

STORY

Paul and the Jailer at Philippi - Acts 16:9-40

TEACHER PRAYER

Lord Jesus, who came to Paul in a vision--to steer him to people whom he could help bring home to You--let my vision of You be strong and helpful to me so that I can carry You to others; and let me help bring them home to You also. Thanks. Amen.

OUTER AIM

God used Paul to bring Jesus to a prison warden and then to his family.

INNER AIM

God sends believers into the world with the Gospel message in order to rescue those lost in sin.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol.2, pp. 557-566)

By now we have skipped over Paul's first missionary trip (chs. 13-14), the first convention of the Christian Church (ch.15), and part of the second missionary trip (15:36-16:30), which was a revisiting of congregations founded on the first trip. The Spirit kept steering them down to Troas (Troy), where He sent Paul the vision of the Macedonian person pleading for Paul to sail over to Greece to preach the gospel of salvation to him and his countrymen.

v.9

- ▶ With this vision God guided Paul to Europe across the Adriatic to bring the Savior to gentiles there, and He did it with the plea: "Come over and help us!"
- ▶ We would no more turn our back on perishing souls than ignore a drowning person's frantic cries: "HELP! HELP!"
- ▶ *Macedonia* was a country north of ancient Greece, homeland of Alexander the Great, a northern portion of the modern country of Greece. (cf. maps)

v. 10

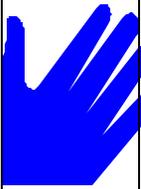
- ▶ Paul never hesitated to obey Jesus, so with Luke, Silas, and Timothy, they got a coastal sailor going to Europe because someone there needed help.

v.12

- ▶ Philippi was the "county seat" of the eastern division of Macedonia, at that time a Roman colony; so Paul's Roman citizenship would be an advantage in such a place.
- ▶ Foreign governments often restrict or revoke passports and visas; many heathen countries especially with Muslim heritage do not welcome Christians, whether as tourists or missionaries.

v.13

- ▶ The normal place to make contact would be the local Jewish synagogue; since there was none, they found a prayer group having Sabbath service at Riverside Park.
- ▶ As a rabbi in his own right, Paul got their attention and guided them into a conversation about the Messiah.
- ▶ We have no Synodical rule book for "How to start a mission.? When we speak of our Savior with neighbors, at school, at work, at sports events--or invite people to share our church worship of Jesus, God's Son and Savior of sinners--we are doing what Jesus wants.



v.14

- ▶ Lydia, whose livelihood came from selling purple dye, worshiped the true God but had not yet heard that Jesus was the Messiah who had already finished the work of redemption.
- ▶ *"The Lord Jesus opened her heart to heed the things (gospel) spoken by Paul."*
- ▶ So simple sounding, but the greatest marvel in all God's creation that the inner sanctuary of the human soul is made to open at the message of God's surpassing love, is moved to contemplate this wondrous revelation and becomes convinced of its truth and integrity!

v. 15

- ▶ Because she had been brought to faith in Jesus' blood and righteousness, she received holy baptism for the assurance that her sins had been washed away, that she was adopted by God into His family, and that she was included in the fellowship of believers in Christ.
- ▶ Others in the household (whether children or servants we do not know) who were converted were also baptized, and thus a new Christian congregation was formed and already growing!
- ▶ It was a fruit of her faith and love for Jesus that she was eager to serve her new friends by offering free housing and meals.
- ▶ Serving the Lord is a two-way street for Christians; as we freely give, we receive freely from others. Jesus knew this from His own experience and encourages us to discover it also. "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38
- ▶ What a contrast to the next event--God's way of getting Paul into contact with the warden of the local jail (perhaps the man of the vision).

v. 16-24

- ▶ The next step in God's plans was to get Paul into prison, for from that position he could unlock the warden from a worse prison, his fear of God's punishment for his sins.
- ▶ Paul certainly spoke from personal experience, "How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!?" (Rom.11:33) We discover that when one door is shut, another opens to a corridor we didn't notice, and thus to another door that awaits our hand. What you and I do today is part of a pattern that God is weaving for you and me and the salvation of others.
- ▶ So in order to get Paul into an advantageous position for serving the warden, God put this slave girl into Paul's path.

v.16

- ▶ She was a psychic, whose skill at fortune-telling (if it was a gift from God that she misused we do not know) was at the time under the control of a satanic spirit, a demon.
- ▶ People who don't allow God to direct their lives try to manipulate their own future, sometimes by use of psychics. Today's psychics have capitalized on television's power to spread their cult. Christians will beware of this Satan-sponsored attraction, rather relying on their loving Father in heaven to be in control of their future.

v.17

- ▶ When Paul and company came within range, God took temporary control of her demon so that it was forced to tell the truth: *"These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation."*
- ▶ The name she used is one that the gentiles could grasp, even though the *LORD Jehovah* is a title more meaningful to Bible people.
- ▶ The Muslims have invented one-hundred-and-one names for their deity (Allah), some of which they have smuggled over from our Scriptures. What is the name you use for God when you pray--or when you speak of Him to others? We note that the demon did not preach the gospel message, just identified the messengers and the general purpose of their message. From this we deduce that Jesus does not authorize anyone but His disciples to serve souls with

the gospel. In other words, God does not enlist anyone but the Christian to represent Him with His saving Word.
v.18

- ▶ After a few days of observing her torment, Paul decided he should exorcize the spirit that was victimizing her, an action that would get him into trouble with her masters, but he knew he had to come to her aid.
- ▶ Thus the Lord Jesus with His superior power (Mark 3:27) got rid of the evil spirit so that her soul could respond to the Holy Spirit's influence.
- ▶ We gladly recognize that Jesus has control over the worst of demons, including Satan; our lives and future are secure if we abide in Him.

v.19

- ▶ These businessmen had no heart for the girl, but only for their own profit.
- ▶ They saw Paul and Silas as either business competition or agents of a superior demon.

v.20

- ▶ Hoping to put a good face on their wickedness, they accused Paul of causing civil unrest.

