



The Philippian Jailer Is Saved

Acts 16:16–40



LESSON GOAL

Students will have the joy that only comes from knowing Christ.

BIBLE TRUTHS

- Paul and Silas were beaten and put in prison.
- God sent an earthquake to open the prison door.
- The jailer believed in God with his family and rejoiced.

KEY VERSE

“..and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.” —Acts 16:34b

APPLICATION

- Praise God this week.
- Explain why someone who knows Jesus Christ can rejoice.
- Show a thankful heart by singing to God.

NEXT WEEK

Paul Preaches the Gospel in Athens
Acts 17:16–34

Symbol Key



Craft



Finger Play



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Center



Activity



Q & A



Age Group

4

Teacher Planning Sheet

PREPARE

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Personal Application

As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to...

- _____
- _____
- _____

Three ways students need to apply this passage are...

- _____
- _____
- _____

Materials Needed:

POINT

Choose from various ideas to point them to the coming Bible lesson.

- _____
- _____

PROCLAIM

Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.

Presentation Ideas

- _____
- _____

Praise/Music Ideas

- _____
- _____
- _____

PRACTICE

Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

- _____
- _____

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul... you shall teach them to your children.” —Deuteronomy 11:18–19

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here that will aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

Introduction

Following the Jerusalem Council, Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch where they continued to teach and preach (Acts 15:35). After spending some time in Antioch, Paul and Barnabas decided to return to the cities in which they had established churches (15:36) on their first missionary journey (recorded in Acts 13:1–14:26). Because of a sharp disagreement over whether Mark should be taken, Barnabas and Paul “parted from one another” (15:37–39). Barnabas returned with Mark to Cyprus (15:39) while Paul took Silas and strengthened the churches throughout Syria and Cilicia (15:40–41). After ministering in Derbe and Lystra (where Paul and Silas were joined by Timothy) (16:1–5), the missionaries attempted first to go west and then north but were prevented both times by God (16:6–7). In Troas, Paul learned God’s plan that they preach the Gospel in Macedonia, the region located across the Aegean Sea on the mainland of Greece (16:8–10). (For the first time in Acts, the second person “us” is used, suggesting that Luke began to accompany Paul in Troas.)

After crossing the Aegean Sea, Paul, Silas, Timothy and Luke came to Philippi, “the foremost city of that part of Macedonia” (Acts 16:11–12). After only a few days, God revealed why he wanted Paul to come to Macedonia—God had people to be saved! Because the city’s Jewish population was too small to support a synagogue, the Jews met alongside the river on the Sabbath for prayer (16:13). When Paul shared the Gospel to the group of “women who met there,” the Lord worked in a Gentile woman named Lydia and “opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul” (16:14). Following her conversion, Lydia’s house became the center for Paul’s ministry in Philippi (16:15, 40).

The salvation of Lydia and her household (16:15) marked just the beginning of God’s work in Philippi. God would open the hearts of more people through Paul and Silas’ ministry in a Roman jail. Those saved would share in Paul and Silas’ joy of knowing Christ.

The Persecution and Imprisonment of Paul and Silas (Acts 16:16–24)

Paul’s ministry in Philippi was first challenged by a disturbing source, a demon-possessed slave girl. The slave girl met Paul and his companions when they were going to the river to pray (16:16). The demon inside her recognized that Paul, Silas, Timothy and Luke were his enemies because they were “servants of the Most High God” (16:17). Luke records that the demon-possessed girl did the most destructive thing she could to discredit the Gospel: “She followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, ‘These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation’” (16:17). Although what she said was true, the demonic testimony to the truth was damaging to the saints’ effort to proclaim

Christ. Paul was striving to clarify the Gospel for the Gentiles in Philippi, but the demon-possessed girl was only muddying the truth by pretending to be an advocate of Paul's message. After being followed by the demon-possessed girl for many days, Paul finally commanded that the demon to leave the girl (16:18). The demon submitted to the name of Jesus Christ and left the girl.

When the demon left the slave girl, the girl's masters were furious with Paul and Silas. The demon-possessed slave girl was a huge advantage to her masters because they made "much profit by fortune-telling" (16:16). The girl was a mouth piece for the demon who claimed to reveal people's future. With the demon was cast out, "her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone" (16:19). They "seized Paul and Silas and dragged them" before the magistrates (16:20), the two men responsible for keeping peace in each of the Roman colonies. (Luke does not record what happened to either Timothy or himself during the rest of their time at Philippi.)

