

Jesus Stories with Jolly

By Jill Crowder

Paul Prays
in Prison



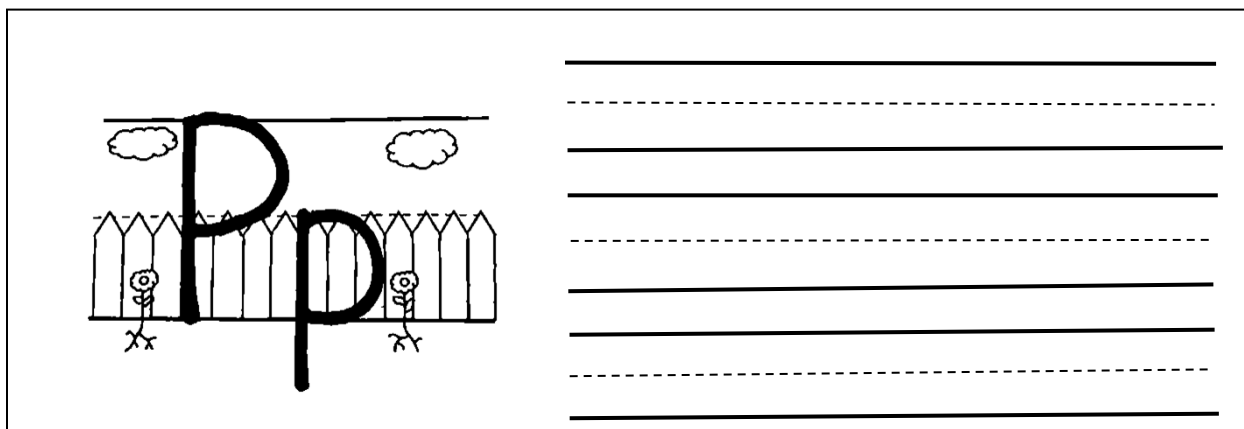
Preschool
Edition

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.

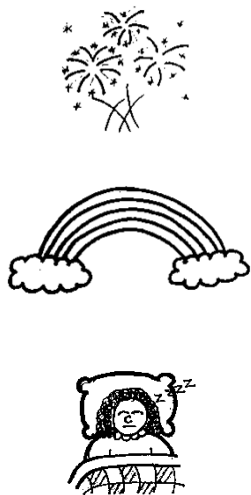
The next day Paul and Silas were set free. They no longer had to be in jail. So, they left to tell more people about Jesus.



The jailer thought Paul and Silas had escaped because that's what most people in prison would have tried to do. They didn't escape, they stayed. They did the opposite of what the jailer thought they would do. Look at the pictures below. Draw a line matching the picture on the top to its opposite on the bottom.



The earthquake that shook open the doors of the prison happened at midnight. Midnight is 12:00. Every day the clock will say 12:00 two different times. One time is called "noon" and it happens around lunch time. Midnight is the other 12:00. It is the exact time that it becomes a new day, but it happens in the middle of the night. Look at the pictures below. All the pictures are happening at exactly 12:00. Draw a line to the sun if it is the noon 12:00. Draw a line to the moon if it is the midnight 12:00.



Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and
thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31

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Stocks

-Boards with circle holes used to hold a prisoner still by their feet.

The jailer put Paul's feet in stocks. Draw a picture of the stocks with Paul's feet sticking out.

- I was traveling through Phillipi telling people about Jesus.
- I was beaten and thrown into prison.
- I sang songs and praised God in prison.
- The earthquake shook the stocks off my feet.
- I went to the jailer's house.
- I am not Paul.

Who am I?

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Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt
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