v.21

- ▶ This was a misrepresentation, of course, for God's servants do not incite civil disobedience (Rom.13).
- ▶ The calling of Christian missionaries is spiritual, to deliver souls from Satan's dominion into God's kingdom of grace and salvation.
- ▶ In foreign countries controlled by Muslims, the government is protective of Mohammedanism but hostile to Christianity. We must be "harmless as doves, but wise as serpents" in our efforts to reach such people.

v.22-23

- ▶ Soon the mob coerced the magistrates to come down hard on the "foreigners."
- ▶ Romans were brutal in dealing with Jews, so our innocent missionaries were whipped with (bamboo?) canes, probably until they collapsed.
- ▶ Thus deprived of his legal rights, Paul the Roman citizen was unjustly arrested, condemned, punished, and imprisoned.
- ▶ Paul might wonder how all this could serve to help the man in the vision who had begged them to come to his aid.

v. 24

- ▶ Handled like the most dangerous criminals, they were dumped into a cell block with the tightest security; in addition, they were immobilized in stocks designed for restraint and torture.

v.25

- ▶ Despite their pain they considered the whole ordeal in the light of God's love for them and for the other prisoners, so the disciples loudly rejoiced in being on God's side and at His disposal. "No such sounds had ever before been heard in that prison."

v.26

- ▶ At midnight God gave a little shove to the foundations under the prison, the walls shifted enough to dislocate doors, and the chains that fastened every prisoner were pulled apart.
- ▶ Thus God created a way for the warden's heart to be opened and delivered from the chains of Satan.

v.27

- ▶ The earthquake jolted the warden awake, and seeing that the lock-up system was ruined, the deduction hit him that the prisoners were gone.
- ▶ By Roman standards he was responsible, so he was ready to take his own life as self-punishment, the "honorable and heroic" thing to do.

v.28

- ▶ His suicide attempt was seen and stopped by Paul with a loud shout, for Paul was hoping to intervene in the man's soul-life and bring him to the Savior for eternal life.
- ▶ Comment here on the horror of suicide--the sin from which you can never return to God, the sin from which you can never return to the love of other humans; the self-murder from which there is no opportunity to repent.

v.29

- ▶ The warden welcomed the reprieve, and when he discovered Paul had something to do with everybody being still safe in jail, he realized that somehow Paul was in control of what had just happened.
- ▶ Impressed by Paul's concern for his well-being, he "*fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.*"
- ▶ God had done everything necessary to prepare his heart for this moment when he could throw himself on the mercy of a man who obviously had some close connections with the Almighty.

v.30

- ▶ His question, "*What must I do to be saved??*" was not a concern for his mortal body--for the prisoners were all in custody--rather, he was concerned for his immortal soul, and so...

v.31

- ▶ Paul directed him to Jesus the Messiah for the salvation of his soul; "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.*"
- ▶ Paul's doctrinal position on the principles of salvation was always the same: a) by grace alone, without human meriting; b) by faith in Jesus alone, without adding human good deeds; c) at Luther's time the third plank had to be nailed down also: by Scripture alone, without human additives or subtractions.

v.32

- ▶ Paul also perceived that the warden held his family dear, and so assured the whole household that God loved them one and all and had secured their eternal salvation as well.

v.33

- ▶ When there was a lull, the warden fed and gave home-care medical aid to his new-found spiritual brothers.
- ▶ Baptism naturally followed, as Paul wanted them to have the blessed assurance that their sins were indeed washed clean, and that as gentiles they were welcomed into the Christian fellowship.
- ▶ This membership matter did not have to be cleared with the "front office" in Jerusalem, for God had already cleared them one-hundred percent.

v.35-40

- ▶ This aftermath deserves some attention: we see that Paul took legal advantage of his Roman citizenship to put the city officials on the defensive for having robbed him of his rights.
- ▶ Out of concern for the Christians he would leave behind, Paul wanted the magistrates to realize that he could return at any time and make a federal case against them if he so chose.
- ▶ Unintimidated, our Christian friends revisited Lydia and all the other Christians of the city, encouraging them with the assurance that (also by softening the hostility of the magistrates) the Lord Jesus would support them and bless them, and they could get on with their new lives in His service. Hallelujah!

APPLICATIONS

1. We should be ready and willing to answer the plea for help from those calling out from the darkness of unbelief just as Paul answered the plea, "Come and help us!"
2. We have no Synodical rule book for "How to start a mission.?" When we speak of our Savior with neighbors, at school, at work, at sports events--or invite people to share our church worship of Jesus, God's Son and Savior of sinners--we are doing what Jesus wants.
3. Because Lydia had been brought to faith in Jesus' blood and righteousness, she received holy baptism for the assurance that her sins had been washed away, that she was adopted by God into His family, and that she was included in the fellowship of believers in Christ. Others in the household (whether children or servants we do not know) who were converted were also baptized, and thus a new Christian congregation was formed and already growing.
4. Serving the Lord is a two-way street for Christians; as we freely give, we receive freely from others. Jesus knew this from His own experience and encourages us to discover it also. "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38
5. People who don't allow God to direct their lives try to manipulate their own future, sometimes by use of psychics. Today's psychics have capitalized on television's power to spread their cult. Christians will beware of this Satan-sponsored attraction, rather relying on their loving Father in heaven to be in control of their future.
6. By Roman standards the jailer was responsible for the prisoners and thus for their suspected escape, so he was ready to take his own life as self-punishment, the "honorable and heroic" thing to do. His suicide attempt was seen and stopped by Paul with a loud shout, for Paul was hoping to intervene in the man's soul-life and bring him to the Savior for eternal life. Comment here on the horror of suicide--the sin from which you can never return to God, the sin from which you can never return to the love of other humans; the self-murder from which there is no opportunity to repent.

STUDENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus, here I am again, this time to tell You thanks for being my Savior. Besides, I need You to fill me up so full with love for You and with concern for other people that I will speak as You wish, and do as You desire. Thanks in advance for this blessing. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Tell the story with the same emotion and excitement as if you were there. Tell the story in your words, but be faithful to the account that God recorded in Acts.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Mt.28:18 - All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Mt. 5:11 - Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

Middle any of the above and...