In order to get revenge on Paul and Silas, the girl's masters brought trumped-up charges before the magistrates: "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe" (16:20-21). The men pointed out that Paul and Silas were Jews in order to stir up anti-Semitism in the crowds. They also falsely accused Paul and Silas of troubling the city, a charge which was designed to concern the magistrates to whom was given the responsibility of keeping order in Philippi. The last part of their charge was technically true because it was illegal for Roman citizen to practice any religion which had not been sanctioned by the state.

The plot worked just as the slave girl's masters had hoped. The crowd which had gathered was swayed by the false charges and "rose up against" Paul and Silas (16:22). In order to placate the crowd, the magistrates circumvented the normal procedure of investigating the charges and conducting a hearing. They quickly tore off Paul and Silas' clothes and "commanded them to be beaten with rods" (16:22). Even though the punishment was illegal because Paul and Silas had not been found guilty of any crime, they were still struck with the bundles of rods. After Paul and Silas received "many stripes," they were unjustly thrown into prison (16:23). The jailer was given strict orders "to keep them securely," so he put them in the most secure part of the prison and placed their feet in wooden stocks (16:23-24).

The Prison Ministry of Paul and Silas (Acts 16:25-34)

Because their joy was not based on their physical well-being but on their knowledge of Christ, the wounded Paul and Silas could still rejoice even while their backs were bloody and their legs were bound. Luke records that "at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God" (16:25). The other prisoners naturally listened to Paul and Silas (16:25). They had probably never seen anything as strange as these innocent men who praised God even though they were unjustly beaten. No doubt Paul took advantage of the situation and proclaimed the Gospel to his fellow prisoners.

While Paul and Silas sang praise to God, God miraculously intervened, not to provide a way for Paul and Silas to escape but to lead a man and his family to salvation. God sent an earthquake so strong "that the foundations of the prison were shaken" (16:26). God also opened the prisoners' doors and caused the chains to be loosed. When the jailer responsible for the security of the prisoners was awoken by the earthquake, he was mortified to see the prison doors hanging open. He naturally assumed that the prisoners had escaped. Because he would be executed for his failure, the jailer "drew his sword and was about to kill himself" (16:27). Looking through his open cell door, Paul saw what the jailer was about to

do and “called with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do yourself no harm, for we are all here’” (16:28). While an unregenerate man would have been gladdened at the jailer’s death, Paul desired his jailer to live that he might come to know the Lord.

When he realized that he had no reason to kill himself, the jailer was humbled by the full weight of the miracle God had performed in sending the earthquake, opening the prison doors, and loosening the prisoner’s chains. After calling for a light (and perhaps securing the other prisoners), he “fell down trembling before Paul and Silas” (16:29). He was willing to listen to whatever God’s messengers had to say. He asked Paul and Silas, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” (16:30). Having come so close to death and having seen God’s power displayed, the jailer realized that he needed to be saved, not from execution, but from something far worse, the penalty his sins deserved. Paul and Silas were quick to answer, “Believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household” (16:31). Although the simple answer succinctly sums up the only hope a lost man has, Paul and Silas explained that truth as they “spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house” (16:32). (Luke does not tell when the jailer’s household arrived. Perhaps after hearing that God’s promise of salvation applied to his household as well (16:31), the jailer brought both his family and servants to hear Paul and Silas tell them how could they be saved.)

After believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, the jailer immediately demonstrated a transformed life. The jailer took care of the most pressing need first. At that “same hour of the night,” the jailer cleansed Paul and Silas’ wounds (16:33). Next, both “he and all his family were baptized.” Those who had just placed their faith in Jesus were eager to obey their new Lord, even if it meant being baptized at midnight! Following his baptism, the jailer brought Paul and Silas, officially still his prisoners, “into his house” and “set food before them” (16:34). Finally, the jailer “rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.” A few hours earlier the jailer had likely heard Paul and Silas singing praise to God as they rejoiced in their Savior, but that rejoicing was unknown to him. Now, because of God’s miraculous work of grace, the jailer and his household had believed in God. Like Paul and Silas, they were also able to rejoice that they knew the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Public Release of Paul and Silas (Acts 16:35–40)

