

# PAUL AND SILAS ARE IN JAIL

## *Acts 16:16-40*

### **Acts 16**

<sup>16</sup>Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” <sup>18</sup>She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

<sup>19</sup>When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. <sup>20</sup>They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar <sup>21</sup>by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

<sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten. <sup>23</sup>After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. <sup>24</sup>Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody’s chains came loose. <sup>27</sup>The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

<sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>He then

brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

<sup>31</sup>They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

<sup>32</sup>Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup>At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. <sup>34</sup>The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

<sup>35</sup>When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: “Release those men.” <sup>36</sup>The jailer told Paul, “The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace.”

<sup>37</sup>But Paul said to the officers: “They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out.”

<sup>38</sup>The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were alarmed. <sup>39</sup>They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city. <sup>40</sup>After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia’s house, where they met with the brothers and encouraged them. Then they left.

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*Acts 16:16-40*

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) Why were Paul and Silas beaten and put in jail?
5		2.) What happened while Paul and Silas were praying and singing?
5		3.) What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?
5		4.) How can you be saved?

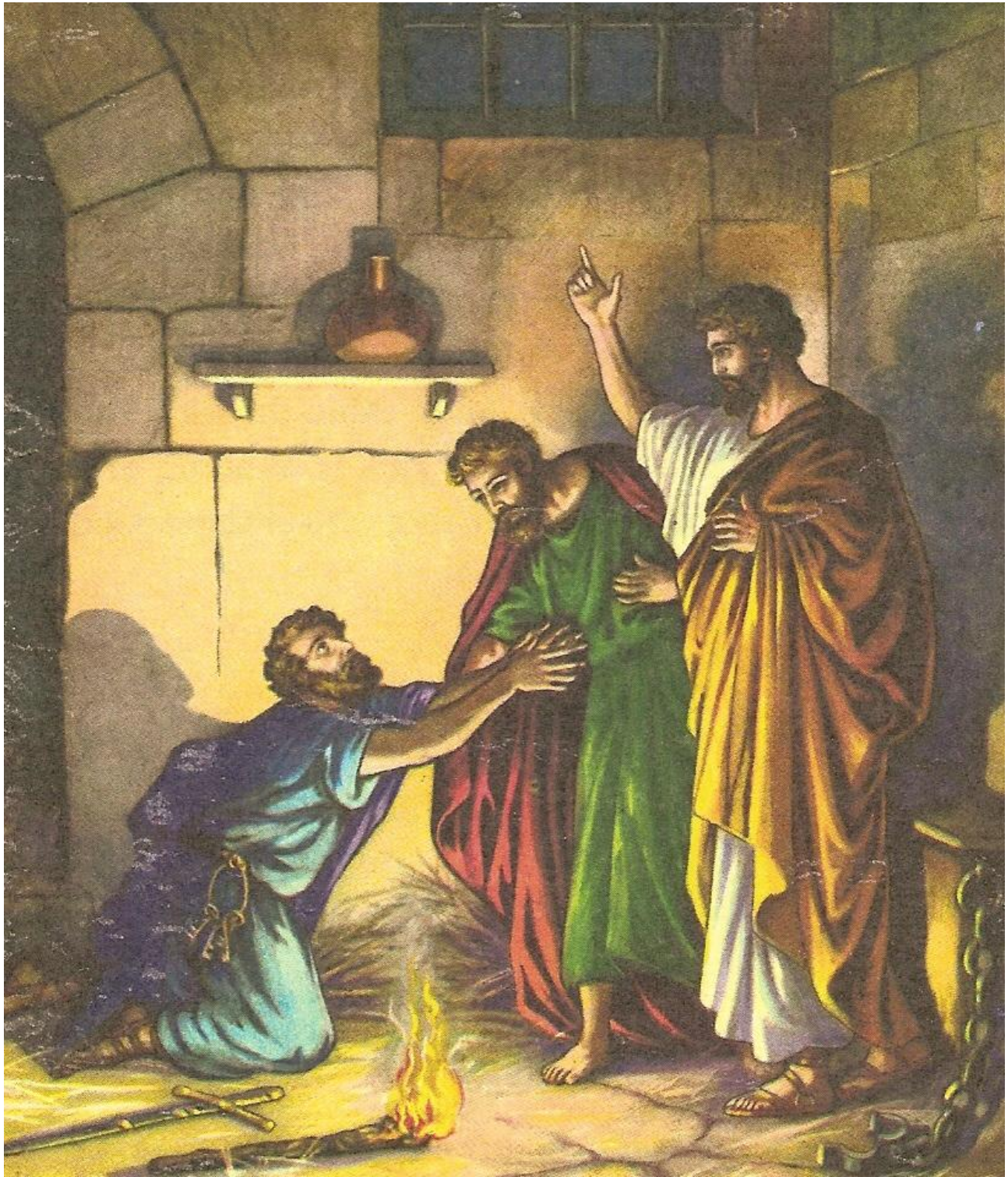
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Acts 16:31</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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*Acts 16:16-40*



