

## Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2026, Week 3

**Today's Bible Story:** Paul and Silas • Acts 16:16-40

I can pray to God.

**Key Question:** What does the Bible teach you?

**Bottom Line:** The Bible teaches me the best things.

**Memory Verse:** *"Your word is truth" (John 17:17 NIV).*

## Supplies Not Included in the Activity Bags

**Social: Providing time for fun interaction**

**Play Doh Mats**

- Paul and Silas play doh mat
- Playdoh

**Sensory Bin**

- Paul and Silas Sensory Bin Materials
- Sensory bin
- Beans or brown paper

**Lesson Activities**

**Memory Verse Activity- Emotions**

**Bible Story Review- Paul and Silas Move**

**Application Activity- Prayer Time**

- ☐ 3 buckets or bins

**Craft- Finish the Story**

- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

**Journal and Prayer**

## Summary of Bible Story- Paul and Silas

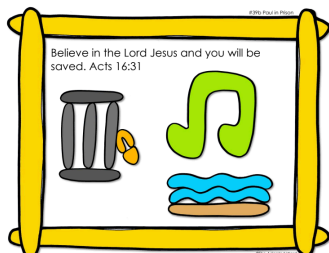
The Bible teaches us that we can pray to God. Paul and Silas were sitting in a dark jail cell, and they began singing and praying to God! Paul and Silas knew that they could talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything, so that's what they did. They had no idea that their prayers would end up changing the life of the jailer who was guarding them as well as his entire family. They all ended up following Jesus! Paul and Silas prayed to God, and we can pray to God, too.

## ***Social - Providing Time for Fun Interaction***

### **Play Doh Mat (not for Walkertown)**

#### Supplies Needed:

- ☐ Playdoh
- ☐ mats



#### Talk ABOUT:

- Paul preached in many places.
- Silas helped Paul.
- In one city, Paul made people angry.
- The angry people had Paul and Silas arrested.
- Even in jail, Paul and Silas praised God.
- The other prisoners listened to Paul and Silas.
- Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! The chains on the prisoners came loose.
- The guard thought the prisoners had escaped and that he was in trouble.
- When Paul told the guard that all the prisoners were still there, the guard wanted to believe in Jesus.

#### Would You Rather:

- Preach about Jesus or be in jail?
- Be a guard or a prisoner?
- Worship God or not believe in God?
- Have steady ground or an earthquake?
- Believe in Jesus or not believe in Jesus?

### **Sensory Bin**

#### Supplies Needed:

- ☐ Dry beans
- ☐ Paul and Silas in Prison sensory bin materials
- ☐ Sensory bin

#### Talk About:

Use story strip to talk through the story

- Why were Paul and Silas arrested?
- Why do you think Paul and Silas were worshipping God in jail?
- Why do you think the prisoners didn't leave after the earthquake?
- Would you have left after the earthquake?
- How was the guard's life changed?
- How has Jesus changed your life?

## ***Lesson Activities***

### **1. Memory Verse Activity- Emotions**

#### **What You Need:**

- ☐ No supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

1. Say the Memory Verse as you do the motions together.
2. Do the motions as you say the verse with different emotions.
3. Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

#### **What You Say:**

##### *Before the Activity:*

"Friends, come stand with me, and let's say our verse together as we do the motions.

'Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*)  
is truth,' (*move index finger forward from mouth*)  
John 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*)

Great job everyone!"

##### *During the Activity:*

"Let's say the verse with different emotions! Let's say it sad. (*Act sad 'Your (point up) word (open hands like a book) is truth,' (move index finger forward from mouth) John 17:17. (Open hands like a book.)*) Let's do it again but this time let's say it with a mad face. (*Furrow your brow and repeat the verse.*) What about silly? (*Make a silly voice and repeat the verse.*) Okay, last time let's say it happy. (*Make your happiest, biggest smile and repeat the verse.*) Fantastic! That was my favorite!"

##### *After the Activity:*

"The Bible teaches us the best things like we can pray anywhere, anytime, about anything just like Paul and Silas did in our Bible Story today. **What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.** That's right friends."

## 2. Bible Story Review- Paul and Silas Move

### What You Need:

- ☐ No supplies needed

### What You Do:

1. Gather children around you in an open space of your activity area.
2. Retell the Bible Story and encourage the children to participate with fun motions.
3. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

#### Before the Activity:

"Friends, come over here with me. We are going to move our bodies and retell our true story from the Bible!"

#### During the Activity:

"Today, we heard a story about two friends of Jesus named Paul and Silas. Can you do the sign for "Friend" (*hook index fingers together, one on top of the other, alternating fingers*). Great job!

Paul and Silas loved Jesus, and they told people everywhere that Jesus wanted to be their friend forever. Can you make the sign for "friend" again? (*Hook index fingers together, one on top of the other, alternating fingers.*)

But one day, people got upset with them and put them in jail. Everyone sit down on the ground and make a sad face. (*Sit down and make a sad face*)

Jail is not a fun place. But Paul and Silas knew that they could pray and talk to God anytime and anywhere! Can you put your hands together like you are praying? (*Make prayer hands.*)

One night while Paul and Silas were praying the ground began to shake! Everyone, shake your body! (*Shake.*)

It was an earthquake! Everyone keep shaking! (*Shake.*)

Great job, now freeze! (*Stop shaking and stand still.*)

Then suddenly, the doors to the jail flew open! Everyone stand up! (*Stand up.*)

But Paul and Silas didn't leave! Everyone sit down. (*Sit down*)

Paul and Silas stayed and told the guard that Jesus loved HIM and wanted to be HIS friend forever, too! And guess what? That day the guard decided to follow Jesus and knew that he could pray and talk to God anytime and anywhere! Did you know that we can pray and talk to God too? It's true! We can pray to God anytime and anywhere!"

