

CITY SG July 8-10, 2023

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group.

1. Red Light/Green Light Story Review

What You Need: carpet tape

What You Do:

- Have the kids line up shoulder to shoulder on one side of your area and place a tape line on the other side.
- Play a game of red light/green light. When you say “green light,” kids will run until you say “red light.” They should stop in place.
- If anyone is still running after you say, Red Light, they should start over at the beginning.
- Each time you stop them by saying “red light”, ask a review question from the list below.
- Play until someone crosses the line.
- Go back and play more rounds until all of the questions are answered or until time allows.
- You can have the kids get to the other side in different ways each round: crawling, hopping, walking backwards, etc.

Review Questions:

1. What city did Paul and his friends go to first in Macedonia? (*Philippi*)
2. Who was Lydia? (*a successful businesswoman*)
3. Why did Lydia offer to open her home to Paul and his friends? (*to host and start a church*)
4. What did Paul command the spirit to do in the name of Jesus? (*to come out of the woman*)
5. How were Paul and Silas treated by the crowd? (*They were arrested.*)
6. What is today's bottom line? (*God can help you find joy.*)
7. What did Paul and Silas do in prison? (*They prayed and praised God.*)
8. How did God's power change the jailer's heart? (*He believed in Jesus.*)

2. Memory Verse Craft

What You Need: Wooden Cross (one per student), markers, stickers, piece of string (one per kid)

What You Do:

- Say this, “Because Paul and Silas trusted Jesus and focused on Him, God helped them find joy—even in an icky, damp prison cell! You can find joy when you think about God, too. One way you can think about God is to think about our memory verse”
- Read this month's memory verse to the group, “*God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift.*” Ephesians 2:8 (NIRV)
- Pass out cross to each child and place the markers and stickers in the middle of the groups.
- Encourage them to decorate their crosses.
- Pass out the string and place it through the hole in the top of the cross. Tie the ends in a knot. Walk around and help kids who need it.
- Tell kids to hang these crosses somewhere at home where they will remember to focus on God no matter what they are facing!

3. Discussion Questions

- What brings you happiness and joy in your life?
- Why is it challenging to have joy in hard situations?
- Do you think you could have been joyful if you were Paul and Silas?
- What are some ways you can focus on God when things are hard? (*listen or sing songs about God, think about all the amazing things God made; read my Bible; listen to Bible stories; think about how much God loves me; etc.*)

4. Pray

- “God, thank You for reminding us—through the story of Paul and Silas—that we can have joy. Thank You for hearing our prayers. Even when life is difficult, You are always with us, helping us find joy while we go through hard times. Help us remember that no matter what we’re going through, **God can help you find joy**. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

EXTRA TIME COLORING SHEETS