I Jn.2:2 - And he Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Gal.6:6 - Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

Rom. 2:15a: - Who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness.

Upper any of the above and...

Rom.5:3 - We also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance.

I Pet.4:14 - If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Rom.3:19-20 - Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

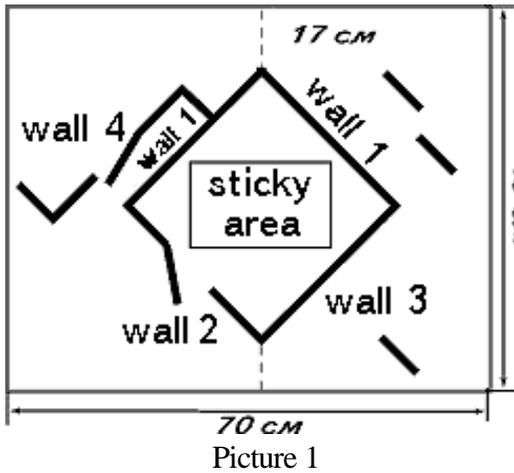
HYMN CHOICES

"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" TLH #3

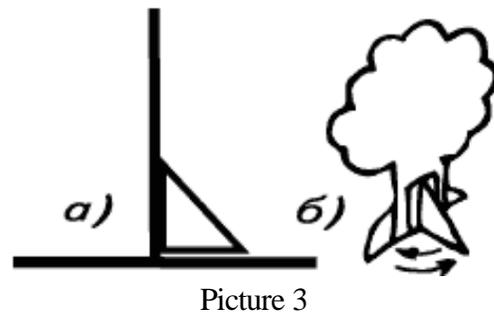
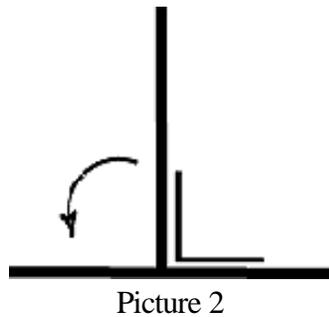
"Lord, Open Thou My Heart to Hear" TLH #5

"On My Heart Imprint Thine Image" TLH #179

Things Needed: a sheet of cardboard (70x45 cm), half-finished crafts of the scenery, scissors, glue, colors, wide Scotch transparent tape, 2 threads 50 cm each, thick needle.



1. Glue fragments of the scenery and figures of people on cardboard, color them and cut them out. Cut out the door in wall 2 and bend this door so that it would open outside.
2. Redraw scheme from Picture 1 to the sheet of cardboard (70x45 cm) which will be the base for the craft.
3. Bend wall 1 in its middle and glue the trees and the bush together;

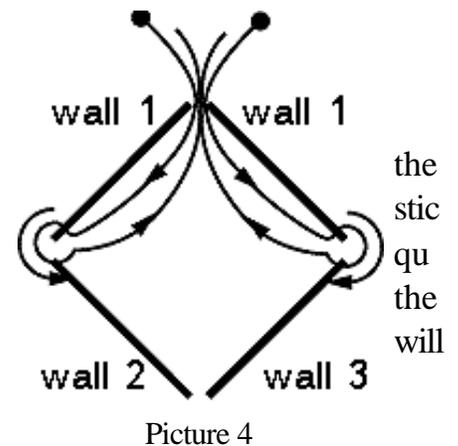


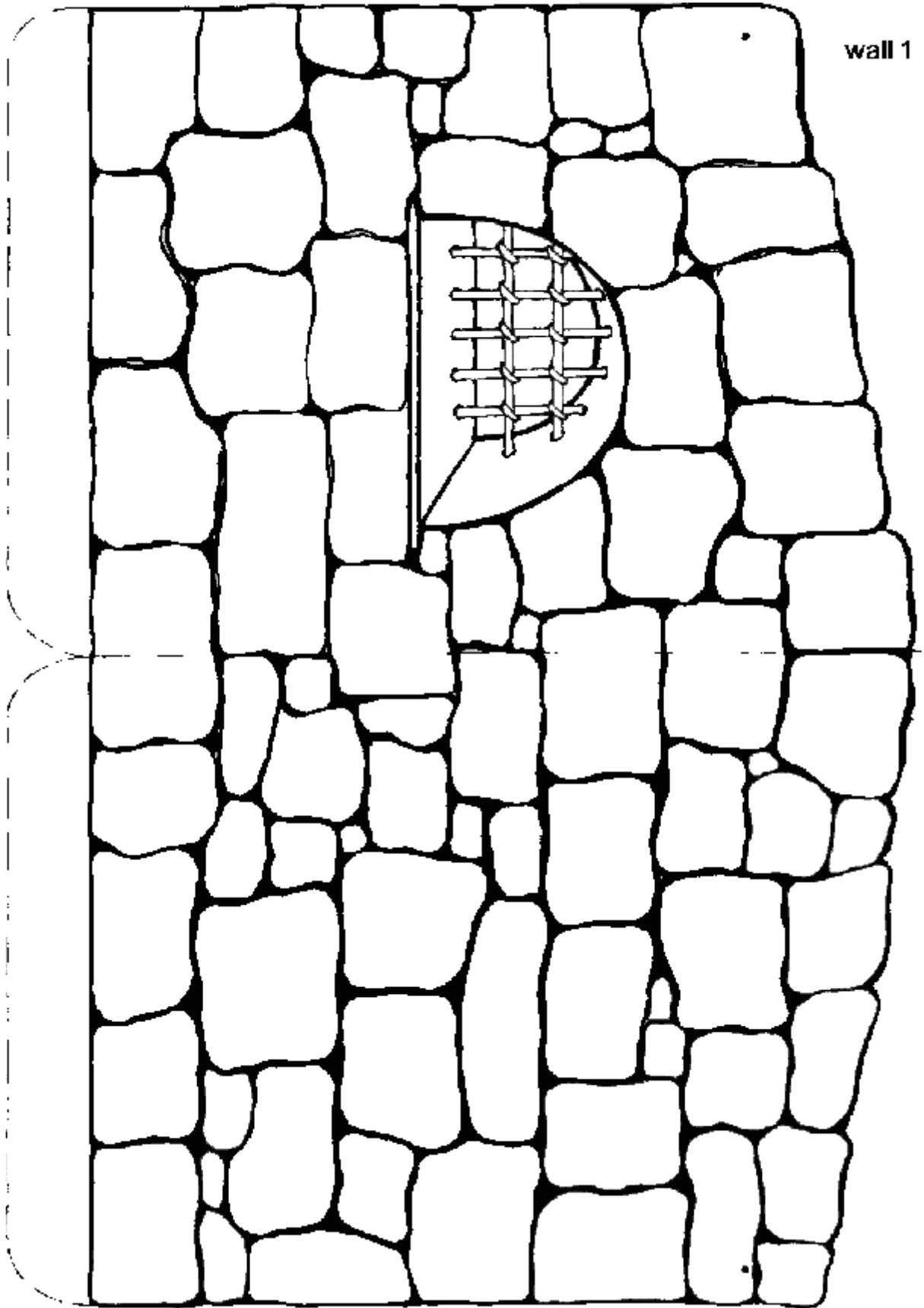
4. **"Falling" walls 2 and 3** glue to the inner side of the prison by wide Scotch transparent tape so that they could easily fall outside (Picture 2). Fortify the trees and the bush with triangles so that they don't fall (see Pictures 3 a,b). You can also add one more supplementary wall.

