



YOU'RE INVITED | PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE MAR 22

BIG IDEA

We can worship God during hard times.

THE BIBLE

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

Have you ever wanted to play with a toy really, really bad but your friend got to it first? How did it make you feel? It was really hard wasn't it, you were looking forward to playing with that cool toy. Or have you ever had a time when you got in trouble for something that someone else did? **How would it make you feel if that happened?** Sometimes things just don't go our way and sometimes bad things can happen just like with our friends in today's story, Paul and Silas.

BIBLE STORY | Acts 16:20-34 *Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your child.*

- Paul and Silas were in a place where people didn't like hearing about God, so they were put in jail. They didn't even do anything wrong! Now that sounds like a hard time!
- **Did being in jail keep Paul and Silas from worshipping God?** (No! The Bible tells us that Paul and Silas prayed and sang songs of praise to God.)
- **Maybe you've never been in jail, but do you think you could pray and sing songs to God if things don't look good or seem fair?**
- Sometimes things happen in our lives that are hard or sad or make us mad, but we can still worship God.
- **How did they get out of jail?** (God caused an earthquake to shake down the prison gates.)

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

You can select any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Joyful Noise" by Yancy and, "Deep Cries Out" by Bethel Music Kids.

MEMORY VERSE | John 1:1

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, (make a book with your hands) **AND THE WORD** (spread your hands apart like an open book) **WAS WITH GOD** (point both arms up and point) **AND THE WORD** (bring hands back down like an open book) **WAS GOD**. (bring arms back up and point and point again).

ACTIVITY | Duck, Duck, Goose

- We're going to play a classic party game, but with a twist! When you get tagged, you'll go to the middle of the circle, which we're pretending is "jail." If you go to jail, you have to sing "Jesus Loves Me" until you're freed, when the next person comes into the jail.



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- Was it hard to sing the whole time while you were in the middle of the circle? Do you think it was hard for Paul and Silas to sing and praise God while they were in jail?
- How can you have a good attitude even when you're not happy with how things are going?

ACTIVITY Musical Statues

- Use the songs recommended for worship. **We can worship God during hard times.** Let's play a game of Musical Statues. *Play music and everyone dances. When the music stops, everyone stands as still as possible- like a statue!*