



# Paul Imprisoned in Rome

**Lesson Aim:** To know that wherever you are,  
you can tell people about Jesus.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The Spirit Who Connects Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Acts 28:16, 30-31

**What He Has Done:** God brought many people to visit Paul in Rome.

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"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 are part of 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, 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 that wherever you are, you can tell people about Jesus.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 78:1-7. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the ability to teach Your children. Help them understand that You want each one of them to tell others about Your Son Jesus. Give them the courage to share Your Word with the world around them every day. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Act out the story.** Young children love to pretend and they learn better by doing. Acting out the story allows them to experience Scripture in a very tangible way.



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME		<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a house
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Paul in Rome	Coloring pages of Paul talking with people in his home, crayons
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Ears to Hear	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Dramatic Play Center:</b> Welcome to My Home	Dishes, cups, napkins, play food
		<b>Ball Center:</b> The Welcome Game	Beach ball or other soft ball
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "This Is the Day" "This Little Light of Mine"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Love One Another" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Here Am I" "How Wide?" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" "We Love"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 4, Lesson 21
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Acts 28:16, 30-31	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 28:30-31 Visual: Picture of the Bible story
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Message Necklace	Yarn (or heavy string), (4) 2-inch pieces of colored drinking straw, sturdy paper or craft foam, tape, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Come In!	Chairs, optional: sheet or blanket
		<b>Game:</b> Four Listening Corners	Tape, four pictures of common places such as a park, a school, a home, a church
		<b>Snack:</b> Listen Closely!	Crunchy snack (crackers, chips, pretzels, etc.)
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 4, Lesson 21
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Acts 28:16, 30-31	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Love One Another	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Love One Another"
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Show God's Love	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Love One Another"
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about telling people about Jesus wherever you are

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The Spirit who connects us

# THE WELCOME

## 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 the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a house. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a house help you remember God brought people to Paul's house to hear about Jesus.**

**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: PAUL IN ROME

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Paul talking with people in his home, crayons

### **DO**

Children their picture as they talk about today's story.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**When Paul was in Rome many people came to see him. They wanted to know about Jesus. What do you think Paul told them about Jesus?** (Jesus loves us, Jesus died on the cross and came back to life, Jesus is the Son of God, etc.) **Paul may have told them stories about Jesus. What is your favorite story about Jesus?** (Jesus' birth, Jesus feeding the 5,000, Jesus walking on water, Jesus calling the children to come to Him, Jesus healing people, etc.)

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: EARS TO HEAR

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while discussing today's story. Encourage children to make things that make noise with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Where are your ears?** Children point to their ears. **What do you use your ears for?** (To listen.) **Listen. What do you hear right now?** (Children respond.) Choose some of the cookie cutter shapes you have that make noise such as animals, cars, planes, etc. Ask the children what the shape is and what sound it makes.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: WELCOME TO MY HOME**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, cups, napkins, play food

### **DO**

Create an entryway for the center (home) with chairs or other furniture. Children welcome each other into the home.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In our story, we will hear how Paul welcomed people into his home. Let's welcome each other into our pretend house.** Have one child inside the house. The other children stand at the entryway and ask to come in. The child inside invites them in and says, **"Welcome to my home."** Ask children what they do when someone is visiting. Lead them in acting out some of those activities.

## **BALL CENTER: THE WELCOME GAME**

### **SUPPLIES**

Beach ball or other soft ball

### **DO**

Children learn everyone is welcome in God's house, the church.

### **TALK ABOUT**

Children stand or sit in a circle. **Everyone is welcome at church. Another name for a church is God's house because God is here with us. Let's play a game and welcome each other to God's house.** Lead the children in saying the rhyme below. At the end, name a child in the circle and toss or roll the ball to them. Continue until each child has a turn.

**Welcome! Welcome! We are all welcome in God's house!**  
**Welcome! Welcome! We welcome name of child today!**

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!**  
**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

**"Love  
one another,**

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
(one) The index finger is held upright. (another) Hold fist in front with thumb pointing out. Turn thumb upward and outward.

**for love  
comes from God."**

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

**1 John 4:7a**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The Spirit who connects us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**We came to church today to learn about Jesus. When you go home, you can tell your family and friends what you learned. Let's ask God to help us do that.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You that we can come to church to learn about You. Help us to share what we learn with the people we know. Amen.**



**When we tell others about Jesus, we are letting our light shine.** Sing: "This Little Light of Mine" or "Here Am I."

**Another thing we can do to help others know about Jesus is to give our money offering. This offering will help people in other places learn about Jesus, just like we learn about Jesus here!** Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord" while collecting the offering.



**In today's story, Paul was a prisoner and had to stay inside his house for two whole years! While he was there, God brought many people to him to hear about Jesus. Let's see if Delbert and Lello know the story of Paul teaching his visitors about Jesus.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 4, Lesson 21.



**We can be a light to the people we know by sharing Jesus' love with them. "Love one another, for love comes from God."** Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Practice several times.

**"Love  
one another,**

**for love  
comes from God."**

**1 John 4:7a**

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
(one) The index finger is held upright. (another) Hold fist in front with thumb pointing out. Turn thumb upward and outward.  
(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**Helping each other be closer to Jesus is a great way to love one another.** Sing: "Love One Another."



Paul told his visitors about Jesus

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 28:30-31, picture of the Bible story

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

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

As the children are sitting down for Bible Time, whisper "Jesus loves you" in the ear of as many children as you can. **Welcome to Bible Time! I am so glad you all came to church today. While you were sitting down, I whispered something to some of you. Can someone tell me what I said?** (Jesus loves you.) **That's right. I told you Jesus loves you. Can you whisper that to the person sitting next to you?** Allow children time to whisper "Jesus loves you" to each other.

**We all can tell the people we know about Jesus. No matter where we are, we can tell people Jesus loves them.** If you have time, ask the children who they can tell about Jesus. **In our story today, people come to Paul to hear about Jesus. Let's listen.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 28:30-31.



### **PAUL IMPRISONED IN ROME: ACTS 28:16, 30-31**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Paul was happy to see his friends**
- **When his ship finally landed in Rome.**
- **Paul was a prisoner, but was not in a jail;**
- **A guard made Paul stay in his home.**
  
- **For two whole years, Paul stayed in that house;**
- **He welcomed all who came in.**
- **He boldly told them to follow Jesus.**
- **Paul was glad when they listened to him.**

**What did Paul do when people came to his house?** (He welcomed them and taught them about Jesus.) **Even though Paul could not leave his home, he could tell all who came about Jesus.**



We can tell people about Jesus

## 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: MESSAGE NECKLACE**

**Purpose:** To remind the children that wherever Paul was, he told people about Jesus.

**Supplies:** Yarn (or heavy string), (4) 2-inch pieces of colored drinking straw, sturdy paper or craft foam, tape, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Cut a 30-inch length of yarn. Tightly wrap a small piece of tape around one end of the yarn to make it easier for the child to thread the pieces of drinking straw onto the yarn. Cut a 2-inch circle from sturdy paper. Punch a hole near the edge of the circle. Draw a cross outline on the front. On the back, print:

**Paul told everyone about Jesus**

**Acts 28:16, 30-31**

**Adaptation for Ages 2-3:** This craft has been adapted from the curriculum for ages 4-5. The suggested macaroni or beads have been replaced with short pieces of drinking straw which are generally safer for use with young children.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color the cross.
2. Thread two pieces of drinking straw onto the yarn.
3. Thread the string through the hole in the circle.
4. Thread two more pieces of drinking straw onto the yarn.
5. Knot the yarn ends to create a necklace that can easily be slipped over the child's head.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Where did Paul have to stay?** (In a house.)
- **A guard was watching Paul to make sure he didn't leave the house for two whole years!**
- **Many people came to visit Paul. Who did Paul tell them about?** (Jesus.)
- **Put on your necklace. You can show the cross you colored to someone and tell them about Jesus, just like Paul!**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: COME IN!**

**Purpose:** Children will invite each other into their home to learn about Jesus.

**Supplies:** Chairs, optional: sheet or blanket

**Prepare:** Create a "house" by placing several chairs in a square large enough area for the children to sit together inside. Leave an opening for a door. Optional: Cover with a sheet or blanket. Children may take turns going inside the house if space is limited.

**God brought many people to visit Paul. Who did Paul tell them about? (Jesus.)**

### **Directions:**

1. Choose one child to be Paul and one child to be a friend of Paul.
2. Paul stands at the door of the house and says to the friend, **"Come in!"**
3. Paul and the friend enter the house and sit down.
4. The friend says, **"Tell me about Jesus."**
5. Paul tells the friend, **"Jesus loves you!"**
6. Repeat steps 1-5 with all the children until everyone is sitting in the house.
7. **We show Jesus' love to others when we tell them about Him.**
8. Say and sign the Bible Memory Verse together or sing the Bible Memory Verse Song.

## **GAME: FOUR LISTENING CORNERS**

**Purpose:** Children will discover places they can tell others about Jesus.

**Supplies:** Tape, four pictures of common places such as a park, a school, a home, and a church

**Prepare:** Place each picture in a different corner of the play area.

**Paul told people about Jesus in his house. Wherever you are, you can tell people about Jesus!**

Walk children to each of the four pictures and ask, **"Can you tell people about Jesus at location on the picture (e.g., the park, home, school, church)?"** (Yes.)

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in the play area.
2. **When I call your name, I want you to go and touch the picture of the place I tell you.**
3. **I want child's name to go to the location name.** Direct the child to go to the picture of the location you have chosen.
4. **Will people listen to child's name if he or she tells them about Jesus at location name?"**
5. All children say, **"They will listen."**
6. Child returns to the play area.
7. Repeat until each child has a turn.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: LISTEN CLOSELY!**

**Purpose:** Children will talk about what they can say to teach others about Jesus.

**Snack Suggestion:** Crunchy snack (crackers, chips, pretzels, etc.)

**The people listened when Paul told them about Jesus. Let's remember how they listened as we listen to the crunch of our noisy snack!**

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another 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. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Paul told people about Jesus. Did they listen?** (Yes.)
  - **Can you tell people about Jesus?** (Yes.)
  - **What can you tell them about Jesus?** (Jesus loves you, Jesus is God's Son, Jesus was born in a manger, Jesus died on a cross, etc.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"Love</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>one another,</b>	(one) The index finger is held upright. (another) Hold fist in front with thumb pointing out. Turn thumb upward and outward.
<b>for love</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>comes from God."</b>	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
<b>1 John 4:7a</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: ACTS 28:16, 30-31**

**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 leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Paul was happy to see his friends** (Smile and clap hands.)
- **When his ship finally landed in Rome.** (Move hands and arms in a wave motion.)
- **Paul was a prisoner, but was not in a jail;** (Shake head "No".)
- **A guard made Paul stay at home.** (Point to ground.)
  
- **For two whole years Paul stayed in that house;** (Hold up two fingers.)
- **He welcomed all who came in.** (Shake hands with someone.)
- **He boldly told them to follow Jesus.** (Point to heaven.)
- **Paul was glad when they listened to him.** (Cup hands to ears.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"Love one another, for love comes from God." 1 John 4:7a

### **GAME: LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

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

**Supplies:** Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Love One Another"

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

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle, holding hands.
2. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song.
3. As the song plays, children sing and walk 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, lead them in lowering their clasped hands and returning 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.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: SHOW GOD'S LOVE**

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

**Supplies:** Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Love One Another"

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "Love one another, for love comes from God." We can show God's love to others by loving them ourselves. When the music stops, I want you to freeze right where you are. Then, listen for how we can show God's love to each other.

### **Directions:**

1. Play "Love One Another" as the children dance and sing.
2. After a short time, pause the music. The children freeze in place.
3. Say, **"We can show God's love by giving someone a hug. Find someone to hug."** Encourage the children to hug one or more children.
4. Play as long as you like. Periodically change what you have children do when the music stops. Some suggestions are: **We can show God's love by... telling someone 'Jesus loves you,' giving someone a high five, patting someone on the back, shaking someone's hand.**



## **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 telling people about Jesus wherever you are.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 4, Lesson 21: Paul Imprisoned in Rome

**PONDER!** God brought many people to visit Paul in his home in Rome (Acts 28:16, 30-31). What did Paul tell the people?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for giving Paul a way to tell others about Jesus—even when he could not leave his house. Help us tell people about You. Amen."

**PLAY!** "Hide and Seek." The seeker (Paul) closes his or her eyes while everyone hides. Paul searches for everyone. When someone is found, Paul hugs them and shouts, "Jesus loves you!" Discuss how you can tell others about Jesus wherever you are.

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"Love  
one another,**

**for love  
comes from God."**

**1 John 4:7a**

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.

(one) The index finger is held upright. (another) Hold fist in front with thumb pointing out. Turn thumb upward and outward.

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.

(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.