

June 24, 2018 – World Changers

Bible Story Focus: The Plan to Stop Paul
Acts 23

Memory Verse: To me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. Philippians 1:21

Main Point: God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus.

Big Picture Question: When should we tell others about Jesus? We should tell about Jesus all the time.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer the following activities as Your 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive.

1. Toss an animal cube

What you do - Print, cut out, and assemble the "Animal Movement Cube." Invite a child to toss the cube. The child will lead the group to move like the animal shown faceup on the cube. Mention today's Bible story each time a horse is selected and direct preschooler's attention to the Bible story picture poster.

What you SAY - The army commander sent soldiers to move Paul on horseback to another city late at night. God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus. Even when others wanted to hurt Paul, Paul trusted God. God showed His love for the world by sending Jesus, and Paul believed God would help him through hard times. Like Paul, we can obey God no matter what because we know God loves us and takes care of us. Build barracks Tape connecting rectangles on the floor. Show how to

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible

Introduce the Bible story

Welcome children to the group. Show items that are used to protect us (hand sanitizer, bike helmet, sunscreen, sunglasses, flotation device, picture of fire alarm). Discuss potential dangers and how each item offers protection.

What you SAY -These items can help to keep us from danger. Paul was in danger because he kept on preaching about Jesus. But God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus. Let's hear about it in our Bible story.

Watch or tell the Bible story

Place a bookmark at Acts 23 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

What you SAY - This Bible is a very special book. It tells us everything God wants us to know. Today's Bible story comes from the Book of Acts in the New Testament.

PLAY BIBLE STORY – The Plan to Stop Paul

Talk about the Bible story

What you SAY - God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus. Paul trusted God; he knew God wanted people to know that He loved the world so much that He sent His Son, Jesus.

Ask the following review questions:

1. Why were some of the Jews not happy with Paul? (They didn't want Paul to preach about Jesus.)
2. When the crowd wanted to hurt Paul, who arrested Paul to protect him? (commander of the Roman army)
3. What did the Lord tell Paul in a dream? ("Have courage!" Paul would tell people about Jesus in Rome.)
4. When the Jews came up with a new plan to hurt Paul, who warned him? (Paul's nephew)
5. How did the soldiers get Paul out of the city? (on a horse)

Learn the big picture question

What you SAY - Paul knew how important it was to tell everyone about Jesus. Our big picture question is, When should we tell others about Jesus? We should tell about Jesus all the time. Like Paul, we can tell others about Jesus no matter what and no matter when because we know God loves us and takes care of us.

Practice the key passage

Open your Bible to Philippians 1:21. Read the key passage aloud several times.

What you SAY - Paul knew the angry people could have killed him. Paul was not afraid to die. He knew he would be with Jesus, which was even better.

Transition to experience the story

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 25 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. Create a sun visor

What you need – Paper plates, large craft sticks, crayons or markers

What you do - Cut a paper plate into a half-moon shape for each preschooler. Punch a hole each corner. Tape or glue a large craft stick to the side for a handle to create a visor. Encourage a child to personalize her visor with crayons and stickers.

What you SAY - When you are outdoors in the sun, your eyes may need protection from the bright sunlight. When you wear a visor, it will protect your eyes. Some people became angry when Paul told people about Jesus; they tried to hurt him. Paul needed protection from the people. God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus.

2 . Bible Story Coloring Page

Snack

Gather preschoolers for snack time. Thank God for the snack. Talk about how the soldiers brought a horse for Paul to ride to get to a safe place in another city. Talk about how God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus. Remind preschoolers of the big picture question and answer. When should we tell others about Jesus? We should tell about Jesus all the time. Pray for the children.

What you SAY - God, thank You for protecting Paul so he could keep on telling people about how much You love them. Remind us of how You love us and care for us. Make us bold to tell others about how You love them and sent Your Son, Jesus, to rescue them from sin. Amen.