

Lesson #42



6-20-2021
LEADER GUIDE

THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

ACTS 16:16-40

To explain to children how much we can trust God no matter the circumstances through the example of Paul's faith in God's mercy and sovereignty while in imprisoned for spreading the Gospel.

WORDS TO KNOW

Flogged: to beat a person with a whip or a stick as a form of punishment or torture.

MEMORY VERSES

Acts 16:31: And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Psalms 46:1: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

Acts 16:31: This is the advice Paul and Silas gave to the jailer when he asked how he could be saved. This same advice applies to us today.

Psalms 46:1: We can always rest assured that God is with us, He knows our troubles, and He will help us get through them.



OVERVIEW

Read Acts 16:16-40: While the Apostle Paul and Silas were visiting the city of Philippi and teaching about Jesus, they encountered a slave girl who was possessed with an evil spirit that gave her the ability to predict the future. Many people paid to have her tell their fortunes, which made her slave owners very wealthy. When she saw Paul and Silas walking through the city, she began shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved!" She did this every time she saw them in the city, and after a few days, Paul became troubled. 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 the girl. Realizing that this would cause a major source of income to come to an end, the slave girl's owners became very angry. They had Paul and Silas seized and brought before the authorities in the marketplace. The crowd at the marketplace supported the slave owners' claims that Paul and Silas were causing trouble and advocating illegal practices. The authorities decided to have Paul and Silas flogged and put in jail. The jailer was told to guard them carefully, so he put them in the inner cell and locked their feet in stocks. While sitting in their cell, Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns praising God, and the other prisoners heard their words. At about midnight while they were still singing and praying, a great earthquake shook the prison, and all at once, their feet were unbound, and all the prison doors flew open. When the jailer awoke, he assumed that all the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. Paul cried out, "Do not harm yourself! We are all still here!" The jailer asked them, "What must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." The jailer took them back to his house where he cleaned their wounds. Paul and Silas baptized the jailer and his entire family.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: What kind of spirit possessed the slave girl?

A1: An evil fortune-telling spirit possessed the slave girl.

Q1b: Why was the spirit evil for telling people about their futures?

Teacher Notes: God is the only one who knows our future. People who say they see our futures are tapping into knowledge they are not supposed to have, or they are lying. We are to trust God that He will take care of us. Trying to find out what will happen to us is not how a faithful person acts.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: What did the slave owners tell the authorities Paul and Silas were doing?

A2: They said that Paul and Silas were causing trouble and urging people to practice illegal customs.

Q2b: Have you ever gotten in trouble for doing something good?

Teacher Notes: Let the students answer. Paul saw that this slave girl was in trouble, so he helped her. In doing so, he destroyed the slave owners' ability to make money. Sometimes, doing good puts an end to something bad, and that can make people upset; however, that doesn't mean we shouldn't do good. We should always help people in trouble any way we can.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: The authorities ordered what to happen to Paul and Silas?

A3: The authorities ordered Paul and Silas to be flogged and put into prison.

Q3b: Have you ever tripped while running and scraped your knees?

Teacher Notes: Let students answer. Scrapes can hurt really badly, but what Paul and Silas endured was likely far worse than anything any of us has ever experienced. They were beaten in public so that they would be humiliated as well as injured. After they were beaten, they were put into jail without having their wounds cleaned or cared for, which would make them even more painful.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: As Paul and Silas sat in their jail cell, what did they do?

A4: Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns while sitting in jail.

Q4b: What would you do if you were given detention for something you didn't do?

Teacher Notes: Let students answer. Maybe we would yell, maybe we would cry, maybe we would sit and just get really angry. Paul and Silas sat in jail and prayed and sang hymns. While that may sound odd, as Christians, the way we live our lives acts as an example for other people. Paul and Silas knew that God would help them and that God knew the truth of the situation. They knew they were going to be okay, so they just carried on with their day, doing what they would have done if none of this had happened: praying and singing hymns of praise. As they carried out their normal routine, the other prisoners heard their words and learned about Jesus. People often follow us as we follow Jesus, which helps to lead them to their salvation.



THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK



Q5a: What happened after the earthquake shook the prison?

A5: The prison doors flew open all at once and the prisoners' chains came loose.

