

# 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

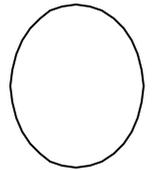
Silas to his own house. He got his whole family up to hear about Jesus, the Savior from sin. How happy the jailer was to know what God had done for him! That very night the jailer and all of his family were baptized. He gave Paul and Silas food to eat and washed and

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

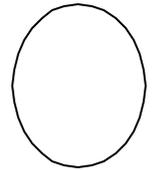
The next day, when they were released from prison, many believers came to see Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas urged these new Christians to keep on trusting in Jesus.

**Activity** - Draw a face to answer the question.

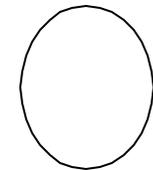
1. How did the girl feel when the devil came out of her?



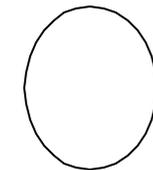
2. How did her masters feel when she could not make money for them?



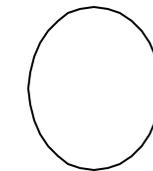
3. How did Paul and Silas feel when they sang songs to God in prison?



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

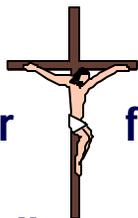
Holy Spirit.

**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.

