



3, 2, 1...Freeze!

Paul and Silas in Jail

BIG IDEA: I can tell others about Jesus.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 16:16–40

KEY VERSE: “[Jesus] said to them, ‘Go into all the world. Preach the good news to everyone.’” Mark 16:15

★ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

EARTHQUAKE SHAKE

Supplies: Building blocks, cookie sheet (1)

Directions: Place the cookie sheet on the floor or table. Have the children work together to build a jail on the cookie sheet using the building blocks. When finished, have the children place their hands on the edges of the cookie sheet. When you shout, “Earthquake!” have the children begin shaking the cookie sheet until the jail falls down. Build another jail and repeat for as long as time and interest allow.

Say: Today’s true Bible story is about two men named Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas were in jail when God sent a BIG earthquake. We’re going to find out what happened to them in just a little bit. Their story is going to teach us that **we can tell others about Jesus.**

Question: Can you shake like an earthquake? Show me!

★ LARGE GROUP LESSON



★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

I'VE GOT SOMETHING

Supplies: None

Directions: Tell the children to stand in a circle. Next, choose two children to form a bridge by facing each other and putting their hands together high in the air. As a group, sing the song below to the tune of "London Bridge." While singing, have the group walk in a circle, passing between the two children and below the "bridge." When the song is finished, have the two children who are forming the bridge lower their arms around the child below. Ask the "captured" child who they would like to tell about Jesus. Next, have the "captured" child replace one of the children in the bridge and repeat. Continue playing until every child has been captured.

Song:

I've got something to tell you, to tell you, to tell you.

I've got something to tell you, Jesus loves you.

Say: Not everyone knows that Jesus loves them. That's why Jesus wants us to tell others about Him. We can tell everyone we know, "Jesus loves you!"

Question: What else can we tell people about Jesus?

GOOD NEWS BRACELET (Application Activity)

Supplies: Pipe cleaners (1 per child), letter beads (large assortment), pony beads (10 per child), "Jesus Loves You" printout.

Directions: Give each child a pipe cleaner and 10 colored pony (round) beads. Place the letter beads in the middle of the group along with the sign that says, "Jesus loves you." Tell the children to create a bracelet by threading the letters onto their pipe cleaner so that it spells "Jesus loves you." They can use a pony bead to separate each word. They can look at the sign in the middle to help them with the order of the letters. While they're creating, ask the children to think about who they could give their bracelet to. When finished, help the children complete their bracelet by twisting the ends together.

Say: Wow—those are beautiful bracelets! We could give these bracelets to people who don't know the good news about Jesus. The bracelets can help us tell people, "Jesus loves you!"

Question: Who are you going to give your bracelet to?

OVER UNDER RACE (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Ball or balloon (1 per group)

Today's Bible verse:

"[Jesus] said to them (*spread arms like a cross*), 'Go into all the world (*alternate pointing in different directions with both hands*). Preach the good news (*cup hands around mouth*) to everyone (*splay hands out with palms up*).'" Mark 16:15 (*extend hands like you're holding a*



book).

Directions: Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, divide the children into two groups. Have the children in one group line up, single-file, facing the same direction with about 12 inches of space between each child. Give the ball or balloon to the child in the front of the line. Have that child pass the ball with both hands over their head to the child behind them. The child behind them must receive the ball with both hands and pass it under/between their legs to the child behind them. Each child must alternate between passing the ball over their head and under their legs until it reaches the end of the line.

At the same time, the other group must recite the Bible verse aloud with hand motions while the first group is passing the ball. If they can recite the entire verse before the ball reaches the end of the line, they win the round. Have the groups switch roles and repeat. Continue playing rounds for as long as interest allows.

WIGGLE FREEZE (Bible Story Review Activity)

Supplies: None

Directions: Tell the children that when you say, “Wiggle,” they can move and wiggle in whatever way they want, but when you say, “Freeze,” they have to stop and remain totally still until someone is caught moving. Begin by repeatedly saying “Wiggle” for as long as you would like, then say “Freeze!” The children will freeze in place. Watch closely to see which child moves first. Whichever child moves first, ask that child what happened first in today’s Bible story. (They don’t have to tell the whole story, just the first part.) If necessary, allow the other children to help. When finished, begin saying “Wiggle” again and repeat the above instructions. For each additional round, ask the child who moves first to tell what happened next in the story. Continue playing until the whole story has been told.

COLORING SHEET AND SNACK TIME (GO! Deeper Activity)

Directions: Give each child a Bible story coloring sheet and some crayons or markers. While the children are coloring, give them a snack to eat and ask the following questions to help them go deeper into the story:

Question: Why do you think the guard and His family were so happy when they heard about Jesus?

Question: If you were Paul and Silas, what would you have told the guard about Jesus?

Say: In today’s Bible story, Paul and Silas told the guard and his family about Jesus. **We can tell people about Jesus too.** Let’s say a prayer and ask Jesus to help us tell the people we know about Him.

Prayer: Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they’re finished, close the prayer by asking Jesus to give the children courage and strength to tell their friends about Him.