5. Color the base of the craft. Use some Scotch tape to make a sticky area inside of the prison.
6. Make holes in walls 1, 2, and 3 with a thick needle (see Picture 4). Take 2 needles (preferably of the same color of the walls), make knots at the end of each needle, run the other ends through the holes in the walls (Picture 4). Fasten all the ends of the needles with a clip so that the walls stand firm.

When you are telling about Paul and Silus being arrested open door of the prison, bring the apostles inside, put them on a key area and tightly close the door. Telling about the earthquake, start shaking the craft, insensibly take the clip off and pull knotted ends of the needles. The walls will fall down, and you see the apostles standing in the middle of the prison.

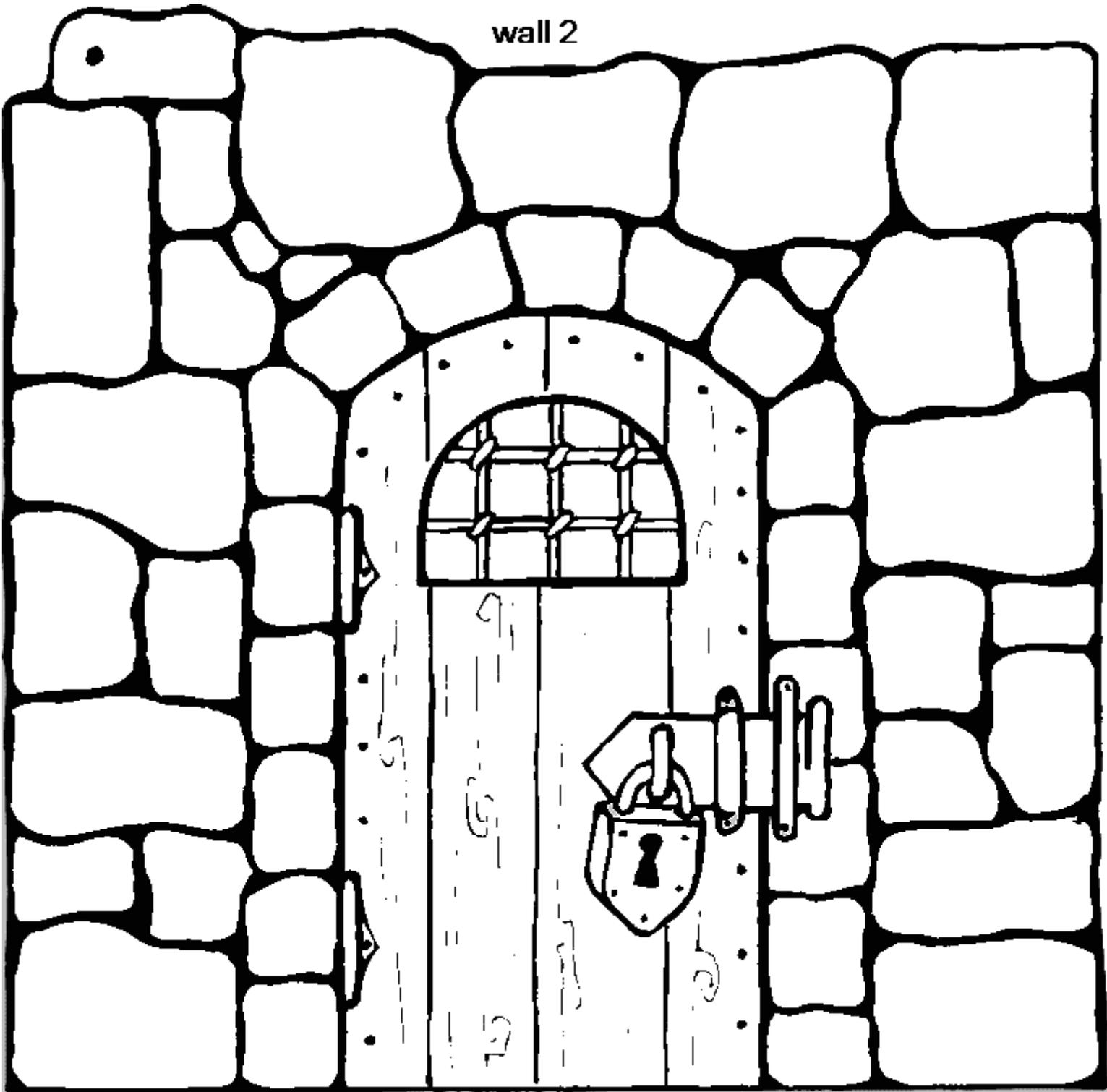
You can keep the craft folded.





