

Paul and Silas - June 6

Parents: Paul and Silas found themselves in a difficult spot—a prison cell. They could have complained or tried to come up with an escape plan, but instead, they prayed and sang hymns to God. The Lord provided not only for them in their time of need, but the jailer and his entire household, too!



Read: Acts 16:24-36 Paul and Silas in Prison

24 When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. 25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26

Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" 29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household. 35 When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: "Release those men." 36 The jailer told Paul, "The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace."

Discuss: What were Paul and Silas doing around midnight in the jail cell? *In their time of need Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God.* What were the other prisoners doing? *Listening to them.*

What happened suddenly? *An earthquake shook the building. The doors flew open and the chains came loose.* When the jailer woke up and thought all the prisoners had escaped, what did Paul shout? *He told the jailer not to hurt himself because all the prisoners were still there.* The jailer knew that Paul and Silas served a God that saves. Paul and Silas spoke the word of the Lord and baptized him and his entire household. What was the jailer filled with? *He was filled with joy because he had come to believe in the Lord Jesus.*

What happened to Paul and Silas the very next day? *They were released.* Paul, Silas, and the jailer were all in a time of need. Who helped them and who can help us, too? *Jesus.*

Key Point: Jesus Helps Us in Time of Need

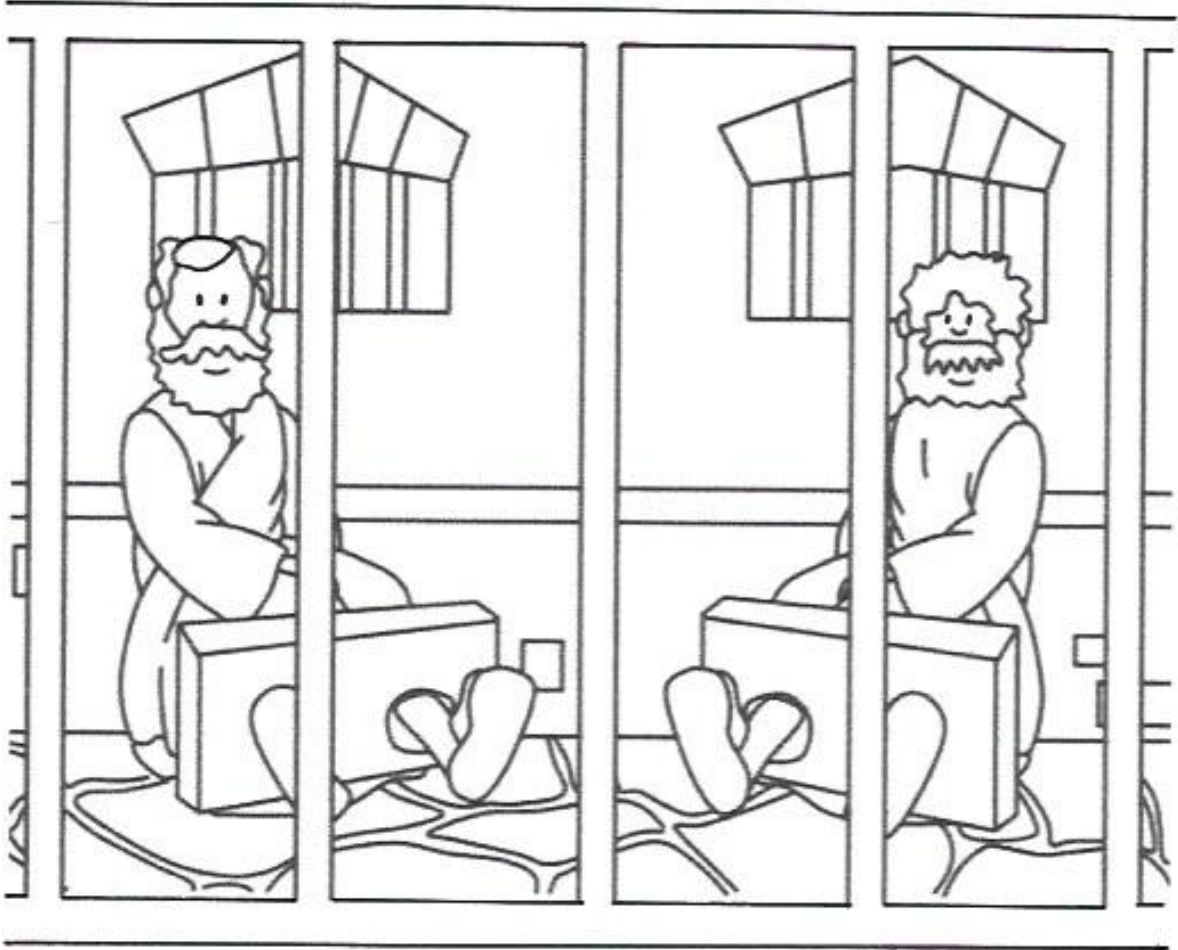
Jesus Helps Us (Tap one finger into center of opposite palm, then make a fist and place it on your open palm, point to yourself)

In Time of Need (If you were wearing a watch point to it, clasp both hands together draw in towards your heart)

Family Activity: Color the sheet included. Think of times when Jesus has answered your prayer. When challenges come your way this week say, "Lord Jesus, please help me with _____."

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for sending Jesus to save us.. We know we can't do it all on our own. Remind us to always come to You for help. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize Acts 16:26b At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.



Jesus Helps Us in Time of Need

Acts 16:26b - At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.

Lord Jesus, please help me with _____ today.