

The BIBLE STORY

Bible Storytelling Tips

Paul's Second Journey

Acts 16:11-34

- **Display a map:**

Show a map of Paul's missionary journeys. Trace Paul's second journey as you tell the Bible story.

- **Use sound effects:**

Play (or allow the kids to make) sound effects with different parts of the story. Consider running water for the river, a noisy crowd as Paul and Silas went to pray, and falling rocks during the earthquake.

Paul traveled to several towns with his friends, and they shared the good news about Jesus. One night, Paul saw a vision. In the vision, **God told Paul to go to Macedonia** (MASS uh DOH nih uh). God wanted Paul **to share the gospel** there.

So Paul and his friends went to Macedonia. They stopped for a few days in a city called Philippi (FIH lih pigh). **On the Sabbath, Paul and his friends went outside the city to the river to pray. Some women were there, and Paul started talking to them. A woman named Lydia was listening, and God opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. Lydia and everyone in her house were baptized.**

On another day, Paul and Silas were on their way to pray, and a servant girl met them. She had a spirit in her that allowed her to predict the future. She earned a lot of money for her masters by telling the future.

The girl followed Paul and Silas, shouting, "These men, who are telling you how to be saved, are servants of the Most High God!" She followed them for many days. Finally, **Paul turned and said to the spirit in her, "By the power of Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!"** And the spirit came out right away.

Now the girl's owners were upset because she could no longer tell the future. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities. They complained about the things Paul and Silas were doing. **The officials ordered for Paul and Silas to be beaten and thrown into jail.**

About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and

singing songs to God. The other prisoners were listening to them. **All of a sudden, a violent earthquake shook the jail. All the doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose! The jailer woke up and saw the prison doors open.** He thought the prisoners had escaped, so he took out his sword and was about to kill himself.

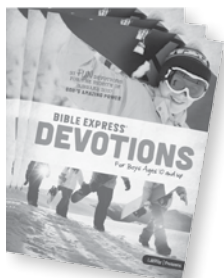
"Don't hurt yourself!" Paul said. "We are all here!"

The jailer rushed inside and fell down in front of Paul and Silas, shaking with fear. Then he took Paul and Silas outside. "Men, what must I do to be saved?" he asked.

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Paul and Silas told the message of Jesus to the jailer and to everyone in his household. All of them believed and were baptized right away.

The jailer washed Paul's and Silas' wounds. He brought them into his house and fed them. Later that day, Paul and Silas were set free.

Christ Connection: Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."



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How Does It Grow?

Match each person, place, or thing with what helps it grow.



Mark the Way I

Unscramble the clues to draw the route of Paul's first missionary journey.

- PAUL AND BARNABAS LEFT _____ IN SYRIA
 _____ ATOCHNI
 AND SAILED TO _____ AND THEN TO _____
 PRUSCY ANCHOIT.
- FROM THERE, PAUL AND BARNABAS TRAVELED THROUGH
 _____ TO _____. PAUL HEALED A MAN THERE.
 MUNICOI ASTRLY
- NEXT, THEY WENT TO _____. THEN PAUL
 BEDRE
 AND BARNABAS WENT BACK THROUGH _____
 ASTRLY,
 _____ AND ANCHOIT. THEY SAILED PAST
 MUNICOI, AND ANCHOIT. THEY SAILED PAST
 _____ TO _____ IN SYRIA.
 PRUSCY ATOCHNI



The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus. Provide *I'm a Christian Now* for new Christians to take home and complete with their families.