

The Apostles and the High Council - May 9

**Parents:** The apostles experienced incredible events. Take for instance when they were put in jail and an angel of the Lord released them during the night to carry out their mission of spreading the good news of Jesus. Let's take a closer look at this incredible story and see how we too can share the love and forgiveness we have in Jesus.



**Read: 5:17-32, 41-42 The Apostles Persecuted**

17 Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. 20 "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life." 21 At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. 22 But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, 23 "We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." 24 On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to. 25 Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." 26 At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. 27 The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. 28 "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." 29 Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! 30 The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. 31 God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. 32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." 41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. 42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

**Discuss:** The apostles, Jesus' followers, were arrested and put in jail. What happened overnight? *An angel of the Lord opened the jail doors and brought them out.* What did the angel of the Lord tell them to do. *Go to the temple courts and tell the people about a new life in Jesus.*

In the morning the high priest sent officers to the jail for the apostles. What did they find? *The jail was securely locked with guards on duty but the apostles weren't there.* Where did they end up finding them? *The apostles were in the temple courts teaching the people.*

The disciples were taken to the High Council and questioned. They had told them not to teach in Jesus' name, but they had done it anyway. What did Peter and the other apostles reply, *"We must obey God rather than human beings!"*

What was the good news that they were teaching? *God raised Jesus from the dead and exalted Him, or put at the highest level. Jesus is our Savior and through Him we are forgiven from our sins.*

Did Peter and the apostles ever stop teaching about Jesus. *They never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.* Do we need to share the good news of Jesus even under tough times like the apostles did? *Yes!*

**Key Point: Share the Good News of Jesus**



Share the (Take one flat hand move it towards your body and out to others, repeat)  
Good News of Jesus (Make "O" shape with one hand bring to mouth like blowing a horn, next,  
tap one finger in the center of the flat palm of the opposite hand)

**Family Activity:** Color the sheet included. Think of ways you can share the good news of Jesus with others.

**Prayer:** Dear God, We praise You for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. By the power of the Holy Spirit give us ways to share this wonderful news with others. We thank and love You. Amen.

**Next Steps:** Memorize Acts 5:42b They never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

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Acts 5:42b