#### After the Activity:

"Great job everyone! Wasn't that a fun way to tell the Bible Story? The Bible teaches us that we can pray and talk to God anytime and anywhere! **[Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things. What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**"

### 3. Application Activity- Anytime, Anywhere, Anything



#### What You Need:

- ☐ “Anytime, Anywhere, Anything” Activity Page
- ☐ “Anytime, Anywhere, Anything Sentence” Activity Page
- ☐ Small, plastic bins, three per Small Group

#### What You Do:

1. Place the picture cards into three separate bins (time, place or topic) according to the type of picture.
2. Choose three volunteers (one for each pile). Each child picks a card from their assigned category (time, place, topic). Help them place the cards into the sentence strip. Read the sentence out loud with motions or voice changes to keep it fun! Repeat with different children and combinations so everyone gets a turn.

#### What You Say:

##### Before the Activity

“We’re going to play a game where we build a sentence to learn something we can do anytime, anywhere, and about anything!”

##### During The Activity

“There are three bins with different pictures. I need three helpers. *(Call three children up to the table.)* Let’s build our first sentence.

[Child’s name], pick one card from the first bin and place it on the first blank. *(Pause.)*

Now [child’s name], pick a card from the second bin and place it on the second blank. *(Point.)* Great!

Now, [child’s name], pick a card from the third bin and place it on the third blank. *(Pause.)*

Fantastic! You just built a sentence! When I point to the picture you picked, tell me what it is. *(Point to the words as you read.)*

I can pray *(Point to the first picture and pause for the child to describe the picture.)* [in the morning/at night] ...

*(Point to the second picture and pause for the child to describe the picture)* at the [place] about ...

*(Point to the last picture and pause for the child to describe the picture.)* [thing].

Thank you for building a great sentence! *(Place cards back in the bins and mix them up.)* Let's have some other friends build one. *(Call three different children and assign them to each bin. Continue until each child has a turn.)*

That was so fun building sentences about when and where and what we can pray about."

*After the Activity:*

"Do you know who else prayed anytime, anywhere, and about anything? Two of Jesus' friends were named Paul and Silas! "

## 4. Craft- Finish the Story



### What You Need:

- ☐ “Finish the Story” Activity Page
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

### What You Do:

1. Write each child's name on their paper.
2. Encourage children to color their pictures and cut each one out. As you retell the Bible Story, ask children to glue their pictures to the correct spaces.

### What You Say:

1. “Come sit at the table with me and let's create some story art!”
2. “Today, we learned about Paul and Silas and how they prayed to God anytime and anywhere. Let's color the pictures on the side of your paper. *(Pause.)* Great job coloring! Now take a pair of scissors and cut along those dotted lines. *(Help as needed.)* Okay, now let's talk through the story, and I'll tell you where and when to add each picture. Ready? Paul and Silas went around and told everyone everywhere that Jesus wanted to be their friend forever. This made some people so upset they put Paul and Silas in jail. Find your picture of Paul and Silas in jail. *(Pause.)* Find the square with the number one *(point)*, rub some glue on it, then press your picture down. *(Pause.)*

“Paul and Silas knew that God still loved them, even though they were in jail, and they could pray and talk to God anywhere and at any time. Find your picture of Paul and Silas praying. *(Pause.)* Find the square with the number two *(point)* rub some glue on it, then press your picture down. *(Pause.)*

“While Paul and Silas were praying, the ground began to shake and the doors to the jail flew wide open! Find your picture of Paul and Silas in jail with the door wide open. *(Pause.)* Find the square with the number three *(point)*, rub some glue on it, then press your picture down. *(Pause.)*

“Paul and Silas didn't leave; they chose to stay at the jail to tell the guard that God loves him and that Jesus wants to be his friend forever. Then the guard decided to love God and follow

Jesus, too. Find your picture of Paul and Silas talking to the guard. *(Pause.)* Find the square with the number four *(point)*, rub some glue on it, then press your picture down. *(Pause.)* Great job! Now you have a piece of story art!”

3. “Paul and Silas knew they could pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything. We can pray to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything too! The Bible has God’s words in it, and the Bible teaches us the BEST things! **What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**”



## 5. Journal and Prayer

### What You Need:

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

### What You Do:

1. Lead the children to your Small Group spot by shaking like an earthquake.
2. Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions.
3. Pray with children using the list you made in the journal.

### What You Say:

#### Before the Activity:

"It's Small Group time! Today, let's walk to our Small Group spot. and shake our bodies like an earthquake. Ready. Set. Go! (*Shake your body as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Woah. That was fun! Now, let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

#### During the Activity:

(*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, Paul and Silas prayed and talked to God, even when they were in jail. Then, after the ground shook and the doors to the jail opened, Paul and Silas chose to stay and tell the guard that Jesus wanted to be his friend forever, too! Paul and Silas knew that God loved them, and that they could pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere! We can pray and talk to God anytime and anywhere, too!"

"We're learning a Bible verse to help us remember that what the Bible teaches us is true. Our verse says, 'Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*) is truth,' (*move index finger forward from mouth*) John 17:17 (*open hands like a book*). Let's stand up and say that together. 'Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*) is truth,' (*move index finger forward from mouth*) John 17:17 (*open hands like a book*). I'm so glad we have the Bible to teach us the best things! **What does the Bible teach you?** **[Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**"

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Since Paul and Silas knew that they could pray and talk to God anywhere, we are going to make a list of places we can pray to God. When I say your name, tell me one place you can pray and talk to God, and I will write it in our journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

#### After the Activity:

"This is a great list of places we can pray to God! (*Hold up journal.*) Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for giving us the Bible to teach us what is true. Thank You that we can pray and talk to You when we are at (*read the list the children made*). We love you, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."