



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation
Unit 3, Lesson 14

14 Paul and Silas in Prison

Lesson Aim: To know we can trust God's plan and praise Him during hardships.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite song about God?

GAME: Prison Praise

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO SAVES US

Read Worship Scripture: Revelation 7:9-10.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

THE WORD PAUL AND SILAS PRAISED GOD

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God opened Lydia's heart to respond to Paul's message.

Point to Paul and Silas in Prison. **Today, we will learn what happened to Paul and Silas in Philippi after they stayed at Lydia's home.** Track Paul's second missionary journey, or point out the distance from Troas to Philippi. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 16:22-34. Find and Highlight Key Verse Acts 16:31 First. Pray. Read.

READERS' THEATRE: Let's act out our Bible passage.

THE WAY TRUSTING AND PRAISING GOD

What happened to Paul and Silas? (They were stripped, beaten, flogged, and thrown in prison.) **What did Paul and Silas do in prison that night?** (They sang hymns and prayed to God.) **What were the other prisoners doing?** (Listening.) **What happened when God sent the earthquake?** (The prison doors flew open and everyone's chains loosened.)

Why do you think Paul and Silas wanted to sing and pray to God after they had been unfairly thrown into prison and locked in stocks? What did all the prisoners do when the earthquake freed them? (They stayed.) **What happened to the jailer?** (He and his household believed in Jesus and were baptized.) **How did the jailer care for Paul and Silas?** (He washed their wounds and brought them into his home for a meal.) **Why was the jailer filled with joy?** (He and his whole family now believed in God.)

Paul and Silas must have trusted that God had a reason for them to be in prison that night. **Why do you think God had them there?**

In hard times, we do not have to pretend everything is fine to praise God. Praising God shows Him we trust His promise to make all things work together for the good of those who love Him. Sometimes it is hard to trust God's plan in a bad situation. We may not understand why bad things happen until we get to heaven. Looking back at a hard time you have had, can you now see something good that God was doing? Hard times often bring people closer to God and to each other. What can we praise God for in hard times? (For saving us, His love, His power, His plan, His goodness, etc.)

If time allows, see PAUL'S PONDER PAGE located in the GOT TIME? segment.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

If you were beaten and thrown into a prison, what might you pray for? What song might you sing to God? We can always pray for God to use the hard times to bring people closer to Him. We can always trust that God has a plan for something good, even if we never get to see it. Over 500 years before Paul and Silas were thrown in prison, the prophet Habakkuk and his people were going through a very hard time. Yet, Habakkuk knew the Lord was sovereign, which means in control over everything. Let's read Habakkuk's prayer. Reveal Habakkuk 3:17-19. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

How would you reword this prayer to fit your own life? (Children replace Habakkuk's hardships with their own. For example: "Though my friend is moving away, I will rejoice.")

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Paul's Ponder Page
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #14
- OFFERING OF ART: Paul and Silas in prison praising God
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Pretzel Sticks of Praise

GAME: Whatever Charades

CRAFT: Paul's Letter Keeper

DISCUSSION: Paul's Ponder Page –Philippians 4:8

THE APOSTLES' CREED STUDY

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: The Signs of Philippians 4:8, Up and Down Bible Verse

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW