**Sunday School from Home**

**August 16, 2020**

This week our story is about Paul and Silas, who continued to sing praises to God even after being thrown in jail for teaching people about Jesus. Their faith so moved the jailer that he was baptized and brought them to his home to teach his own family.

* Read Acts 16:16-40 from your Bible or online – note Lydia again makes an appearance at the end!
* Here is a kids video that tells the story as well: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y24Ak7DJZFg>
* This week again we have a story about someone in jail. If appropriate for your kids, use materials around the house to build a “jail” – such as couch cushions, blocks, etc. Try telling the story again while members of the family pretend to be Paul, Silas, the jailer, etc. Have fun with the earthquake part!
* Try making paper chains with strips of paper and pretend to chain family members while playing with the story (see above). At the appropriate time encourage children to break free from their chains!
* Paul and Silas used music to praise God while they were in jail. Play a freeze game with music – play any music you like and let children to dance to it. Then pause the music and everyone must freeze! Continue for as long as you like. Try different styles of music with different instruments and tempos, and encourage children to match their movements to the music. You can also appoint a leader and everyone must mimic their movements.
* Here is some music for the game above if you need inspiration: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7E7lARwUYw> --- this will be familiar to most adults, but perhaps not the children. Use it as an opportunity to talk about what Christians do to show love to others. Another video is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_1-z7i6CEQ> --- this one is actually about the Bible story and in a style that might be less familiar to kids.
* Paul and Silas worked well together. Encourage partner cooperation with an art project. Pick any medium – crayons, pencils, paint, etc. – but each set of partners may only have ONE crayon, one pen, etc. They must take turns drawing or painting and must agree on how their picture will look. The topic of their artwork could be anything they choose, but if they are having trouble agreeing on something, suggest a scene from the story to draw.
* Try some other partner challenges: tie a shoe with each person using only one hand; partners sit on the ground back to back with arms linked and help each other to stand up without using hands; play a game of charades; create a secret handshake together; challenge kids to think of some other partner games! Ask kids what is difficult about completing a task with a partner vs. alone. Talk about which one they prefer and why.
* Are you still learning the books of the Bible? Try dividing them into sections and making flash cards that color code the sections. Then practice learning section by section. This breaks down the task into more manageable portions, and reinforces the idea that the Bible is a library of many types of books. Keep in mind there is more than one way to divide up the sections of the Bible – see this Pinterest board for some examples: <https://www.pinterest.com/kimrhoton2362/memorizing-the-books-of-the-bible/>