

Use this guide to help your family learn about faith.

First, watch this week's video!

Faith: Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see

Memory Verse

"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 NIV

Bible Story

Paul and Silas Are Thrown into Prison
Acts 16:16-40

Bottom Line

God can help you find joy.

Activity

Act It Out

What You Need:

Bible (or Bible app); stuffed animals or action figures

What You Do:

Invite your child to reenact the story using their stuffed animals or action figures as you review using the following points. Open the Bible to Acts 16 for reference.

- A woman followed Paul and his friends, shouting: "These men serve the Most High God. They are telling you how to be saved." (Acts 16:17). Paul told the spirit that controlled this woman to leave her.
- The men who were using the woman to make money were angry and took Paul and Silas to the judges. The judges ordered that Paul and Silas should be thrown into prison.
- In the prison, Paul and Silas trusted God. They prayed and sang to God.
- Suddenly, there was an earthquake. The prison doors flew open. Everyone's chains fell off!
- When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were open, he thought the prisoners had escaped, but they were still there.
- The jailer said, "What must I do to be saved?"
- Paul and Silas shared the good news about Jesus with the jailer and his whole family!

When you're finished, say, "Even though Paul and Silas were in prison, they chose to trust God and have JOY! Joy is about celebrating the good things and praising God even when things don't go your way."

Talk About the Bible Story

If you had been Paul and Silas, how would you have felt about being in prison?

When we're dealing with a tough situation, what are some things we can remember about God that can give us joy? (*We can remember that God is with us, God loves us, and we can trust God no matter what.*)

What do you feel joyful about today?

How would you explain what joy is to a friend?

Parent: Talk about a time when God helped you find joy, even in the midst of trouble. Maybe God helped you find joy after you lost a job, when your car broke down, or when you had to move to a new place—even though you didn't want to.



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, we know that tough things happen. When they do, it's okay for us to feel sad or mad, scared, or even confused. But You don't want us to stay stuck in those emotions. You want us to tell you how we feel. God, You love us so much! Because of You, we can have joy no matter what is happening. We love You. Amen!"