



YOU'RE INVITED | ELEM LESSON GUIDE MAR 22nd

BIG IDEA

We can worship God during hard times.

THE BIBLE

Paul and Silas worship God in Jail: Acts 16:20-34

In today's Bible story, we'll learn about two guys named Paul and Silas, who loved God and loved telling people about Him. They traveled all around telling people about Jesus. But one day, they ran into some trouble. Some people were so upset with them for telling people about Jesus that they threw them in jail. Jail does *not* sound like a fun place to be. Do you think Paul and Silas felt sad because their situation didn't seem very fun? Let's find out.

BIBLE STORY | Acts 16:20-34

When Paul and Silas got thrown in jail, were they upset because things didn't look good? No! The Bible says they were praying and singing to God! Even when their lives were really hard, they were still worshiping! Can you believe it? They were worshiping God in jail.

- **Do you think you'd be worshiping God if you were thrown in jail?**
- Maybe you've never been in jail, but think about this: you've probably had some bad days or had things happen to you that didn't seem fair. Maybe you've had a hard time at school, or things at home haven't gone the way you wanted them to. Maybe you don't have good friends or you are in trouble at school. Maybe you are fighting a lot with your brother or sister or someone you love has been sick.
- **Can you still worship God when things don't look good or don't seem fair?** The answer is yes!
- **You can worship God when things are great, and you can worship God during hard times too.**

SCRIPTURE | Philippians 4:12-13

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verse and read it!*
- Jesus gives us strength to worship during hard times. You can't always choose what happens to you. But you can choose how you react to it.
- Paul reminds us that in both the good times and the not-so-good times, we can look to Jesus to give us strength, no matter what.
- **What do you think it looks like to worship God even when things aren't going well?**
- We can worship God in the hard times by:
 - Trusting Him.
 - Praying to Him.
 - Reading our Bibles.
 - Singing worship songs.
 - Telling others about Him.
 - Having a good attitude.
 - Giving thanks, instead of complaining.

It's not always easy to worship God when life is hard, but we can worship God because we know that He is still with us and will help us through our hard times.



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PRAYER

Today, we're going to thank God for being faithful and good to us, even when bad things happen.

Dear God, thank you for loving us and helping us every day. Thank you for being good in our lives, even when things seem unfair. Help us keep praising you. In Jesus name, Amen.

MUSIC | Worship

We can worship God, even in the hard times. We're going to have a party today by worshiping God with a song that reminds us He is with us. Even if you're having a hard time right now, worship God because He is with us!

- *Spend some time singing together. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Take Heart," by Seeds Family Worship and "We Won't Let Go," by Gateway Kids.*

ACTIVITY | Thank You Cards

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids make a Thank You card using paper, markers and crayons. Let them decorate the cards.
- When we get a gift at a party, we send thank you notes to thank people for their gifts. Since God is good to us, we can thank Him too.
- **Let's write thank you notes to God for His gifts of love, forgiveness, and salvation.**