



# WEEK 3

## PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

YOU'RE  
**INVITED**

### **BIG IDEA**

We can worship God during hard times.

### **THE BIBLE**

**Paul and Silas Worship God in Jail**

Acts 16:20--34

### *THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE*

## **WELCOME TIME**

- **ACTIVITY** | Dance Dice
- **ACTIVITY** | Cone Catch

## **TEACHING TIME**

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **BIBLE STORY** | Acts 16:20-34
- **ACTIVITY** | Duck, Duck Goose
- **PRAYER**

## **DISCUSSION TIME**

- **DISCUSSION**
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Joy Cuffs
- **MEMORY VERSE** | John 1:1

## **PLAY TIME**

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Party Games
- **ACTIVITY** | Paul and Silas in Prison



# WEEK 3

## PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

YOU'RE  
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### **BIG IDEA**

We can worship God during hard times.

### **THE BIBLE**

**Paul and Silas Worship God in Jail:**  
Acts 16:20-34

## **WELCOME TIME**

### **ACTIVITY | Dance Dice**

- **We're in the middle of a series that's all about partying! Who's ready to party today?** Before we get this party started, let's play a fun game.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Dance Dice printable (in your Week 3 folder) on cardstock and tape the pages on the sides of a cube or box.*
- No party is complete without some fun dance moves! Let's take turns rolling the Dance Dice to see what awesome moves we'll be doing. When the music starts, you can come roll the dice and whatever it lands on, do that dance!

### **ACTIVITY | Cone Catch**

- Balloons are something you'll see at almost every party, so let's have some fun with balloons!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split the kids into pairs and give each pair an inflated balloon. Give each kid a cone (a snow cone cup, a funnel, or a small athletic cone). They will toss the balloon to each other and try to catch it in their cone.*
- **What are some of your favorite things to do at parties?**
- We like to play games and eat good food and spend time with our friends when we're at a party, but do you think you could have a party even with no decorations, food or games?
- Yes you can! All you need to have a party is the right attitude and people who are ready to party. Are you guys ready to party?

## TEACHING TIME

### MUSIC | Worship Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can select any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Joyful Noise" by Yancy and, "Deep Cries Out" by Bethel Music Kids.

### THE BIG IDEA | We can worship God during hard times.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
  - Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
  - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
  - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
  - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, read it to the kids.
- This week's Big Idea: **We can worship God during hard times.**

### BIBLE STORY | Acts 16:20-34

- **Have you ever wanted to play with a toy but your friend got to it first? How did it make you feel?**
- It was probably pretty sad to be looking forward to playing with that cool toy, but not being able to play with it.
- Sometimes things don't go our way. Sometimes things even more sad than not getting to play with a toy can happen to us too. In today's story, we're going learn about two men who had something bad happen to them. Their names were Paul and Silas.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- Paul and Silas were in a place where people didn't like hearing about God, so Paul and Silas were put in jail. Now that sounds like a really hard time!
- **Did being in jail keep Paul and Silas from worshipping God?** No! The Bible tells us that Paul and Silas prayed and sang songs of praise to God.
- **Maybe you've never been in jail, but do you think you would want to pray and sing songs to God if your life got really hard?**
- Sometimes things happen in our lives that are hard or make us mad, but we can still worship God even when things are hard.

### ACTIVITY | Duck, Duck, Goose

- We're going to play a classic party game, but with a twist! Duck, Duck, Goose! When you get tagged, go to the middle of the circle, which we're pretending is "jail." If you go to jail, you have to sing "Jesus Loves Me" until you're freed, when the next person comes into the jail.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids sit in a circle and play a game of Duck, Duck, Goose.
- **Was it hard to sing the whole time while you were in the middle of the circle?**
- **Do you think it was hard for Paul and Silas to sing and praise God while they were in jail?**
- **Did anyone have a bad attitude when they got tagged and had to go in the middle of the circle?**
- **How can you have a good attitude even when you're not happy with how things are going?**

**PRAYER**

- Let's spend time with God in prayer. Today, we're going to thank God for being faithful and good to us, even when bad things happen.
- Dear God, thank you for loving us and helping us every day. Thank you for being good in our lives, even when things seem unfair. Help us keep praising you. Amen.

**DISCUSSION TIME**

**DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!
- **Why were Paul and Silas in jail?** (Because people didn't want them to preach about Jesus.)
- **Did Paul and Silas sit quietly in jail and pout and complain that they were there?** (No!)
- **What did Paul and Silas do in jail?** (They prayed to God and sang songs to praise Him.)
- **How did they get out of jail?** (God caused an earthquake to knock down the prison gates.)
- God wants us to be like Paul and Silas. He wants us to worship Him even when things aren't easy.

**ACTIVITY | Circle Time**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using a balloon from the Cone Catch activity, have the kids pass the balloon around the circle. Play a song from Worship Time as they pass the balloon, when you pause the music, whoever is holding the balloon will share about a time in life when it was hard to praise God. Then ask them to share one reason they can praise Him during that time.

**ACTIVITY | Joy Cuffs**

- Even though Paul and Silas were in jail, they had a lot of joy! They knew that even though they were stuck in jail, God still loved them and wanted them to worship Him.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the Joy Cuffs printable (from your Week 3 folder) on cardstock. Cut the cuffs out ahead of time. Using a hole punch, punch a hole on each end of the cuff to lace yarn through to tie the bracelet so it can be worn. Give the kids markers to decorate their bracelets.
- Take your Joy Cuff home to help you to remember that **we can worship God during hard times.** Even when things are difficult, we can have joy like Paul and Silas.

**MEMORY VERSE | John 1:1**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

**IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD** (make a book with your hands in front of you),  
**AND THE WORD** (spread your hands apart like an open book)  
**WAS WITH GOD** (point both arms up)  
**AND THE WORD** (bring hands back down like an open book)  
**WAS GOD** (bring arms back up and point up again).

## PLAY TIME

*While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .*

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them that they can worship God no matter what.

### ACTIVITY | Party Games

- Let's have some fun together and celebrate a fun time at church learning that **we can worship God during hard times**. Let's play a game of Musical Statues.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play music. (You can use the songs recommended in Worship Time.) Have the kids dance while the music plays. When the music stops, have the kids stand as still as possible — like a statue! Any child spotted moving is out. Play until only one child is left dancing.

### ACTIVITY | Paul and Silas in Prison

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Let the kids play with blocks and some play people. Encourage them to build the jail where Paul and Silas were kept. Help them retell the Bible story using the prison they built and the people you provided.

**Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.**