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# PAUL AND SILAS ARE IN JAIL

*Acts 16:16-40*



*Paul and Silas tell the guard what he must do to be saved*

# PAUL AND SILAS ARE IN JAIL

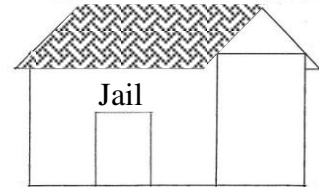
*Acts 16:16-40*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: JAILS

Students will make a jail to remind them that Paul and Silas were put in jail.

### MATERIALS

1. White 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Jail Pattern
3. Scissors
4. Glue
5. Tape
6. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
7. Flat Toothpicks



### DIRECTIONS

1. Copy a jail pattern for each student onto 67 lb. cardstock.
2. Have students color the jail pattern with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Instruct students to cut out the jail on the black lines. Students will fold on the dotted lines.
4. Students will then put glue on the tab that says “glue” and assemble the jail.
5. Help students tape the roof on from the inside of the jail.
6. Glue flat toothpicks over the window opening over the dotted lines.

### FOR DISCUSSION

As students are making their jails, remind them that the Lord was with them. Even in jail God used them to minister to the jailer. Help students realize that no matter what their circumstances may be, God can use them to further His kingdom. In this story the jailer and his family believe in Christ as the result of Paul and Silas' stay in jail.

### TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 25 minutes

### MEMORY VERSE

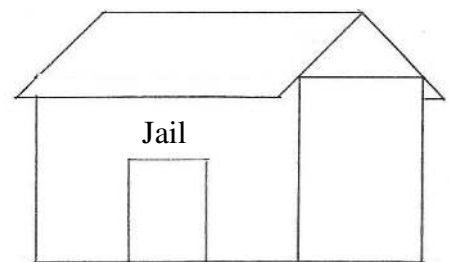
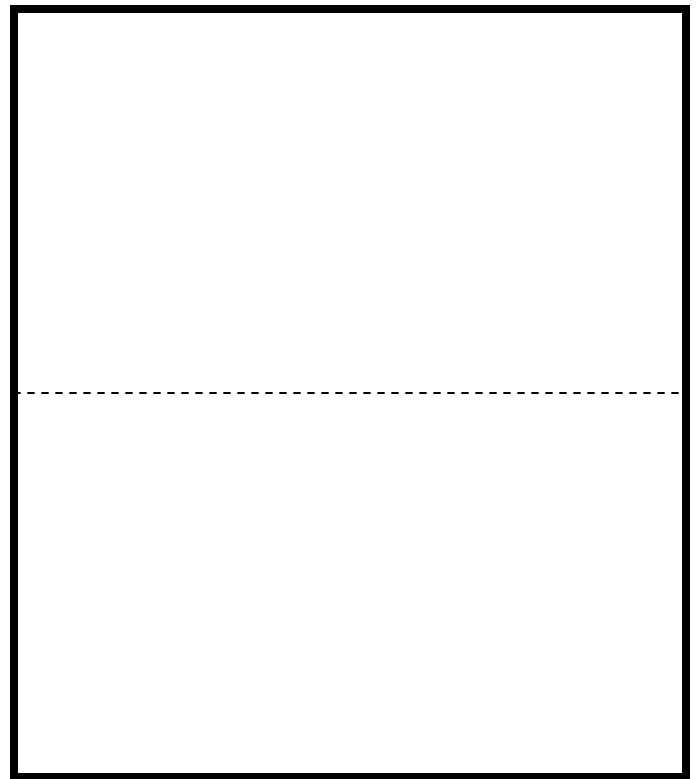
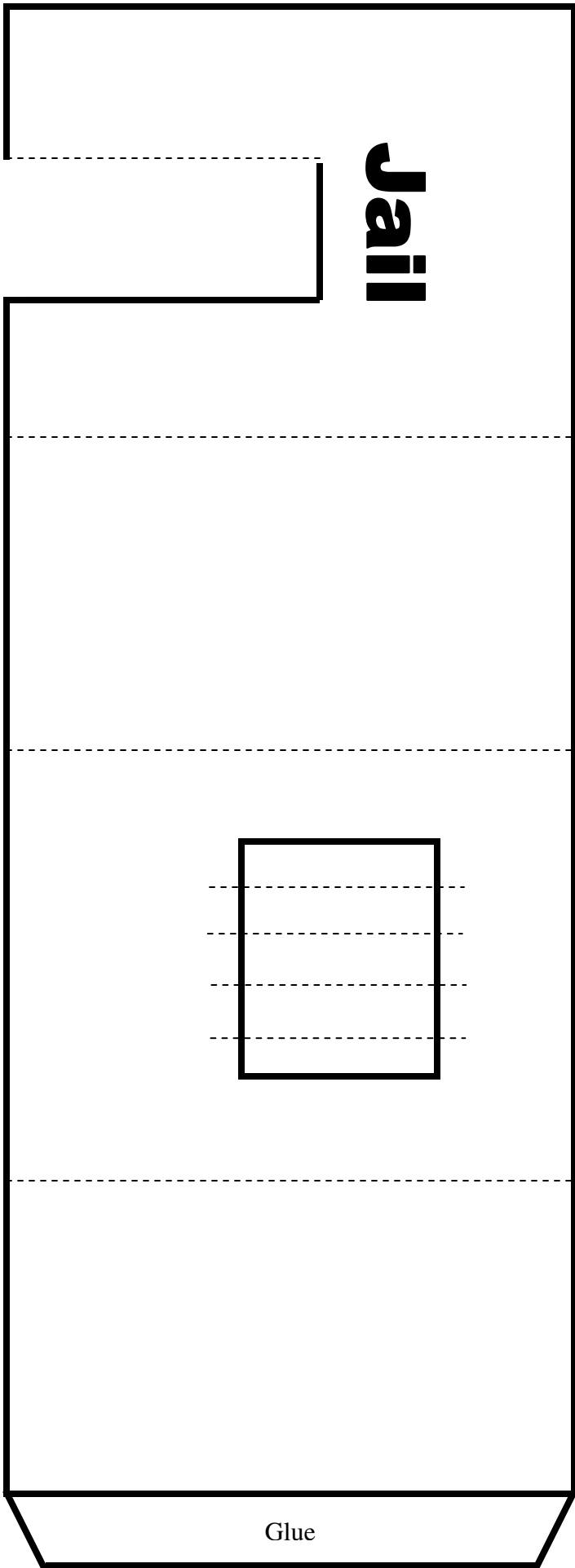
*“They replied, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.’” Acts 16:31*

# PAUL AND SILAS

## ARE IN JAIL

*Acts 16:16-40*

JAIL PATTERN



# PAUL AND SILAS ARE IN JAIL

*Acts 16:16-40*

1. you chew with these \_\_\_\_\_  
10 5 35 9 36

2. another name for prison \_\_\_\_\_  
13 3 15 38

3. another name for TV \_\_\_\_\_  
27 12 16 47 46 23 34 28 32 26

4. your fingers are attached to it \_\_\_\_\_  
22 1 20 39

5. opposite of North \_\_\_\_\_  
44 17 33 55 31

6. another name for shade \_\_\_\_\_  
6 11 19 21 37 40

7. something you do when you sleep \_\_\_\_\_  
48 18 25 14 50

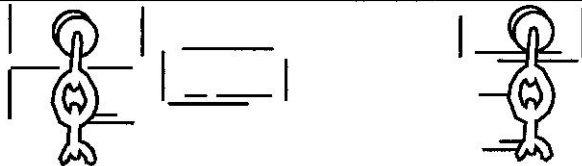
8. reddish brittle coating on iron \_\_\_\_\_  
42 7 2 51

9. another word for screech \_\_\_\_\_  
24 52 29 43 45 52

10. fishing line is wound on it \_\_\_\_\_  
4 41 30 8

While in Philippi, Paul and Silas were arrested, beaten, and thrown in prison. Instead of moaning and groaning about their situation, they prayed and sang hymns to God. Suddenly there was a violent earthquake that shook the foundations of the prison. The prison doors flew open but none of the prisoners escaped. What was the jailor's reaction to this miracle?