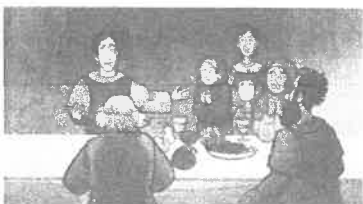


Q6a: What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?

A6: The jailer asked Paul and Silas how he could be saved.

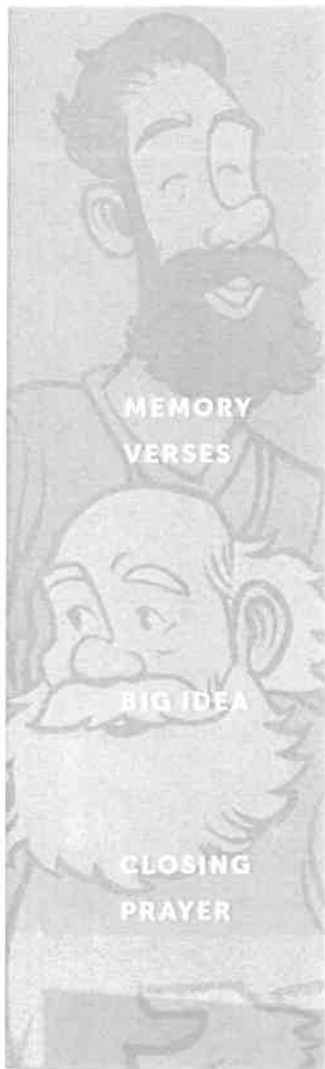
Q6b: Your teacher dismisses the class for recess. Would you spend recess sitting quietly at your desk?

Teacher Notes: No way! The second we are released, we would be out on the playground. So, what were Paul and Silas thinking when they decided to just sit in their cell even though the door was open and their chains had been broken? They knew that the jailer would be in big trouble if they escaped, so they stayed. They knew they had nothing to fear because God was on their side, so it was no big deal to them.



Q7a: What did Paul and Silas do after the jailer cleaned their wounds?

A7: Paul and Silas baptized the jailer and his entire household.



QUESTION & ANSWER

Acts 16:31: And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Psalm 46:1: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

We never need to worry because God is on our side, and there is nothing He can't do!

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us the ultimate example of mercy for us to follow. Thank You that we can be sure of Your love, care, and assistance when we face difficulties in our lives. Please help us to face these situations with a confident faith like Paul and Silas. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK CROSSWORD ANSWER KEY

Across

- The evil spirit that possessed the slave girl could see the **(Future)**.
- Paul and Silas were praying and **(Singing)** when an earthquake shook the prison.
- The authorities ordered Paul and Silas to be beaten with **(Rods)** and jailed.

Down

- The jailer brought Paul and Silas to his home and prepared a **(Feast)** for them.
- The jailer saw all the doors open and thought that all the prisoners had **(Escaped)**.
- Paul and Silas were put in the **(Inner)** cell, and their feet were locked in stocks.
- The slave owners said Paul and Silas were throwing the **(City)** into an uproar.

THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.



Family Devotional



UNLOCK
CODE!