Perhaps out of concern for their newly saved brother, Paul and Silas spent the rest of the night in prison. The surprising fact that God’s miraculous activity did not lead to Paul and Silas’ escape is followed by another surprise. When the magistrates told Paul and Silas the next morning that they were free to go, Paul and Silas still stayed in prison (16:35–36). Paul revealed that both he and Silas were Roman citizens (16:37). It was unlawful for the magistrates to punish “uncondemned Romans” who had not been tried. To add insult to injury, the magistrates were trying to release Paul and Silas secretly, without apologizing for what had been done. Paul resisted and said, “No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out” (16:37). Paul’s motivation that the magistrates apologize was not pride. The Christians had unjustly gained a reputation as being trouble causers. By standing up now, Paul could both emphasize that he and Silas had not been convicted of the false charges and ensure that the Christians who remained in the city would be treated more judiciously than they had.

The magistrates were afraid when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens (16:38). They could potentially be removed from office for the failure to uphold Roman law. If the emperor wished, he could even punish the whole city of Philippi. The magistrates brought Paul and Silas out like Paul had asked (16:39–40). Unable to force Paul and Silas to leave, the magistrates begged them

to leave the city, most likely to prevent any more mobs from forming. Paul and Silas left Philippi only after they returned to Lydia's house where they encouraged the brethren (v.40).

Conclusion

When God brings salvation through the Gospel, He gives those He saves a true knowledge of Him. Because Paul and Silas knew God's sovereignty over their imprisonment, His mercy in their salvation, and His grace in allowing them to suffer for the name of Christ, they were able to rejoice in the Lord and sing songs to Him, even while in prison. When the Philippian jailer understood the Lord's forgiveness toward sinners, His compassion on the repentant, and His faithfulness to save those who believe, the jailer also rejoiced in the Lord. Whether it's the joy of a new believer, like the Philippian jailer, or the joy of mature missionaries, like Paul and Silas, believers should continue to rejoice in the Lord when they dwell on His attributes and actions in their lives.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

*"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth."
—Psalm 78:1*

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Who was hearing the Gospel and being saved?

The Gentiles.

What were the Jews saying about the Gentile's salvation?

The Jews were saying that the Gentiles were not really saved because they had not kept the Law.

Could any of the Jews ever keep God's Law perfectly?

No, no one except for Jesus was ever able to keep the Law perfectly.

What did Peter ask the Jews?

Peter asked why the Jews were making the Gentiles keep the law when the Jews couldn't even keep the law.

How did is someone saved?

By faith in Jesus Christ's salvation of us.



Difficult concepts

Spirit of divination: Demons are bad angels. They used to live in Heaven, but because they rebelled against God they were kicked out of Heaven. Demons can take control of people, affecting their minds and actions. A demon lived inside the slave girl and gave her some kind of ability to tell the future. People paid much money to listen to the demon-possessed girl.

Why was the prison guard going to kill himself?: Prison guards were responsible to make sure their prisoners did not escape. If a prisoner did escape, the guard would receive the same punishment the escaped prisoner was receiving. If any of the prisoners were to be executed, the guard would be killed. Because the prison guard saw the doors were open, he assumed all the prisoners had escaped. Rather than facing shame and possible execution, he was going to kill himself. Ask the students if any of them have pets. Have them imagine being responsible for their pet. If the pet escapes, the student would have to take their place. They would live in the dog house or eat the fish flakes or run on the hamster wheel.

Unlawful trial: Paul was a Roman citizen. Rome had laws that gave rules for how to have a trial and how to punish Roman citizens. None of those rules were followed for Paul. It was against the law to beat a Roman citizen without a trial. Have the students imagine being punished by a teacher at school without even being asked if they had done anything wrong. Ask if it would be fair to be punished in Sunday school for talking when they really hadn't.



What Is Joy?

Begin by asking the students what makes them happy. Collect a variety of answers, from food to their favorite toy to their family. Then ask what makes them sad. From getting hurt to a mean neighbor, have them provide examples of circumstances that make them sad. Explain that joy is not a feeling or a result of good circumstances. Even sad people can have joy. Joy is an internal choice to have a trusting and happy heart in happy and sad times. The sun always shines, even when it is raining; it's just hidden. We can always be joyful, even if we don't show it with smiles and laughs.



