



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9  
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation  
Unit 3, Lesson 14

## 14 Paul and Silas in Prison

Lesson Aim: For believers to praise God everywhere, every day.

### 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 discover what happened to Paul and Silas in Philippi after they stayed at Lydia's home. We will hear how they were dragged to the marketplace to face city officials called magistrates.** 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 PRAISE GOD EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY

**What did Paul and Silas do in prison that night?** (They sang hymns and prayed to God.) **What time was it?** (Midnight.) **What were the other prisoners doing?** (Listening.) **Let's imagine we are in prison.** Seat the children in an area defined by walls, chairs, or floor tape. **Describe the door and walls of our prison.** (Metal bars, stone walls, steel door, etc.) **The Bible says the jailer put Paul and Silas in stocks. Stocks were wooden blocks that locked prisoner's ankles down so they could not stand or escape. Imagine your feet are in stocks now.**

**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 happened when God sent the earthquake?** (The prison

doors flew open and everyone's chains loosened.) **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 to his home for a meal.) **Why was the jailer filled with joy?** (He and his family now believed in God.)

Paul and Silas must have trusted that God had a reason for them to be in prison that night. Now that you know the whole story, why do you think God had them there? No one knows God's reasons, but because Paul and Silas were in prison, the jailer and everyone in his house learned the truth about Jesus and believed.

Sometimes it is hard to trust God's plan or see anything good in a bad situation. In fact, we may not understand why bad things happen until we get to heaven. But, in his letter to the church in Philippi, Paul shows us a way we can always praise God. Say the Bible Memory Verse or sing "Whatever Is True." **Maybe Paul thought about those things when he was in the prison in Philippi.**

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

### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

**Anyone who belongs to God has a reason to praise Him everywhere, every day in good times and in bad. Check out what King David said 3,000 years ago.** Reveal Psalm 145:2. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

**To extol means to praise. We all have many reasons to praise God. Even during hard times, there is always a reason to praise Him. What is one thing you would you like to praise God for today?**

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

### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: Paul's Ponder Page
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- 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

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

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**