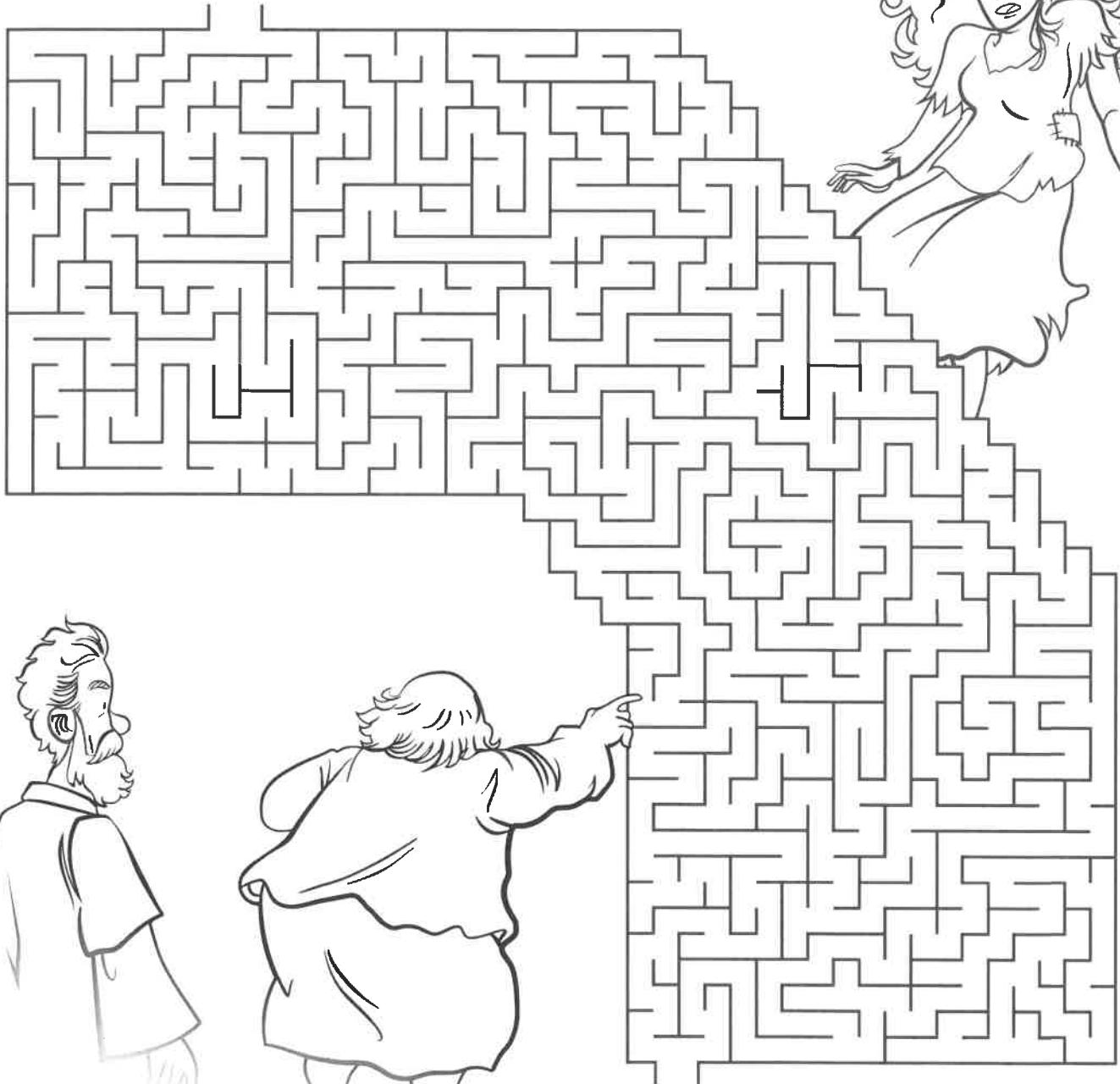
e1r1g9

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THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

Find and save the demon possessed girl.