Thankfulness Tree

In today's lesson we will learn that the jailer rejoiced because he and his family were thankful for the very special blessing of salvation. Bring in a small stick tree. Help the students write what they are thankful for on index cards. Punch holes in the cards and hang them on the tree with yarn. Direct the students' attention to Christ, the only true source for joy.



Joy Box

We are called to rejoice in the Lord always and to rejoice because this is the day that the Lord has made. To illustrate the difference between temporal and permanent joy, prepare tissue paper with various sources for joy written on them. Have temporal sources of happiness, such as new toys or a day at the park, as well as eternal sources of joy. Laminate the sources and reasons for joy that are eternal, such as salvation in Christ or a home in Heaven. Pass out the paper, then have each student come to the front of the class. Read their paper to the class then allow the child to place the tissue paper in the joy box. Use these papers later for the "Everlasting joy" object lesson.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done." —Psalm 78:4

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use alongside the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done right from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

God told Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke that He wanted them to go to Macedonia and preach the Gospel there. They obeyed, and they went to the city of Philippi in Macedonia. Their first stop was at a place by the river where a group of Jewish women met for prayer. They shared the Gospel with them, and one of them, Lydia, believed and she and her household became Christians.

Paul and Silas continued to share the gospel in the rest of the city. There was a strange thing that happened with a slave girl while they were there. The slave girl had a demon who was living inside her. She followed them around and shouted out, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation!" (16:17) The problem was that everyone knew that the girl was demon possessed. The girl followed them around and shouted for many days. Paul finally could not take it anymore, and so he turned to her and said to the demon, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And the demon came out right away.

The masters of the slave girl were very angry with Paul and Silas. They had been making money by having the girl tell people what their future was. People believed what the girl said because she had a spirit in her. Now that the spirit, or demon, was gone, no one would pay to learn about their future. They dragged Paul and Silas before the court and accused them of stirring up trouble in the city, and teaching things that were illegal to teach. The crowd that had gathered agreed and demanded they be punished. Those who were in charge of the courts were afraid of the crowd, so they sentenced them to be beaten with rods; they did not follow the law because they should have done an investigation and had a trial before they gave out a punishment. After they were beaten with the rods, they were thrown into prison. They told the jailer to make sure that they didn't get away, so he put them in the most secure part of the jail and bound their feet.

Paul and Silas rejoiced in the Lord, in spite of their difficult circumstances. They prayed and sang hymns to God even in the middle of the night. God intervened in order to get the attention of the jailer that he might be saved. God caused an earthquake in the jail, and it opened the prison doors and loosened the shackles off Paul and Silas feet. The commotion awakened the jailer, and when he came to his senses, he assumed that Paul and Silas had escaped. He knew that he would be put to death for losing his prisoners, and so he took up his sword and was going to kill himself. Before he did, Paul called out to him and said, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here" (16:28). When the jailer saw that his prisoners were still there, he threw himself before them and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (16:30)

They answered him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household" (16:31). The jailer and his household believed and they were

brought out to be baptized. They also took good care of Paul and Silas, cleaning their wounds from the beating they had received. The jailer brought them to his house and made them a meal. They rejoiced because they had been saved.

The next morning, the magistrates sent word to the jailer to let Paul and Silas go. They wanted them to go away secretly and quietly. Paul did not want that though, because then the people of the city would continue to believe that they had done something wrong and had been justly punished. Paul insisted that the magistrates come and publicly release them, proclaiming that they had done nothing wrong. Paul then told them that he and Silas were Roman citizens. This scared the magistrates, because Roman citizens have special rights, and those who treat them unjustly will be punished by the Roman Empire. The magistrates came and publicly freed Paul and Silas, and begged them to leave the city, that no more trouble would come. Paul and Silas agreed to leave, but not before they went back to Lydia's house, so that they could encourage her and all those who had been saved.



Lesson Questions

What was wrong with the slave girl?

She was possessed with an evil spirit.

What did she say about Paul and Silas?

She said "These are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation."

What did Paul think of this?

He was really annoyed by the evil spirit and so he sent it from her.

What did her owner's think of what Paul had done?

They were very angry because the evil spirit in her was making them money.

