

# ELEMENTARY PARENT CONNECTION

## TODAY FROM GOD'S WORD



**Paul and Silas in Jail**  
Acts 16:16-40

After you read the bible story, ask your child the following questions:

- Where were Paul and Silas: locked up in jail or inside Minecraft?
- Did Paul and Silas still have joy?
- How do we know that Paul and Silas had joy: because they were whining or they were singing?
- Who decided to follow Jesus because of Paul and Silas' joy: Batman or the jailer?

When other people see the joy we have because we trust Jesus they will want to change and have that same joy, too. We can choose to have joy by believing that God loves us and is going to take care of whatever challenge we are facing!

## NEED TO KNOW

JOY is something you have when Jesus lives in your heart. It's different from being happy, because JOY means believing that God loves us and is going to take care of whatever challenge we are facing. When we are faced with a tough situation, we can choose joy instead of fear or anger! That's what we Need to Know today:

I Will Keep On (thumbs to chest)  
Choosing Joy! (pat heart)

## MEMORY VERSE

Video games are kind of like a race - you want to play in a way that you will win, right? In this new Memory Verse, we are talking about winning a prize. The prize Jesus promises in the verse is life with Him!

"In a race all the runners run. (run in place)  
But only one gets the prize...  
(hold up one finger)

So run in a way that will get you the prize."  
(point out)

1 Corinthians 9:24 (hold up nine fingers)



Spending time getting to know God is awesome! Reading His word, the Bible, is one way but we can also talk with God everyday! Anytime and any place. He is always listening. What could you talk to God about right now?

Heavenly Father, thank for loving me so much. Help me to choose to follow you and to trust you. Help me to remember that you love me and have great plans for my life. Thank you for listening to my prayers! In Jesus' name, amen.