



Grace Church Elementary

Camp Grace

LESSON 82 SKIT

Principle: God's power cannot be restrained.

Bible Character(s): Paul

Scripture Reference: Acts 16:25-34



PERSONAL PREPARATION:

Before this weekend, read through Acts 16:24-34. God's power was displayed in a mighty way in this passage. Paul and Silas were beaten and imprisoned after casting out a demon from a slave girl. While in prison, they prayed and sang hymns, with the other prisoners listening to them. God, in all His power, sent an earthquake that freed Paul, Silas and all of the prisoners. Paul and Silas did not view their sudden freedom as a chance to escape, but rather an opportunity to witness to the jailer, who was about to kill himself after realizing the prisoners had escaped on his duty. Paul and Silas shared about Jesus with the jailer and his household. They were all saved and baptized that night. Through a seemingly hopeless situation for Paul and Silas, God's power prevailed and led to them being saved from prison, and the jailer and his whole household being saved from the judgment of God

How do you see God's power at work in your life? Do you truly believe that nothing can restrain God's power, and everything is possible with Him? What are you imprisoned to right now, preventing you from being free in Christ? Do you believe that God is powerful enough to release you from that prison? Spend a few minutes in prayer as you think about the worldly imprisonment you might find yourself in. Ask God to show you that He is more than powerful enough to release you into the freedom found only in Christ.



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

1) Run-through/Prayer

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc), assign door greeters, pray, mic check

2) Welcome Cabins

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

Defy Gravity

Give one camper from each cabin a pair of blown up balloons (don't use helium, the balloons should not float on their own). Tell the campers that they have to keep the balloons off the ground using one hand. If a balloon falls to the ground, that camper is out. The camper who keeps the balloons off the ground the longest wins. If more than one camper is still in at the end of a minute, have them play rock, paper, scissors to determine the winner.

5) Worship Set

Worship Connector

Have you ever been in a situation that was difficult, and felt completely hopeless? (Allow responses.) It could be a time where someone you know, like your grandma, was really sick and you couldn't do anything to help her. Or it could be a time when something is happening directly to you – you feel like nobody likes you and you have no friends. Whatever it is, you probably felt like there was nothing that could help you. If you believe and trust in Jesus, then you have the power of God on your side. Nothing is impossible with God because His power cannot be restrained. We can believe that His power can work in our lives, even in the times that feel hopeless. As we sing this next song, think about how God is more powerful than we can understand, and He is always faithful to be with us.

6) Skit

God's Power Cannot Be Restrained

ProPresenter:

None

Characters:

Storyteller

Staff Member #1: This is a character who has trapped a bear in a cardboard box. Use creativity with your choice in character. Outdoor Guide could play this character. It could be played by a backwoods-type of hunter. Jetterbob, Nerdy Lifeguard, Surfer Dude, etc. could also pull this off.

Staff Member #2: This staff member will be the bear in the box, waiting for the end of the skit to move and make sounds. *"Bear" will need to be in the box before campers arrive for Big Group.*

Props:

Big box (refrigerator or appliance size)

Baseball bat

Microphone (for "bear" in the box)

Script:

Staff Member runs on stage with baseball bat and checks the box.

Staff Member: (With great relief.) Oh, good. I was worried. Hey everyone! Welcome to Camp Grace!

(When the children yell out, look panicked.) Oh, my goodness! Not so loud! I completely forgot. (Check the box. Look relieved.) We're okay.

You're probably wondering what's in the box. You're never going to believe this. In this box, is a sleeping bear. That's right...a bear. See, a bear has been coming down from Mount Whack A Mole each evening to rummage through the trash. Ms. Bea, as you can imagine, has been a little nervous about taking the trash out and running into the bear. I knew I needed to help her. So, I decided to get up really early this morning and do a stake out.

(Act this story out for the children.) I waited patiently and quietly behind the compost heap. Sure enough, that ol' bear came down from Mount Whack-A-Mole for a taste of Ms. Bea's food. I borrowed a tranquilizer gun that Nurse Lovepain uses to calm down patients who don't care for shots all that much. I was as quiet as a mouse as I raised the gun and aimed right at that bear's back. My hands were shaking. I worried that if I missed, the bear would hear the tranquilizer dart and find me. I closed my eyes because I just couldn't bear to look. I pulled the trigger and heard the most horrendous sound of angry growling you can imagine. That ol' bear twisted and turned, trying to get to that dart. Then, he yawned and fell right to the ground. He was sound asleep.

I was afraid to go and check on him, but tiptoed over. He was snoring louder than my granddaddy. I hadn't thought through what to do next. So, I got this box from the dumpster and worked for hours trying to load this huge bear into it without waking him. I don't know how long the tranquilizer will work and I don't know what I should do next. But, the bear is safe inside this box. So, if he does wake up, we *should* okay.

Storyteller: (Enter and say line loudly.) Good. He's still sleeping. I called animal control and they are on the way.

Staff Member: Shhh! Not so loud! You might wake him up.

Storyteller: I'm sorry. Hey everybody! Welcome to Camp...!

Staff Member: (Put hand over Storyteller's mouth.) Don't do that. You're going to say, "Welcome to ..." and they're going to scream and you can imagine the rest.

Storyteller: Sorry. I keep forgetting.

Staff Member: At least he's in this box. I mean, even if he does wake up before animal control gets here to take him to a safe place, he can't get out. Yep! He's not getting out of this cardboard box.

Storyteller: You don't think he can get out? Hmm. Well, I just hope animal control gets here before we have to find out. Hey, while we're waiting, let's talk about the Bible story.

Staff Member: Great idea! That will be quiet enough.

Storyteller: Our story is from Acts. Paul and Silas were telling people about Jesus and performing miracles through the power of the Holy Spirit. As usual, the people got angry. They needed to stop Paul and Silas. So, they captured them, beat them, and threw them in prison. In prison, their feet were

placed in stocks.

Staff Member: We've talked a lot about the early Christians being beaten, stoned and put in jail for talking about Jesus. The thing is, none of these things seemed to stop them from talking about Jesus. They just kept telling others about Him.

Storyteller: You're right. Even after being beaten badly, Paul and Silas began to pray and sing praises to God. Even then, they were telling about Jesus because the other prisoners were listening to them. I would imagine the other prisoners were amazed that Paul and Silas would pray and sing while they were hurting from the beatings. Suddenly, there was a violent earthquake. The foundation of the prison shook and the prison doors flew open. The jailor drew his sword to stab himself because he just knew that the prisoners would all escape and he would be held responsible. Paul and Silas stopped him. He fell down before them and asked what he should do to be saved. They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."

Staff Member: That's amazing. The people wanted to stop Paul and Silas from talking about Jesus.

Storyteller: But even in prison, bleeding from their wounds, they sang praises so that the other prisoners would know about Jesus. They helped the jailor know Jesus. They couldn't be stopped.

Staff Member: The people tried to hold Paul and Silas in a prison cell. They thought that would stop them from talking about Jesus. But, God is more powerful than the walls of a prison cell. Prison doors can't hold his power. God's power cannot be stopped. Trying to hold back the power of God is like someone trying to hold an angry bear in a cardboard boooox. Uh Oh!

Storyteller: Did you just hear what you said? You can't hold God's power back anymore than you can hold an angry bear in a cardboard box. (Staff Member should shake his head in agreement and look at the box nervously.) I think we should get the campers safely to their cabins before that bear wakes up. Campers, you'll learn more about this story in your cabins.

Staff Member #2 Begin to shake box. Staff Member #1 call out a cabin name for dismissal. Staff Member #2 shake box and growl. Do this until all cabins are dismissed.



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