What did these evil men do to Paul and Silas?

They dragged them into the marketplace to the town leaders and said that they were causing trouble.

What did the town leaders do to them?

The town leaders beat them and put them into prison.

What were Paul and Silas doing in the prison?

They were praying and singing hymns.

What happened next?

There was a giant earthquake and all the doors were opened and all their chains fell off.

What was the Philippian jailer think had happened?

He thought everyone had escaped and he was about to kill himself.

What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?

"What must I do to be saved?"

What did the jailer and his family do?

They believed, were saved and rejoiced in their salvation.



Presentation Ideas

A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards®

Use appropriate A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards® with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannel Graph

Use appropriate flannel graph pieces with the lesson.



Rejoicing in Difficult Times

Act out someone rejoicing in a difficult time. Have someone come in with their arm in a sling who is joyful even though they broke their arm in a bike accident. Or have someone talk about their sick dog, which makes them feel sad. But they still have joy that never goes away. Make the point that joy is not based on circumstances. Joy is a choice and an internal attitude, caused by belief and not by good circumstances.

Prayer Time

Use prayer time as an opportunity for praise. Turn the students' requests into praises when reasonable. For instance, thank God that a sick grandmother loves Jesus and has family to take care of her. Rejoice that a skinned knee wasn't a more serious injury.



Joy that Lasts

To demonstrate what brings true joy, blow up several balloons. Ask the students for things that make them happy for a little while and write those answers on the balloons. Write "salvation" on the last balloon. Have students bring the balloons to you one at a time. Ask if they think what is written on the balloon will bring lasting joy. Before the object lesson starts, put a tack through the inside of a Band-Aid and put the Band-Aid on a finger on your left hand. When the student hands you the balloon, hold it with both hands and unobtrusively pop it with the concealed tack. When you get the "salvation" balloon, be sure to hold it only with your right hand. Explain that only salvation brings joy that lasts.



Smile and Frown Game

As the lesson is being taught or as a review game, have the students smile or frown to indicate if the following groups had joy or not:

Magistrates

Paul

Silas

Jailer

Jailer's family

Point out that the jailer had a frown at first, but later has a smile when he receives salvation. Ask what made the different people joyful or not.



Earthquake Simulation

Bring a shallow plastic tub or box. Fill it with some dirt, maybe some doll people and houses, but also include locks and chains. Explain to children what an earthquake is and then shake the box! Check the scene now. Maybe the figures and houses have fallen over, but the locks and chains didn't break or come apart. In



today's lesson, God sent an earthquake to open the doors of the prison, but also miraculously broke the locks and chains of the prisoners!

Singing in the Dark

To imitate what Paul and Silas were doing in prison, turn out the lights of the classroom and sing and pray.

Praise and Worship

Shout To The Lord

Great Is The Lord

Change My Heart O God

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments." —Psalm 78:7

Choose ideas from this section that review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



What Would You Do?

Ask the students what they would do in an earthquake. Have them imagine one is happening, and have an earthquake drill. Or, bring in a large cardboard box. Put one student in it, then simulate an earthquake by rocking it and shaking it.

Ask the students what they would do if someone beat them up, then tied them up. Collect answers like fight them or call the police. Then discuss Paul and Silas' reaction—singing and praising God.



5

Art on Black

Materials: black construction paper, chalk, sugar water, preprinted cutouts of Acts 16:25

Directions: Soak colored chalk in water (with a little sugar) for 15 minutes. Use black construction paper and have the students draw two men (Paul and Silas) singing (mouths open in O shape) and draw musical notes around them. Glue on the verse, Acts 16:25 to the bottom or back of the page.



"The Jailer's Heart"

Materials: copies of "The Jailer's Heart" craft page, crayons

Directions: Give each student a copy of the craft page. Have him or her color the heart of the jailer before he knew Christ black and the heart after he knew Christ red. Draw a sad face on the before picture and a happy face on the after picture.



"In Prison"

Materials: copies of Paul, Silas, and Acts 16:25–26 (located on the "In Prison" craft page), blank sheet of construction paper, scissors, crayons, glue

Directions: Turn a blank sheet of construction paper to the landscape position. Fold the right and left sides of the paper to meet in the middle. This will create doors. Draw prison bars on the front of the doors and glue Paul, Silas, and the



“Story Scene”

Materials: copies of the “Story Scene” craft page, construction paper, crayons, scissors, glue

Directions: Create the scene from Acts 16:16–19 when Paul commands a spirit to leave a slave girl. Decorate the characters and glue them to a piece of construction paper.



