

## Paul Prays in Prison

There was once a man named Paul who traveled the world telling people about Jesus. One day, Paul and his friend Silas were in a place called Phillipi. While they were there, a young girl came up to Paul. This young girl had an evil spirit that allowed her to tell the future and the people she worked for were very mean to her. They would have her tell the future and they would try to make money from the things she said. When Paul met this girl, he cured her of her evil spirit. This made the bad men very angry with Paul. They could no longer make money for knowing the future. The men threw a fit and told everyone that Paul and Silas were troublemakers who were breaking the law. Paul and Silas were captured and beaten. Then they were thrown in jail and not just regular jail. They were thrown into the inner dungeon part of the jail and the guard was told to watch them carefully and not let them escape. The jailer took Paul and Silas's feet and put them into boards called "stocks". These boards had holes just big enough for a man's foot to fit through and if their foot was in the hole they couldn't move.

That night as Paul and Silas were locked in the inner jail, they prayed and sang songs praising God. All the other prisoners could hear Paul and Silas singing and worshiping God. Then, at midnight, there was a great earthquake that shook the entire jail. It shook so hard that

all the doors of the jail opened, and all the stocks were loosened. The prisoners were no longer trapped, they could escape. When the jailer woke up from his sleep, he saw the doors of the jail were opened. He knew he would be in big trouble for letting the prisoners escaped. He might even be killed for not doing his job. So he took his out his sword and he was going to kill himself before anyone else could see what had happened. Just then Paul yelled, “Don’t hurt yourself, we are all still here.” The prisoners didn’t run away even though they could have. The jailer ran in to Paul and Silas. He knew God had done a big thing and he wanted to know more about God and His love. Then the jailer took Paul and Silas to his house. He cleaned up their sores and fed them. Then because he believed what Paul and Silas had told him about Jesus and God’s love, he was baptized.

The next day Paul and Silas were set free. They no longer had to be in jail. So, they left to tell more people about Jesus.

1. Why were people mad that Paul had helped the girl?
2. What happened to Paul and Silas when the men threw a fit and called them troublemakers?
3. What part of the prison did they put Paul and Silas?
4. What did they put on Paul and Silas’s feet?
5. What did Paul and Silas do while they were in prison?
6. What happened at midnight?
7. Why did the jailer want to hurt himself?
8. Where did the jailer take Paul and Silas?
9. What happened at the jailer’s house?