END

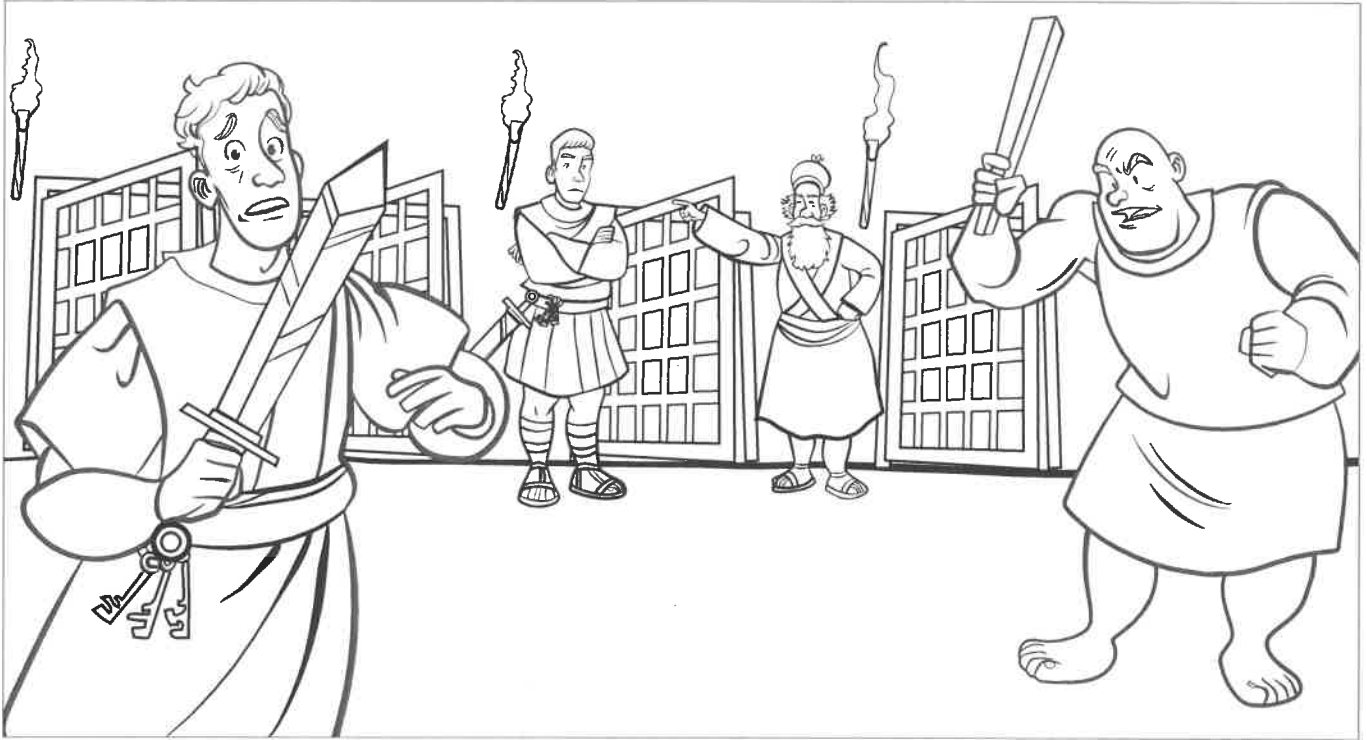


START



THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.





THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK



Discover the hidden words.

X	R	C	P	B	U	C	U	G	D	T	G	F	L	H
M	E	E	E	W	Q	W	X	K	B	U	Z	Y	E	H
Z	L	M	M	L	B	W	K	Y	F	A	J	X	V	Z
G	I	E	M	X	L	G	M	B	X	I	C	U	B	B
T	A	S	E	L	Q	B	F	F	W	A	H	T	D	R
A	J	T	Z	Y	I	P	C	T	O	O	I	A	A	W
D	P	K	M	F	X	C	Y	S	C	W	R	T	Y	P
T	S	D	C	R	E	N	O	S	I	R	P	R	J	D
T	Y	A	A	Z	S	R	C	O	S	Q	A	E	Y	R
P	W	P	L	N	V	B	U	J	Y	F	J	W	D	Q
V	E	M	I	I	T	C	N	T	E	E	E	Z	W	I
S	O	A	T	Y	S	J	M	N	U	S	K	A	V	O
C	H	F	S	I	N	G	I	N	G	F	U	N	S	D
C	P	A	U	L	F	G	O	D	Q	S	S	S	W	T
V	Y	Z	M	V	L	E	C	B	D	K	P	V	Y	S

