

At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12 Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation Unit 4, Lesson 21

# Paul Imprisoned in Rome

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to live a life faithful to God.

## **THE WELCOME**

**MEET & GREET: What is your favorite story about Paul?** 

**GAME:** Bold Speakers

# **THE WORSHIP** THE SPIRIT WHO CONNECTS US

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 145:21.

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

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

## **THE WORD** PAUL BOLDLY TOLD OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

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

Review: God saved everyone on the ship just as He had promised.

Today, we will see what happened when Paul finally reached Rome. Point to Rome, Italy. Point to Paul Imprisoned in Rome (Circa 61-63 A.D.). Paul arrived in Rome as a prisoner. Instead of a prison, Paul lived in a house where he was guarded by a Roman soldier and probably was bound in chains. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 28:23-31; Philippians 1:12-14. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Acts 28:23b. Pray. Paul called together the Jewish leaders. He wanted them to understand he was never against the Jews. Read Acts 28:23-31.

While imprisoned in Rome, Paul wrote many letters to encourage believers. They are found in the New Testament. Paul's letters are filled with encouragements about the hope, joy, and love believers can have in all circumstances. He knew God had a plan for his imprisonment. Let's check Paul's letter to the Philippians to see what Paul wrote about that. Read Philippians 1:12-14.

#### THE WAY LIVING A FAITHFUL LIFE

Who were the first people Paul invited to visit? (The Jewish leaders in Rome.) Did Paul convince them that Jesus was the Savior they had been hoping for? (Some believed. Some did not.)

In what two ways did more people hear about Jesus as a result of Paul's imprisonment? (He spoke to the guards and visitors about Jesus. Believers were encouraged to speak boldly because of his letters and because they knew he was in chains for his faith.) Why do you think knowing Paul was in chains helped others speak boldly for Jesus?

Paul was imprisoned in Rome until his death. The Bible doesn't say how he died, but according to historians, it is likely he was executed by the Roman Emperor Nero. During Paul's life as a believer, what different groups of people did he speak to about Jesus? The Holy Spirit helped Paul live a faithful life, to trust in Him every day. We can trust the Holy Spirit will give us the strength we need to face whatever happens. We can trust He hears our prayers and His promises are true. We can trust God has a greater purpose and a plan for our life. We can trust the Holy Spirit will help us tell others about Jesus. What are some ways we can help others know Jesus? (Live a faithful life. Love and encourage others. Do good to others.)

#### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

To use Paul's own words, he "finished the race that was set before him." Over 1000 years before Paul, Samuel spoke about living a faithful life. Reveal 1 Samuel 12:24. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Samuel spoke about three things you can do to live a faithful life: fear the Lord, serve the Lord, and think about the great things He has done for you. "Fear the Lord" doesn't mean to be scared. It means to deeply respect Him as the one true God. How can you fear the Lord today? How can you serve the Lord faithfully with all your heart? Who can tell us one great thing God has done for you?

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

#### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: "Ask Me about Paul" sticker
- W<sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #21
- OFFERING OF ART: Paul boldly telling the Jewish leaders about Jesus
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

### **GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Bold Message

**GAMES:** Celebrate the Acts of the Holy Spirit!

**CRAFT:** Paul's Letter Keeper

**DISCUSSION:** What Happened Next? **THE APOSTLES' CREED STUDY** 

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Love Shuffle, Do the Wave

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**