



FAMILY ACTIVITIES: PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

FOR YOUNGER KIDS:

EARTHQUAKE SHAKE

Supplies: Building blocks, cookie sheet (1)

Directions: Place the cookie sheet on the floor or table. Have the children work together to build a jail on the cookie sheet using the building blocks. When finished, have the children place their hands on the edges of the cookie sheet. When you shout, “Earthquake!” have the children begin shaking the cookie sheet until the jail falls down. Build another jail and repeat for as long as time and interest allow.

Say: In today’s true Bible story, Paul and Silas were in jail when God sent a BIG earthquake. Instead of escaping, they told the prison guard all about Jesus. Not everyone knows that Jesus loves them. That’s why Jesus wants us to tell others about Him.

Question: Who could you tell about Jesus? What would you tell them?

FOR OLDER KIDS:

BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION

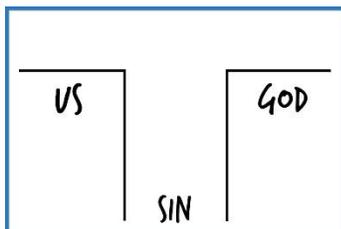
Supplies: Paper and markers

Say: The Bible says that we should always be ready to tell others about Jesus. Sometimes we might feel tongue-tied or not know what to say, but we can use the “Bridge Illustration” to help others learn about Jesus. We’re going to practice drawing that right now.

ROUND 1:

Directions: Give everyone in your family a piece of paper and a marker. Below is an example of how to do the “Bridge Illustration.” Have everyone practice by following the step-by-step instructions below as someone explains each step. Pause to allow everyone to draw it for themselves. Repeat for each step.

Say: This is “Us” and this is “God.” God loves us and wants to be with us, but there’s a problem.



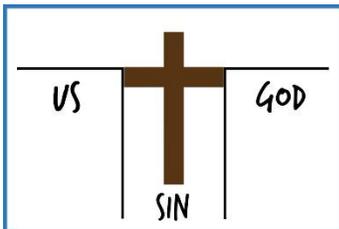


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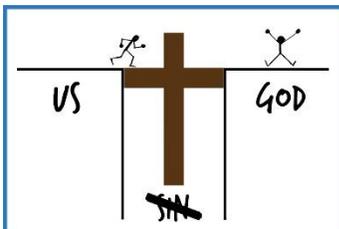
Say: Sometimes, we make bad choices—that's called sin. And when we sin, it separates us from God because God is perfect and we're not.



Say: No matter how hard we try, we can never get to God on our own. No matter how good we are, we'll always fall short of being perfect and we'll always be separated from God, even after we die. But, here's the good news. When Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sins.



Say: When we believe in Jesus and choose to follow Him, our sins are forgiven—that means they're wiped away. And because our sins are now gone, we can be with God forever, even after we die!



ROUND 2:

Directions: Give your kids a second piece of paper. This time, have them take turns drawing the picture on their own and explaining it to the rest of the family.