" each time you restart the music.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: SAILORS ON A SHIP

Purpose: Children will talk about how others have helped them take courage when they are afraid.

Snack Suggestion: Celery, raisins

Paul kept up his courage because he knew God would keep His promise. Let's talk about what courage means while we eat our snack.

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Pretend the raisins are sailors. Put the sailors inside your celery ship.**
 - **Let's say our Whisper Verse to our raisin sailors so they will not be afraid of the storm.** Children say and sign: "Keep up your courage."
 - **What does "keep up your courage" mean?** (Be brave, do not be afraid.)
 - **When is one time you were afraid?** (Children respond.)
 - **Who helped you have courage?** (God, friends, family members, teachers, etc.)
 - **God gives you courage. You can help others have courage when they are afraid!**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Paul's Ship" craft. Tell someone how God kept everyone safe even though the ship wrecked.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how God gives you courage. You can help others keep up their courage, too.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Paul and the Shipwreck." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Love One Another," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: ACTS 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43B-44

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Paul was sailing through a storm;** (Pretend to row a boat.)
- **Strong winds blew the ship all around.** (Wave hands in the air as wind.)
- **Clouds hid the sun and all the stars;** (Search the sky with imaginary binoculars.)
- **Big waves tossed the ship up and down.** (Make wave motions with hands.)

- **An angel said, "Don't be afraid;** (Shake head no.)
- **Everyone on board will be saved."** (Point to everyone.)
- **"Keep up your courage!" Paul told the crew.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **"God will save us, if with the ship we stay."** (Point to heaven.)

- **After many days the storm calmed down.** (Move hands as a calm sea.)
- **The crew then saw some land.** (Point far away.)
- **When the ship wrecked on their way to shore,**
- **God brought them safely to the sand.** (Point to heaven.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God." 1 John 4:7a

GAME: LET US LOVE!

Purpose: Children learn the meaning of the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Our New Bible Memory Verse tells us to love one another. One way we can love one another is to hug each other. Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Each time you hear the word "love," I want you to hug someone in the circle. Hug someone different each time.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Say the Bible Memory Verse together very slowly. Children hug each other each time they hear the word, "love."
3. **What is another way we can love one another?** (Smile, help, talk about Jesus, pray for each other, etc.) Choose one of the children's suggestions. **Let's think of a motion for that.** (Smile, shake hands, pretend to help by sweeping, open a Bible, pray, etc.)
4. Repeat step 2 using the motion suggested.
5. Play several times using different motions each time.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

We can come together as a church and love one another. Let's do that right now!

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle and hold hands.
2. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song.
3. As the song plays, children sing and walk around in a circle together. Reverse directions each time they sing the word "love."
4. Sing the song again. This time when they first sing the word "love," children move to the center of the circle raising their clasped hands above their heads. The next time "love" is sung, they lower their clasped hands and return to the original circle position.
5. If you have time, allow the children to suggest other motions you could do together while singing the song.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about trusting God and being brave.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 4, Lesson 20: Paul and the Shipwreck

PONDER! Read Acts 27:14-15, 18, 20, 23-25, 41, 43b-44 with your family. Talk about how Paul's ship was caught in the storm. Everyone was afraid! What did the angel tell Paul? What did Paul tell everyone on the ship? God saved everyone on the ship, just like He promised!

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for giving Paul courage and for saving him. Please give us courage so we can help others keep up their courage. Amen."

PLAY! "Keep Up the Courage!" Use sheets, blankets, a bed, chairs, or a table to make a pretend ship. Choose one person to be Paul. Ask someone in your family to read the Bible story and act it out as it is read. When you are finished, talk about times you have been afraid. Who helps you keep up your courage? How can you help others keep up their courage?

Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse:

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God." 1 John 4:7a