

## **ACTIVITY TIME!!!**

### **Activity**

Materials: Paper, Coloring Utensils

In this story, Paul and Silas go through many difficulties to share the gospel message of Jesus with the people of Philippi. Read through the storybook version together. What difficulties did they face? During the question time, you talked about what they might have felt; revisit that discussion now.

Sometimes, we have difficulty sharing the gospel message of love with others. What is hard about sharing the message of God with others? Paul and Silas were called to share the message of God with Philippi specifically. We are called to share the gospel too!

Divide your paper into four sections, either with folds or with lines. Label these sections family, friends, community, and world.

These are four categories of people with whom we could share the gospel. As we talk about ideas, draw your ideas to share the message of God with these people. First is closest to us—our family. How can you share God’s message with your family? As you think of ways, invite volunteers to act out that way of being. Act out helping a sibling with homework or doing their chore as a surprise service. What about helping your parents with a chore like folding laundry or helping with the dishes? Provide time for participants to wrap up their pictures before moving on.

Repeat these steps of brainstorming, acting, and drawing with the other three categories. For friends, participants could talk about inviting people to play with them at recess or encouraging friends when they are sad. For community, consider neighbors, church, sporting groups, and those in need. For the world, discuss how to pray for other countries regularly or ways to raise and donate money to causes. Connect to any charitable work your church does, on both the community and world level.

### **Alternate Activity**

Read the scripture paraphrase. What terrible things happened to Paul and Silas during this story? They were being followed around and bothered, people told lies about them, and they were thrown in jail! This wasn’t fair. I bet Paul and Silas were confused. Confusing or unfair things can happen to us a lot. What happened to you that wasn’t fair?

When unfair or confusing things happen, we have many choices in responding. For example, what did Paul and Silas do? They sang songs of praise to God! What songs do you think they sang? When we sing songs of praise, they remind us about God’s loving care for us and make us brave. Together, name and sing songs your participants would know, such as “This Little Light of Mine” or learn new ones together. Or make up your own together! What would you sing about?

Paul and Silas even used that unfair thing to do the good work of telling the other prisoners about Jesus. They took something bad and used it as an opportunity to do good. Because of

their choice, the guard and his whole family heard about Jesus and were baptized! What good things can we do in response to something unfair?