

Q12

BIBLE STORYLINE

Peter's Big Escape

K -
1stPursueGODkids.org

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn an amazing story about Peter and his great escape from jail. Peter was one of Jesus' first disciples. He loved Jesus and knew that he came to save the world. In fact, that was Peter's job after Jesus left. He went around teaching people about Jesus. But, some people didn't like that. They would persecute or bully anyone who believed in Jesus. One day, King Herod Agrippa decided to arrest Peter and throw him in jail. Not because he stole something or hurt someone, simply because he was a Christian. While Peter sat in jail, his friends gathered and started praying. Well, God heard their prayers and he answered. An angel appeared to Peter in his jail cell and told him to get up and follow him. The angel broke him from his chains and walked him right out of the jail, right past the guards! Peter was so excited that he ran to find his friends to tell them how God had rescued him. When Peter showed up at the house where people were praying, they were shocked and happy to see Peter. They praised God for answered prayer. We need to be remember the power of prayer, too.

Big Idea

We should pray for Christians who are persecuted.

Key Question

Why do people want to persecute Christians?

Memory Verse

Acts 12:5 "But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Do you see kids being bullied at your school or in your neighborhood? Explain. Why is bullying a bad thing?** (Tip: Bullying is terrible and we should be ready to stand up to it when we see it. Peter was bullied and God protected him.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **They don't like the message of Jesus.** (The Bible says we all have a sin problem and the only way to fix it is through trusting in Jesus. Some people don't like that idea. They don't think they are sinners who need of a savior and they don't think they need God's help for anything.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What does the Bible teach us about sin? Why do we need Jesus to help us? **4-5th:** Why do you think some people are offended by Jesus and the message of the Bible?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Ephesians 6:18. What does it mean to pray in the Spirit? Who are some people you can be praying for in your life?**(Answer: Praying isn't just about us and the things we want. We should also pray for others. To pray in the Spirit means we pray for the things God wants us to pray about. God wants us to pray for our friends that they will put their trust in Jesus, for sick people to be healed and for protection over missionaries around the world who teach about Jesus in dangerous places.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: FAST FACTS FACE OFF

Instructions:

- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a bell or ringer.
- Ask a question from below. First team to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get a point.
- Team with the most points, wins.
- If you have time, read the story of Peter and his amazing escape from jail from Acts 12:1-9.

Questions:

1. Who was Peter? (disciple of Jesus)
2. Why was Peter thrown in jail? (believed in Jesus)
3. Who threw Peter in jail? (King Herod Agrippa)

4. What book is full of God's truth? (Bible)
5. What did Peter's friends do for him? (Prayed)
6. Who came to bust Peter out? (Angel of God)
7. Who died on the cross for our sins? (Jesus)
8. From what book is our memory verse found? (Acts)
9. How did Peter's friends react to seeing Peter? (shocked and excited)
10. What should we do for Christians around the world? (pray for them)

Supplies needed: Bells/Ringers

OPTION 2: PRAYER JOURNAL CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a piece of construction paper and a few pieces of white paper.
- Give each kid a Prayer journal template (page 5).
- Using a pencil, have kids trace one of their hands onto both the construction paper and the white paper.
- Have them cut out each handprint and each item from the Prayer Journal template.
- Have them glue "My Prayer Journal" onto the handprint made of the construction paper. This will be the cover of the journal. Have them glue the other phrases on one of the other handprints on the white paper.
- Then, have them staple the pages together to make the journal. If they have time, have them write down the names of their family members, friends, and countries around the world for whom they want to pray.
 - You may need to help kids with the spelling of names. Also, if you can, find out some missionaries that your church supports and write their names or the countries where they serve on the whiteboard for kids to copy)
- As they work, read the story of Peter and his amazing escape from jail from Acts 12:1-9. Remind the kids how important it is to pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted for following Jesus.

Supplies needed: Construction paper, White copy paper, Prayer Journal template (pg. 5, 1 set per kid), Pencils, Scissors, Glue, Staplers

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We should pray for Christians who are persecuted, because God answers prayer.

Key Points:

- King Herod threw _____ in prison. Acts 12:1-4
- God sent an _____ to rescue Peter. Acts 12:7-11
- Peter told the believer that _____ answers _____. Acts 12:13-17
- We should _____ for Christians who are persecuted.

Memory Verse:

| Acts 12:5 But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Do you see kids being bullied at your school or in your neighborhood? Explain. Why is bullying a bad thing?*
3. *Why was Peter put in jail?*
4. *What did Peter's friends do while he was imprisoned?*
5. *Read Ephesians 6:18. What does it mean to pray in the Spirit? Who are some people you can be praying for in your life?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture.

WE SHOULD PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS WHO ARE PERSECUTED

Key Question

Why do people want to persecute Christians?

Memory Verse

Acts 12:5 "But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him."





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JOURNAL

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FAMILY
MISSIONARIES

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