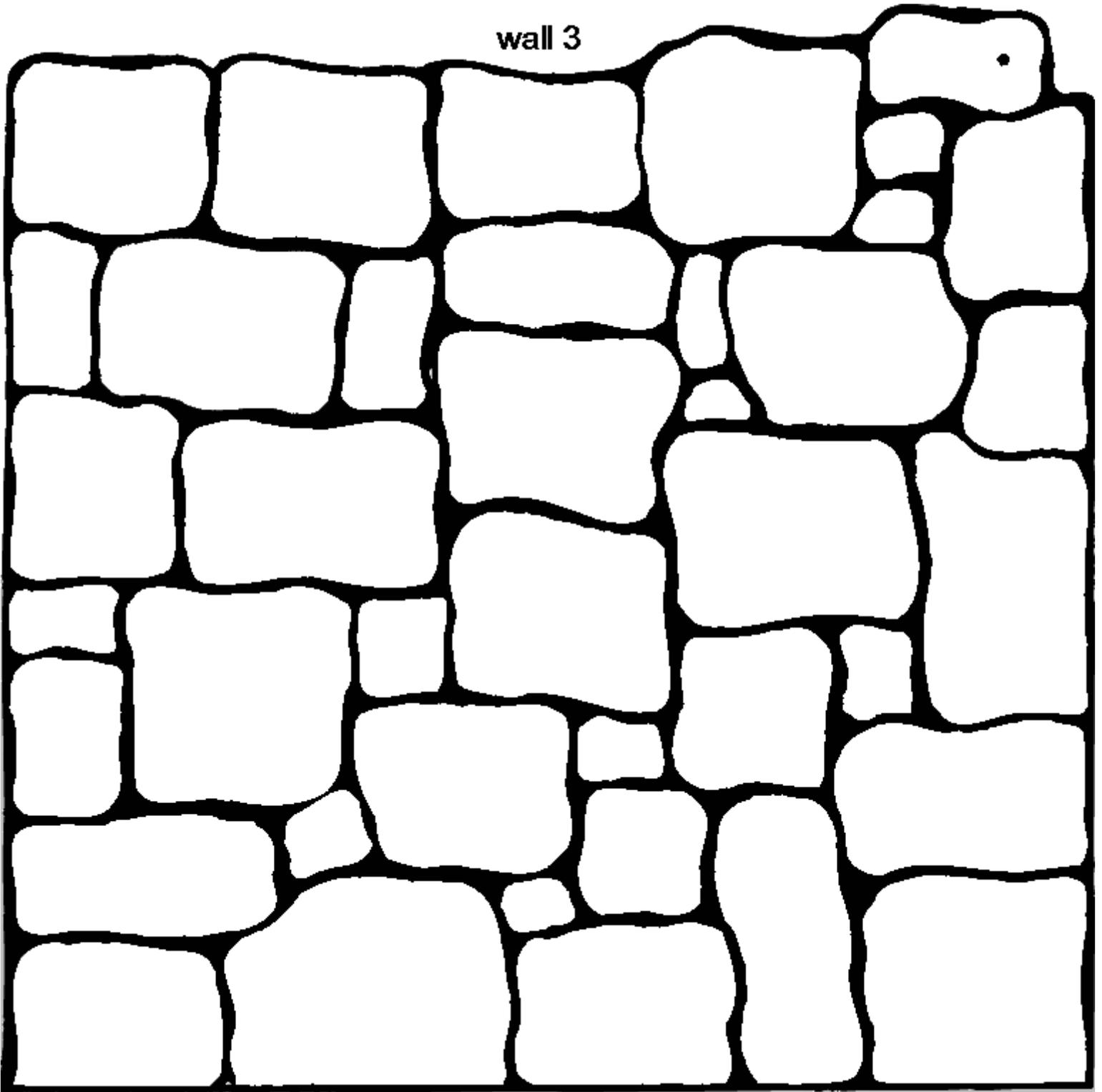
http://www.emmanuel.kiev.ua/Kids/shem_p2gE.html

wall 2



http://www.emmanuel.kiev.ua/Kids/shem_p2gE.html

wall 3



http://www.emmanuel.kiev.ua/Kids/shem_p2gE.html



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Paul and the Jailer at Philippi

Acts 16:9-40



The Story

Paul went on a long trip going from city to city to preach about Jesus, the Son of God. He took with him a man named Silas who was also a preacher. One night Paul had a vision from God. In his vision Paul saw a man in Macedonian clothes calling out, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!"

Paul knew what kind of help the people of Macedonia needed. They needed to hear the good news of Jesus their Savior from sin. So Paul and Silas went by ship to the land of Macedonia into the great city of Philippi.

Not very many people had heard about the true God in Philippi. Most of the people there prayed to idols. Every day Paul and Silas went out to preach about Jesus. A poor slave girl began following them around town shouting out wildly. This girl had a devil inside her. This devil gave her power to tell people what would happen in the future. People would pay to have the girl tell their future. Of course, this was terrible for the girl to have a devil in her, but her masters were happy for they got all the money people paid. Finally Paul turned and spoke to the devil in the girl saying, "In the name of Jesus Christ, come out of her!"

The devil had to obey and came right out of her. Now the girl could have peace and quiet, but

her masters were angry. The girl could no longer tell futures, and the masters would get no more money.

The slave girl's masters dragged Paul and Silas in front of the leaders of the city. Without listening to Paul and Silas, the leaders had their guards whip Paul and Silas's backs until they were bloody. Paul and Silas were put into the deepest part of the prison with their feet locked up tightly.

During the night Paul and Silas sang songs of praise to God. Everyone in the prison listened quietly to Paul and Silas. Suddenly, in the middle of the night, an earthquake shook the prison. The locks on the prisoners' feet were loosened and the doors popped open.