Scavenger Hunt

Set up four stations around the class where children, or teams, have to go and collect items from the lesson. Each team gets the following list: 1) Marketplace—get basket, 2) Jail—get chains, 3) Midnight—team members cover their eyes and sing a praise song together, 4) Jailer’s home—get a snack!

Coloring Pages

Give each student a copy of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. He or she can color the pages in class or take it home to color.

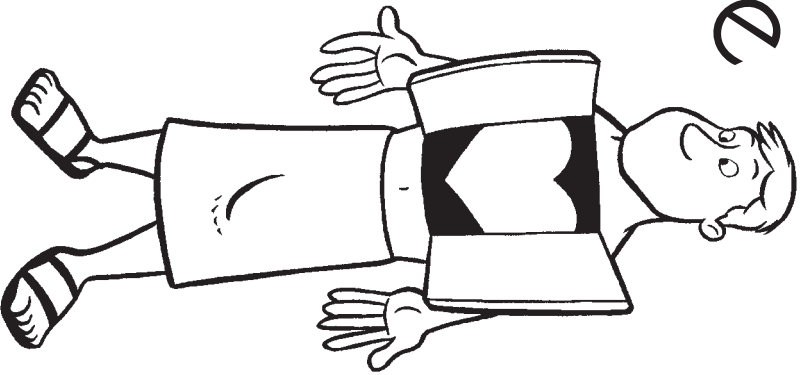


MEMORY VERSE

“So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.’” —Acts 16:31

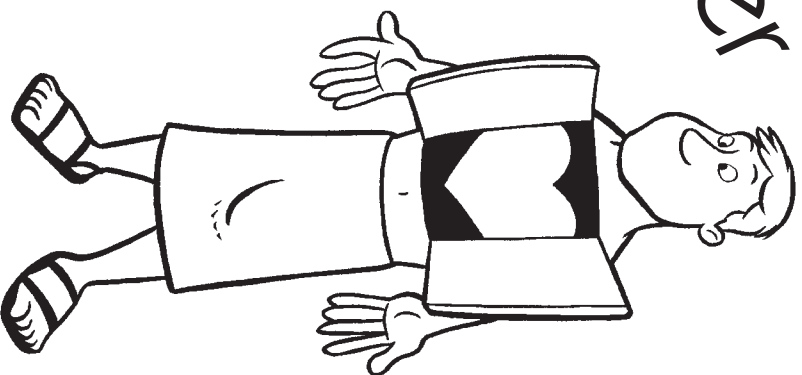
The Jailer's Heart

Before



“And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors opened, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself.” —Acts 16:24

After



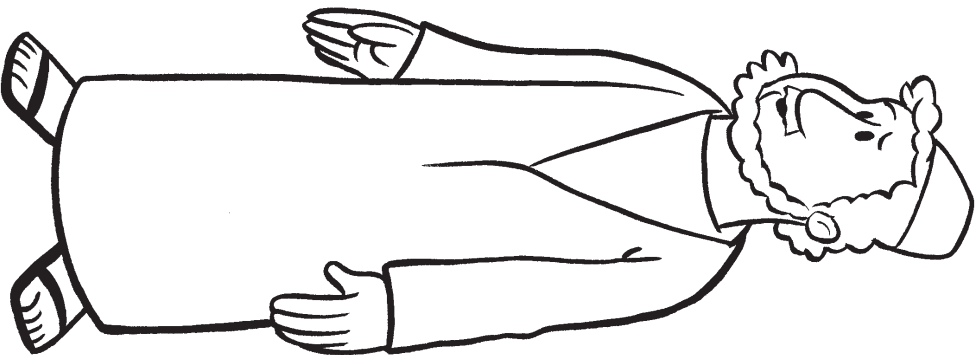
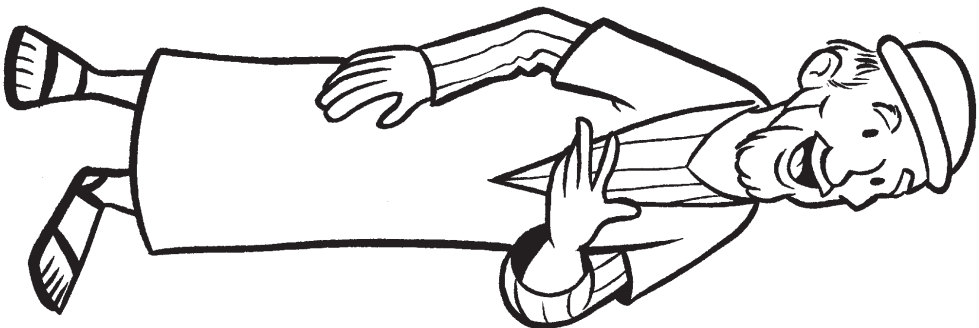
“Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.” —Acts 16:34

