

WEEK
TWO
JULY 2023

SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

# PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

## MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus helps us choose joy.

PAUL AND SILAS ARE THROWN INTO PRISON ACTS 16:16-40

## MEMORY VERSE

"Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us."

**EPHESIANS 5:2, NIV** 

#### **KEY QUESTION**

Who wants to be your friend forever?

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

## **BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



## 2. STORY ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Sentences" Activity Pages,

cardstock, markers, crayons, and color pencils

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Story Sentences" on cardstock, one per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a "Story Sentences" Activity Page. Read each story sentence and encourage the children to draw a picture to go with them in the spaces provided.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Talk about how Jesus gave Paul and Silas the power to choose joy, even though they were not in a joyful place.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hi, friends! Come sit with me. We're going to draw today's Bible story!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "In our Bible story, we learned about a time when Paul and Silas chose joy and sang to Jesus, even though they were in a place that makes people sad. Let's draw today's story on this page. (*Give each child an activity page.*) I'll read part of the story, then you can draw a picture to go with what I read.

(Read the story sentences slowly, one at a time. Give the children time to draw after you read each sentence.) Paul and Silas moved here, there, and everywhere, telling people that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. (Pause.)

"Some people got mad and put Paul and Silas in jail. Paul and Silas chose joy and sang to Jesus anyway! (*Pause*.)

"The ground shook, and the door of the jail opened. Paul and Silas stayed and told the guard about Jesus, then the guard followed Jesus, too!" (When the children finish drawing, read the story sentences one more time together.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Paul and Silas sang songs to Jesus while they were in jail! And when Jesus is our friend forever, He will give us the power to choose joy, too! Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

#### BIBLE STORY

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## MEMORY VERSE

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## 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One paperclipped in Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.) I don't know what Paul and Silas' favorite songs were, but today, we'll make a list of our favorite songs. Think about songs you like to sing. When I say your name, you can tell me one of them. (Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"These are some great songs! I know it makes Jesus happy to hear you sing to Him. Let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

## PRAYER

**SGL:** "Dear God, Thank You for giving us Jesus. Thank You that Jesus gives us the power to choose joy. I pray we will choose to sing to Jesus here, there, and everywhere, no matter what. You're the best, God, and we love You! In Jesus' name, amen."

Paul and Silas moved here, there, and everywhere telling people that Jesus wants to be their friend forever.

Some people got mad and put Paul and Silas in jail. Paul and Silas chose joy and sang to Jesus anyway!

The ground shook and the door of the jail opened. Paul and Silas stayed to tell the guard about Jesus, and the guard followed Jesus, too!