The jailer knew he could be punished with death if any of his prisoners escaped. He was afraid that his prisoners would get out before he could lock them up again. He took out his sword to kill himself, but Paul called out, "Don't harm yourself! See, we are all here!"

The jailer knelt down and begged, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be baptized, you and your family!"

Even though it was the middle of the night, the jailer took Paul and

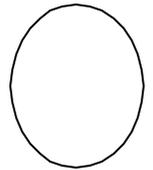
Silas to his own house. He got his whole family up to hear about Jesus, the Savior from sin. How happy the jailer was to know what God had done for him! That very night the jailer and all of his family were baptized. He gave Paul and Silas food to eat and washed and

bandaged their bloody wounds. Then the jailer took them back to the prison before daylight.

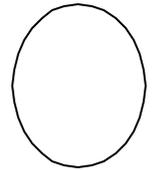
The next day, when they were released from prison, many believers came to see Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas urged these new Christians to keep on trusting in Jesus.

Activity - Draw a face to answer the question.

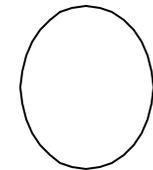
1. How did the girl feel when the devil came out of her?



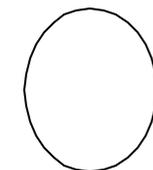
2. How did her masters feel when she could not make money for them?



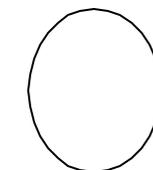
3. How did Paul and Silas feel when they sang songs to God in prison?



4. How did the jailer feel when all the locks and doors came open?



5. How did the jailer feel when Paul told his whole family about Jesus?



Passage - Color all of the boxes yellow.

Who is talking to us in this Bible passage?

**Matthew 28:18 "All authority has been given to
in heaven and earth. Go therefore
and make disciples off all nations baptizing
them in the name of the**

Me

Father

and of the

Son

and of the

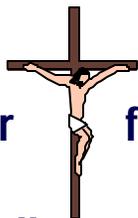
Holy Spirit.

Hymn - TLH #179

On my heart imprint Thine image, blessed Jesus, King of Grace
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures have no pow'r Thee to efface.
This the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my Life, my hope's Foundation, and my Glory and Salvation. Amen

Prayer

Dear Jesus,



Thank You for for us. Help us to spread the Good

News to people all over



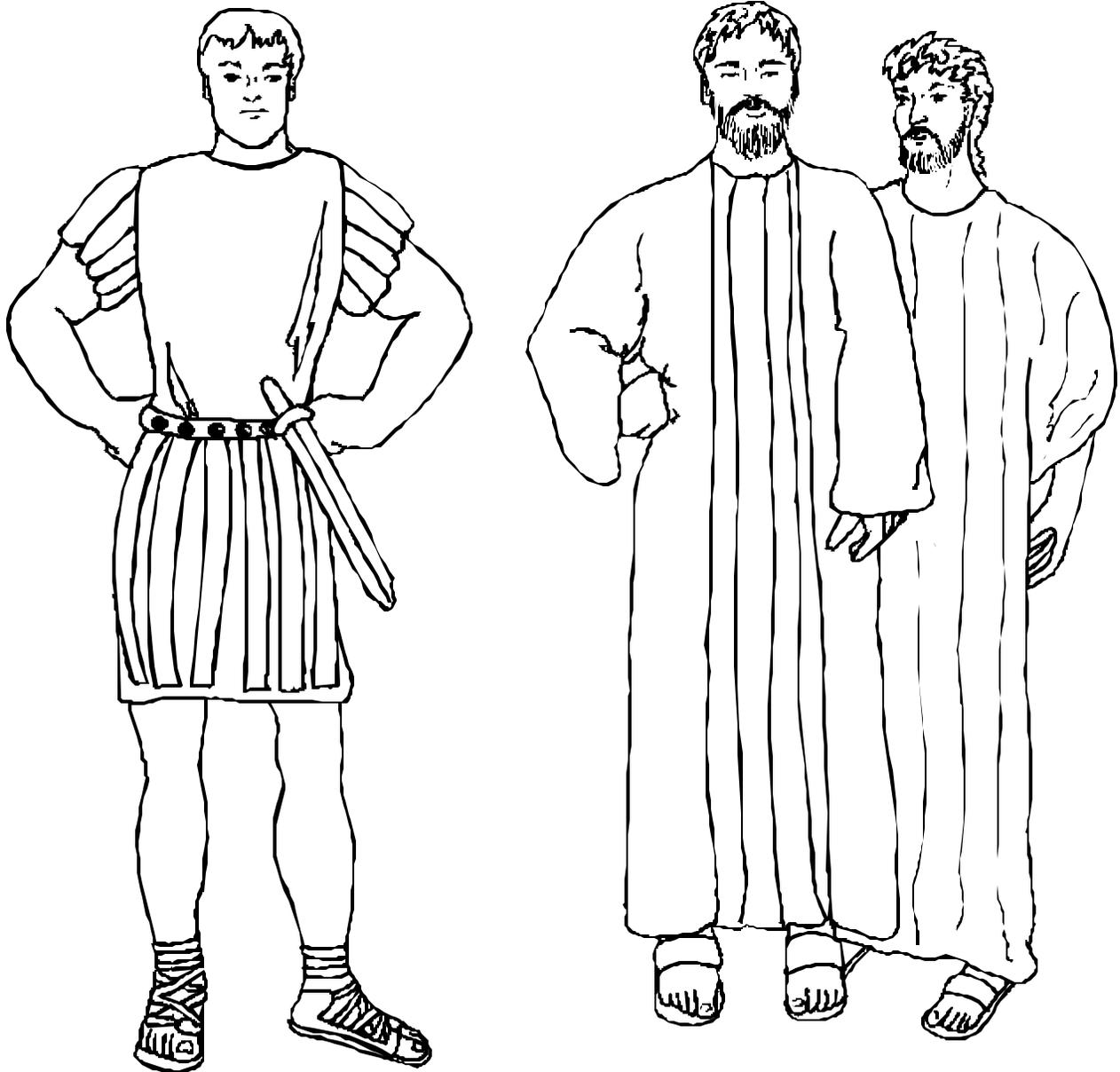
. Make us brave to

about you to all people. In Your name we pray. Amen.