What made the difference? The Gospel!

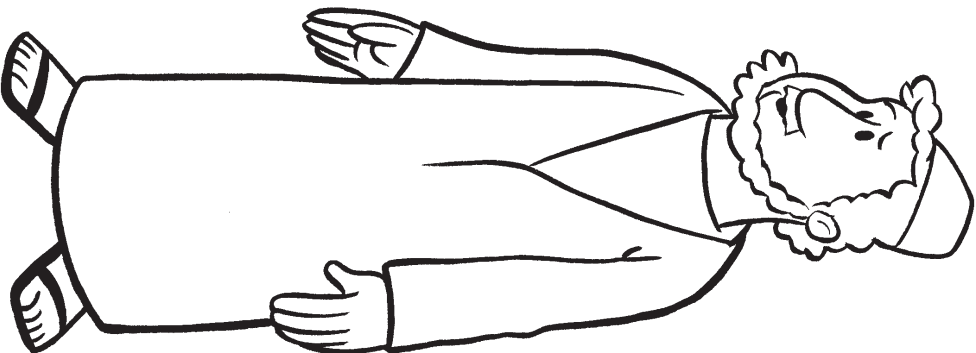
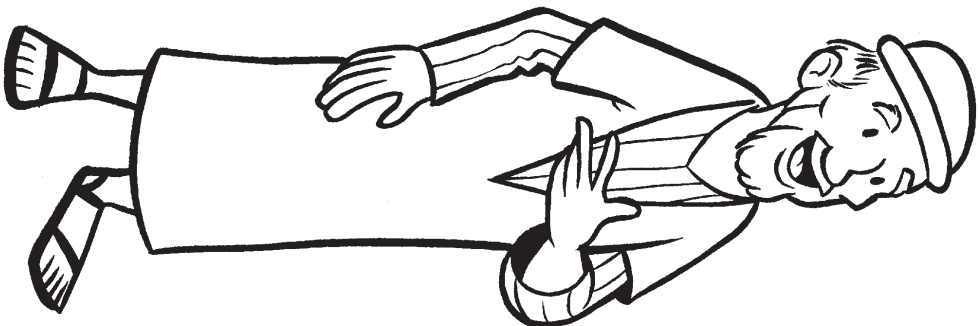
“And he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.’” —Acts 16:30–31

In Prison

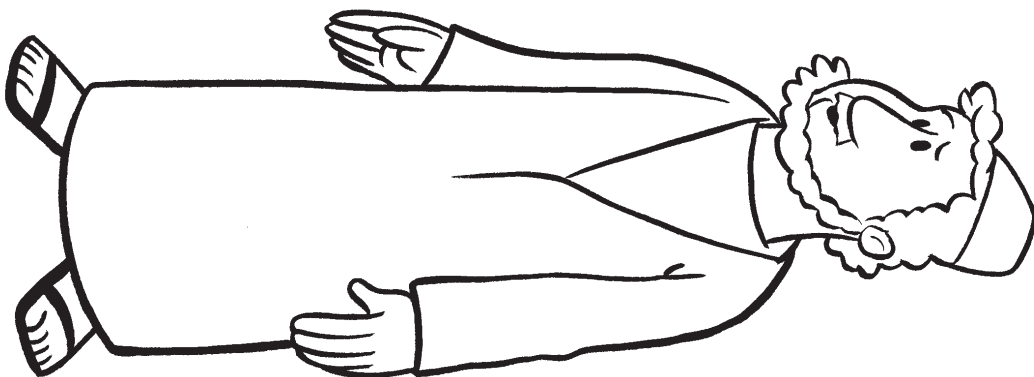
“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.” —Acts 16:25-26



