



Tree House

Life Changer – Lesson 3

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Bible Verse: Acts 16:22–34

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.

- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

This is a story from Acts 16 in the Bible. **After Paul leaves** the town of **Antioch, he begins traveling with** a man named **Silas** (1). Everywhere Paul and Silas go, people stop to listen to the Good News about Jesus. Some **people become very angry at Paul and Silas for talking about Jesus and put them in jail** (2). **They put Paul and Silas deep inside the prison and chain them to the walls by their feet so they cannot get away** (3). Soldiers stand and guard the jail to make sure they do not escape.

Paul and Silas pray and sing praises to God (4). Paul and Silas know God is with them and that God is powerful enough to save them. As they are singing, **all of a sudden, there is a great earthquake** (5)! **God makes all of the doors come open and everyone's chains fall off** (6)!

The prison guard wakes up and sees the doors

open. He **is afraid because he thinks Paul and Silas have run away** (7). Paul calls out to him in a loud voice and says, “We are all here!” **The prison guard calls for some light and rushes in to see that Paul and Silas have not run away** (8).

The guard is shaking in fear, and he falls down in front of Paul and Silas. He asks them what he needs to do to be saved. **Paul and Silas tell the guard and his whole family about believing in Jesus. They all believe in Jesus and are baptized** (9). God changes the guard’s heart and life. **He becomes kind to Paul and Silas and washes their wounds and gives them something to eat** (10).

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Review Questions

- 1. Why were Paul and Silas captured and put in jail?** (They were talking about Jesus and telling others about him.)
- 2. What did Paul and Silas do when they were put in prison?** (They prayed and sang praises to God.)
- 3. What happened when Paul and Silas were singing praises to God?** (An earthquake came and opened all the doors and made everyone’s chains fall off.)
- 4. Did Paul and Silas run away after the earthquake?** (No. They stayed until the guard came, and they talked to him about Jesus.)
- 5. What did the guard do when he saw that Paul and Silas were still there?** (He asked what he must do to be saved and believed in Jesus and his life was changed.)

ACTIVITIES:

God Changes Us

Supplies

- Bottle of water (one per bin if sink in room, one per session if not)

- Red food coloring (one per bin)
- Pie plate or roasting pan (for spillage) (one per bin)

Hold up the water bottle (slightly less than full). **What is this?** (Water.) **That is right! It is water.** Hold up food coloring. **Now can anyone tell me what this is? It is red food coloring. Our memory verse tells us that, “Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”** When we add this red food coloring to the water, the water changes color. Add a few drops of food coloring to the water bottle. **When we ask Christ to come into our lives, we are given a brand new life. He changes our hearts just like this water changed color. The water is changed forever and cannot go back to being clear again. The Bible tells us that nothing can separate us from God’s love. “Who can separate us from Christ’s love? Can trouble or hard times or hunger? No! Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.” (Romans 8:35-39)** In today’s Bible lesson, we learned about how Paul praised God during a troubling and scary time. **Paul believed that the one who changed his life loved him and cared about him and knew what was best. He knew nothing could separate him from God’s love because of what Jesus has done.**

** Teachers, if there is a sink in your room, please pour out the red water and rinse the jar/bottle/ cup for the next session.

Keep on Praising

Supplies

Building blocks (in room)

Make a square jail out of the blocks in the classroom. Select one child to be “it” and then have the children get down on the floor and crawl around. Tell them that when they are tagged by the person who is “it” they have to go to jail and sing a song like “Jesus Loves Me” until another child lets them out by touching them on the head gently. Paul and Silas praised God and prayed while they were in jail, and we can remember to praise God when trouble comes

our way too. God is the only one who can change our lives, and he is always with us. He knows best what we need and when we need it.