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Silas to his own house. He got his whole family up to hear about Jesus, the Savior from sin. How happy the jailer was to know what God had done for him! That very night the jailer and all of his family were given the rite of baptism. He gave Paul and Silas food to eat and washed

and bandaged their bloody wounds. Then the jailer took them back to the prison before daylight.

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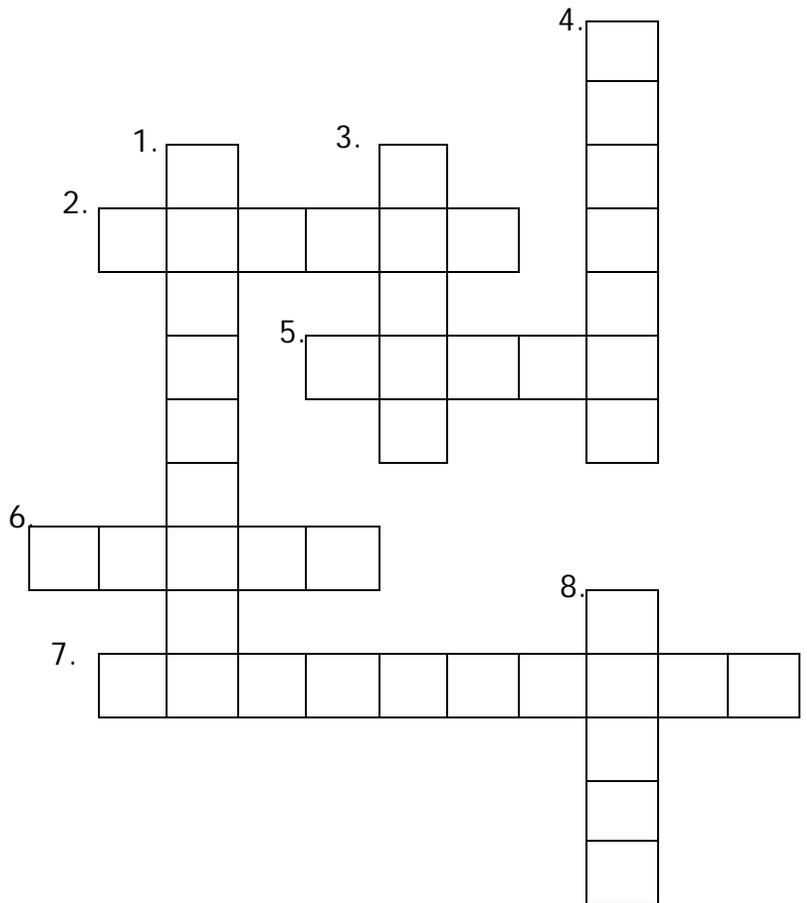
Activity - Crossword puzzle. Use the words in the box at the bottom for the answers.

Across:

2. The _____ took Paul and Silas to his home to preach to his family about Jesus.
5. Paul and _____ traveled to Philippi.
6. They sang ____ of praise to God while in prison.
7. An _____ shook the prison and the locks came open.

Down:

1. In Paul's vision, the man said, "Come over to _____ and help us."
3. Paul commanded the _____ to come out of the girl.
4. The jailer wanted Paul and Silas to give the rite of _____ to his whole family.
8. The jailer cried, "What must I do to be _____?"



baptism	songs	earthquake	saved
Macedonia	jailer	devil	Silas

Passage - The words in the boxes belong in the passages below.

earth disciples given baptizing
Holy Spirit heaven Father Son

sake revile kinds evil
persecute

Matt. 28:18 - All authority has been
_____ to Me in _____
and on _____. Go therefore and
make _____ of all nations,
_____ them in the name of
the _____, and of the
_____, and of the
_____.

Matt. 5:11 - Blessed are you
when they _____ you
and _____ you and
say all _____ of
_____ against you
falsely for My _____.

Hymn - TLH #179

On my heart imprint Thine image, blessed Jesus, King of Grace
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures have no pow'r Thee to efface.
This the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my Life, my hope's Foundation, and my Glory and Salvation. Amen

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for sending preachers and teachers out into the world who tell the good news of salvation. Make all of us Christians brave and happy to share the news of our Savior with anyone we meet. Send Your Holy Spirit to put faith in the hearts of all who hear the wonderful message of Jesus Christ. Finally, bring us all safely to heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Paul and the Jailer at Philippi

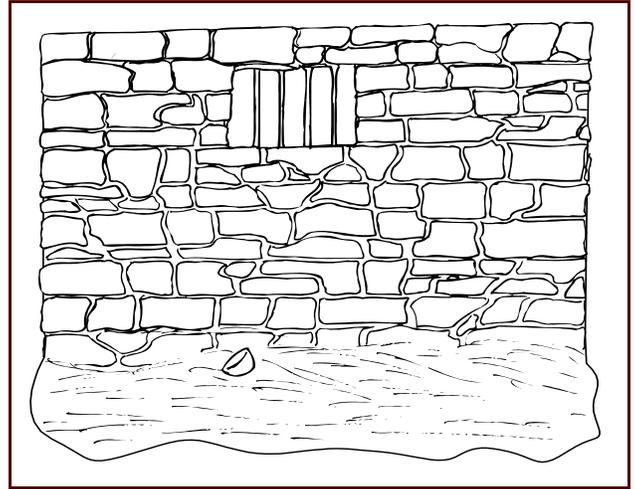
Acts 16:9-40

Does this prison look like a good place to spend time?

Today we will hear about Paul and Silas going to prison and how God used them in prison to spread His Word.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, we thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, on that great mission to save us from our sins. Thank You for showing us the importance of needing a Savior. Please open the hearts of unbelievers in all places to recognize the fact that they are powerless to save themselves. Finally, please continue to provide pastors and teachers of Your Word so that all may be brought to repentance and the knowledge of their salvation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Acts 16:9-40

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." {10} Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

{11} Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, {12} and from there to Philippi,

which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. {13} And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. {14} Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. {15} And when she and her



household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." So she persuaded us.