“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.” —Acts 16:25-26



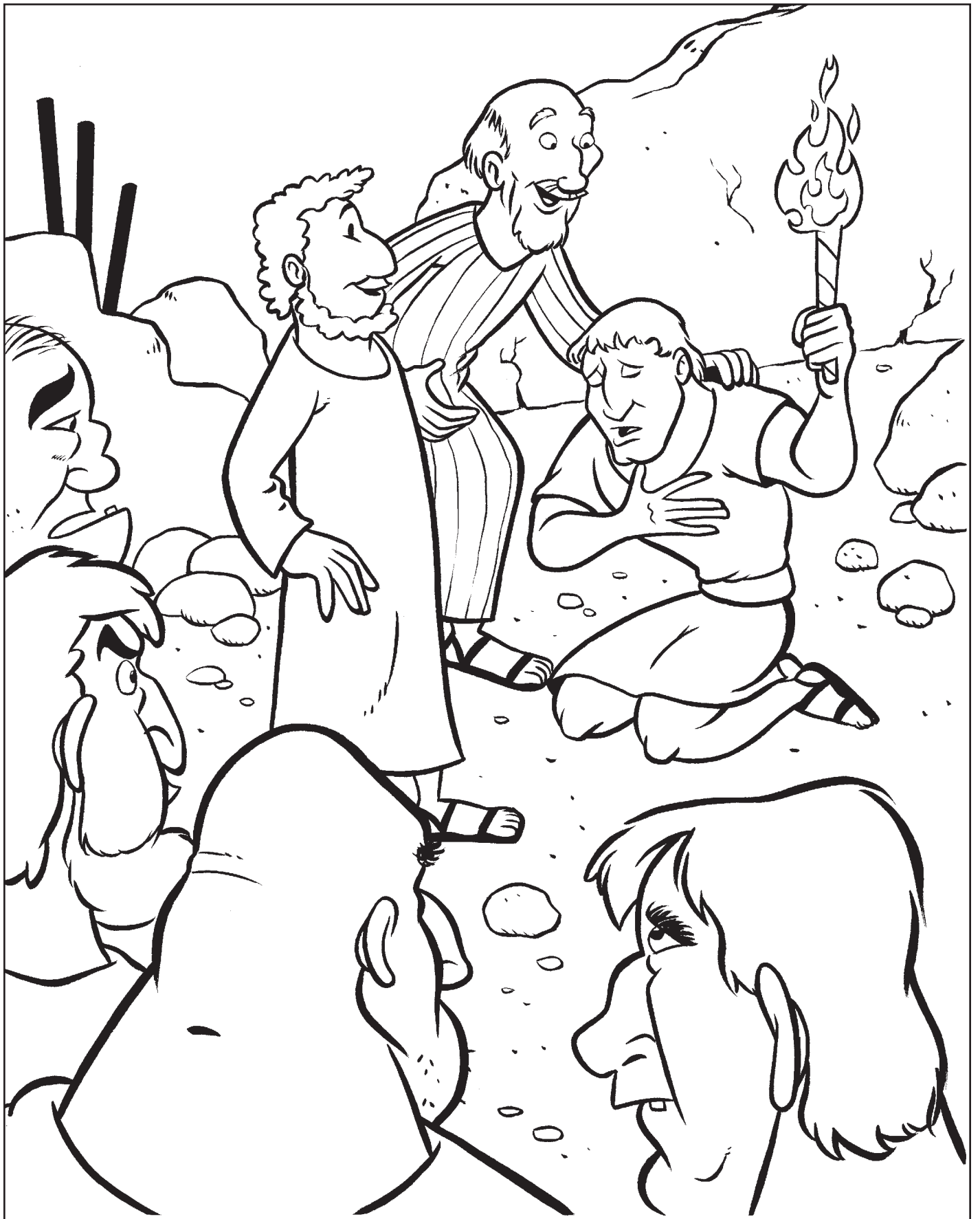
Story Scene





"...But Paul greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And he came out that very hour.

—Acts 16:18b



**“Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.
And he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’”**

—Acts 16:29–30