Word Bank

FUTURE
SINGING
PRISON
PAUL

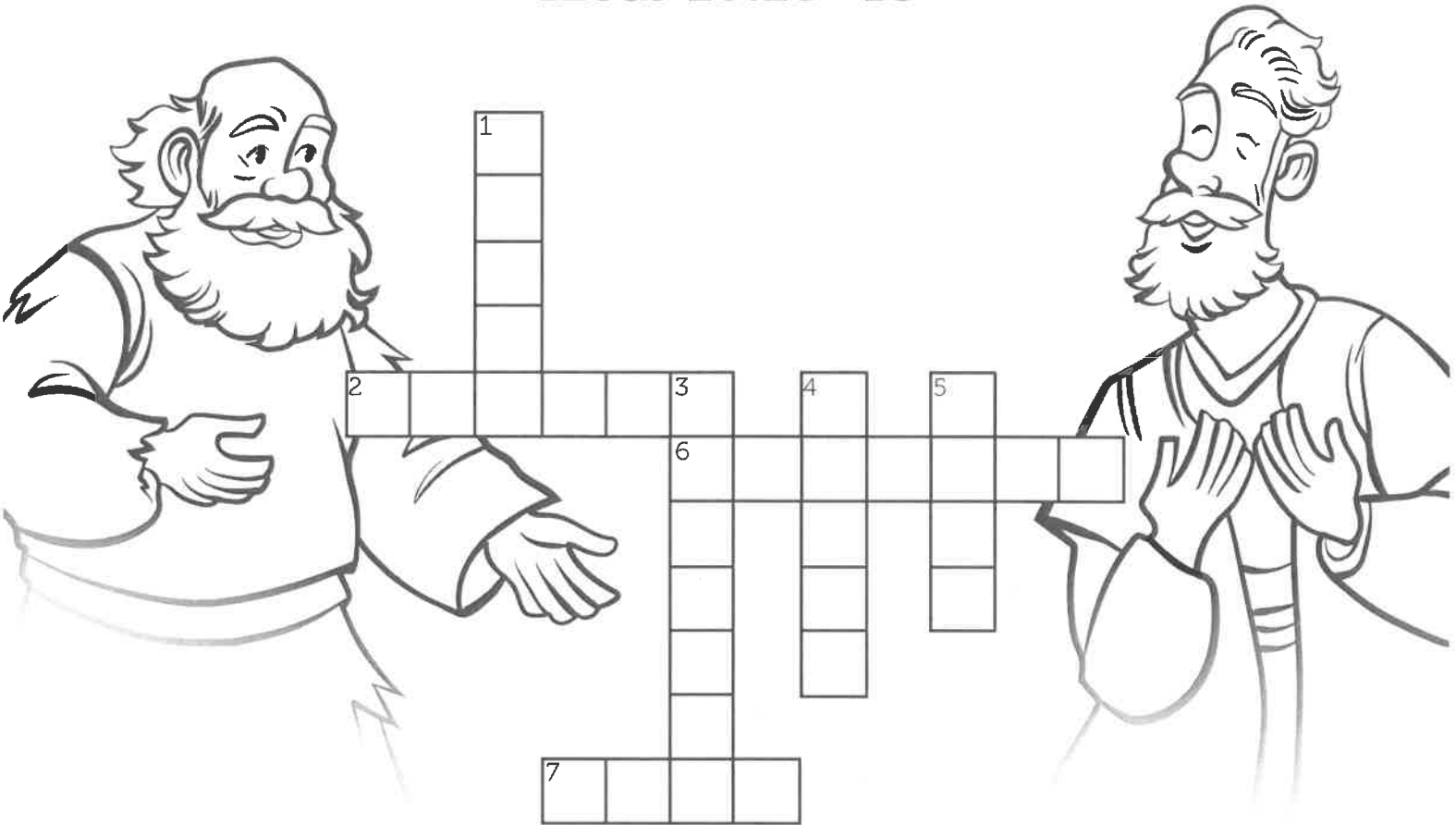
JAILER
SILAS
FEAST
CELL

CHAINS
WORRY
GOD
JESUS



THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

Acts 16:16-40



Across

2. The evil spirit that possessed the slave girl could see the ____.
6. Paul and Silas were praying and ____ when an earthquake shook the prison.
7. The authorities ordered Paul and Silas to be beaten with ____ and jailed.

Down

1. The jailer brought Paul and Silas to his home and prepared a ____ for them.
3. The jailer saw all the doors open and thought that all the prisoners had ____.
4. Paul and Silas were put in the ____ cell, and their feet were locked in stocks.
5. The slave owners said Paul and Silas were throwing the ____ into an uproar.



THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PRISON BREAK

Acts 16:31

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved,
you and your household."



Family Devotional



UNLOCK
CODE!

e1r1g9

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1 The girl followed Paul shouting out that “These men are servants of the Most High God and can tell us the way of salvation!”

2 The girls' owners took Paul & Silas to the judges.

3 The owners claimed that Paul and Silas were teaching customs against their laws.

4 After the people beat Paul and Silas, they were thrown in prison.

5 The jailer put them in an inner prison and put their feet in stocks.

6 At midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing to God.

7 Suddenly, there was a great earthquake!

8 The foundation of the prison shook, all the doors opened and the chains were free from everyone.

9 When everyone was accounted for, the guard asked Paul "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

10 Paul told the guard "First, he had to believe in Jesus."

11 Paul and Silas told the guard and his household about Jesus.

12 They cleaned up Paul & Silas from the beating.

13 The guard and all his family were baptized.

14 The guard rejoiced because his whole family believed in God.

15 The officers were scared when they heard that they were Romans.

16 They stayed at Lydia's for many days, worshipping with other Christians.