.....  
Fill in the answers to the questions in the box. Then use the numbered letters to solve the puzzle.  
.....



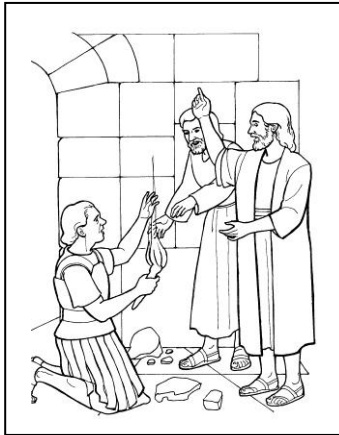
1 2    3    4 5 6 7 8 9    10 11 12    13 14 15 16 17 18    19 20 21    22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30    31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39    40 41 42 43    44 45 46 47 48

# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON ACTS 16:16-40

## PAUL AND SILAS ARE IN JAIL



There once was a girl who had a spirit by which she could predict the future. She followed Paul and the others saying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." After many days of this, Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the

name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

The owners of this slave girls had Paul and Silas arrested because they could no longer make money off of her fortune-telling.

Paul and Silas were stripped and beaten and then thrown into prison.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

To find out more, read Acts 16:16-40 in your Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why were Paul and Silas beaten and put in jail?
2. What happened while Paul and Silas were praying and singing?
3. What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?
4. How can you be saved?

## MEMORY VERSE

"They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Acts 16:31

## BREAK THE CODE

11 4 8 12 4 10 4 12 5

2 3 4 8 7 13 6

1 4 9 12 9

1=J	2=T	3=H	4=E
5=N	6=D	7=O	8=L
9=S	10=V	11=B	12=I
12=U	13=R		

## Ideas For Home:

Today your child learned that Paul and Silas shared Jesus with a guard while in jail.

1. Have your child finish coloring this book.
2. Help your child learn the *Memory Verse*.
3. Practice the *Bible Story Rhyme*.
4. Read and discuss the bible story with your child.
5. Help your child realize that a personal relationship with Jesus is up to them.

Bible Story Mini Book

# Paul and Silas Are in Jail



*Acts 16:16-40*

Colored by: \_\_\_\_\_



Paul and Silas shared Jesus with the guard and his family. They came to know Jesus as their savior.



Paul and Silas were put in jail for preaching about Jesus.

## Memory Verse

“...Believe in the Lord Jesus, and  
you will be saved...”

Acts 16:31

## Bible Story Rhyme

**Paul and Silas were locked up tight,**  
*(Hold wrists together as if shackled)*

**Even though they did things right.**  
*(Give the “O.K.” sign)*

**They shared Jesus with the guards,**  
*(Point to lips)*

**Accepting Jesus isn’t hard.**  
*(Point to your heart)*



**At night, there was an  
earthquake.**

## Have You Ever Sinned?

The Bible teaches that we have *all* sinned and do not measure up to God's glory. It also teaches that the price for sin is death which separates us from God. But even though we are sinners, Christ died for us and paid the price for our sin. We just need to ask him to forgive us and receive his free gift of salvation. Just pray this prayer, with a sincere heart, and Jesus will forgive you of your sins. You will become a child of God and live with Him in heaven.

*“Dear Jesus,*

*Please forgive me for the bad things that I have done. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and savior. In your name I pray, Amen.”*



Paul and Silas could have escaped, but they didn't.

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## PRESCHOOL GAME

**Supplies:** A music source

**This game is a perfect follow-up for the story of Paul and Silas in jail.**

**D**esignate two children to be Paul and Silas. Have the rest of the children make a prison by standing in a circle and holding hands. Have Paul and Silas stand inside the circle.

Say: **In this Bible story, God used an earthquake to shake the jail where Paul and Silas were prisoners. Let's pretend that this circle is the jail house. When the music begins, Paul and Silas are going to go to each of the jail doors (between your hands) and knock on them. When the music stops, we'll say, "Rumble, rumble, rumble; shake, shake, shake. Here comes a mighty, mighty big earthquake!" Then let go of each other's hands, raise them into the air, and shake them. While everyone is shaking their hands in the air, Paul and Silas will walk around inside the circle and each trade places with someone. Then we will begin the game again with the new Paul and Silas.**

Before beginning the game, the teacher should pretend to be Paul or Silas and demonstrate what they should do. Play until everyone has had a turn.

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## PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY RHYME



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