{16} Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. {17} This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." {18} And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. {19} But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities.

{20} And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; {21} "and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." {22} Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. {23} And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. {24} Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

{25} But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to

them. {26} Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. {27} And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. {28} But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

{29} Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. {30} And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

{31} So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." {32} Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. {33} And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. {34} Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

{35} And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Let those men go."

{36} So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace."

{37} But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come

themselves and get us out."

{38} And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans. {39} Then they came and

pleaded with them and brought them out, and asked them to depart from the city. {40} So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

Outer Aim - God used Paul to teach about Jesus and salvation to a prison warden and then to his family.

Review - Answer the following questions from the Bible lesson.

1. What happened that Paul decided to go to Macedonia?
2. Who was the first Christian in Macedonia to be baptized with her household?
3. Why were Paul and Silas thrown in prison?
4. How did Paul and Silas glorify God in prison?
5. How did Paul convince the jailer not to take his own life?
6. What important question did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?

7. After the jailer was converted, how did he treat Paul and Silas?
8. What was the reason Paul did not want to leave the city secretly?
9. Where did Paul and Silas go after leaving prison?

Inner Aim

God sends believers into the world with the Gospel message in order to rescue those lost in sin.

What Did You Learn?

1. What should you do with the knowledge of your salvation?
2. Where and when might you have opportunity to do this?
3. Even what should not prevent you from doing this?

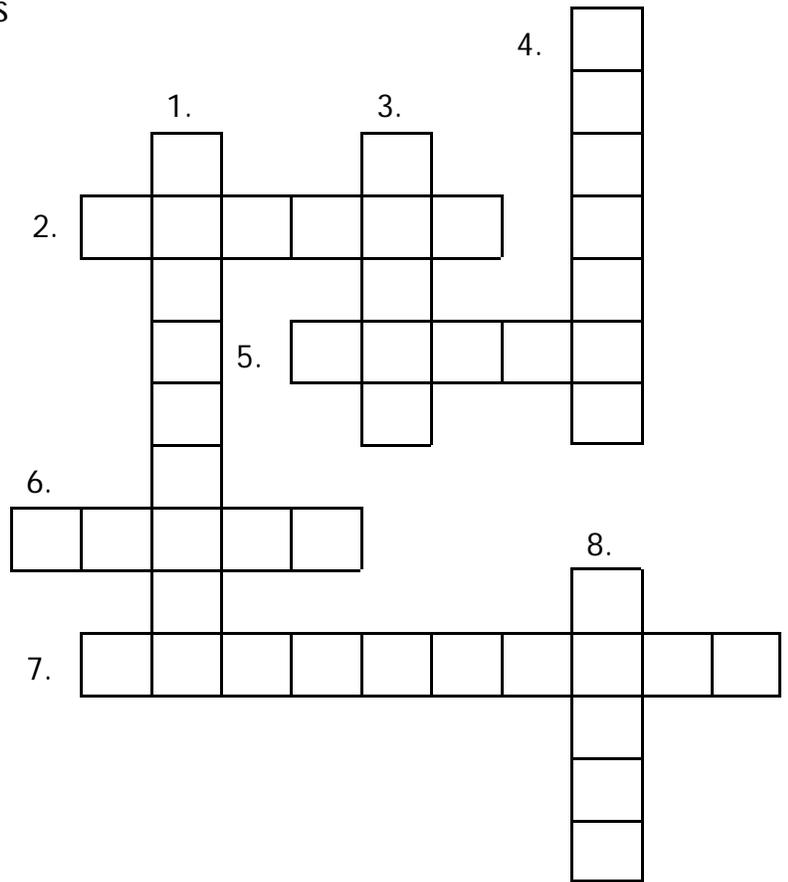
Puzzle - Crossword puzzle. Use the words in the box at the bottom for the answers.

Across:

2. The _____ took Paul and Silas to his home to preach to his family about Jesus.
5. Paul and _____ traveled to Philippi.
6. They sang _____ of praise to God while in prison.
7. An _____ shook the prison and the locks came open.

Down:

1. In Paul's vision, the man said, "Come over to _____ and help us."
3. Paul commanded the _____ to come out of the girl.
4. The jailer wanted Paul and Silas to give the rite of _____ to his whole family.
8. The jailer cried, "What must I do to be _____?"



baptism	songs	earthquake	saved
Macedonia	jailer	devil	Silas

Passages

Mt. 28:18 - All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

What two commands does God give us in this passage?

Gal.6:6 - Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

How should we treat those who bring us God's Word?

Mt. 5:11 - Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

How should we feel about standing up for God's Word even if bad things happen?

Hymn - TLH #179

On my heart imprint Thine image, blessed Jesus, King of Grace
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures have no pow'r Thee to efface.
This the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my Life, my hope's Foundation, and my Glory and Salvation. Amen

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank You for blessing us with the wonderful news of our salvation. Please grant us the Holy Spirit to give us the strength and courage to proclaim this good news wherever and whenever You give us the opportunity. Allow the Holy Spirit to carry out that great work through humble individuals like us. In all things let Your will be done. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Paul and the Jailer at Philippi

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These flags show the countries our church has workers spreading God's Word.

How can you help these missionaries?

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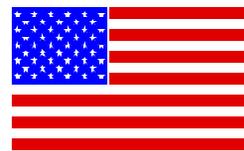
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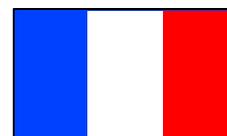
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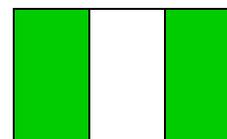
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Canada



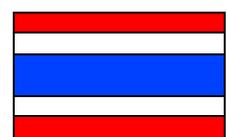
France



Nigeria



India



Thailand



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How should we feel about standing up for God's Word even if bad things happen?

Rom. 2:15a: - Who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness.

What is in each person's heart telling them the law?

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