

Prison Praise!

Paul, and Silas were in prison for helping a poor slave girl. They were locked in chains, but even in the inner cell of the prison, they knew God was with them. At midnight they were praying and singing hymns and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake. The prison shook, the doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose.

The jailor woke up and when he saw the prison doors were wide open, he was terrified. He thought the prisoners had escaped and was about to kill himself. 'Don't kill yourself' shouted Paul, 'we are all here'. The jailor was amazed and fell on his knees in front of Paul. He wanted to hear about Jesus. Paul told the jailor about Jesus and he too decided to follow Him.

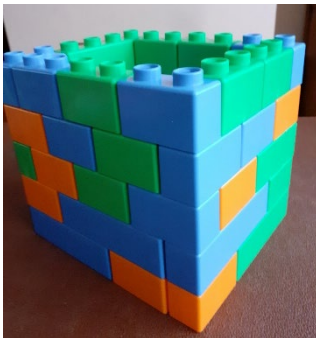
The jailor took Paul and Silas to his home. He washed their wounds, gave them food and Paul and Silas were able to tell all the household about Jesus, and they too decided to become followers of Jesus.

Listen to the full story, with Andrew and friends, on the Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church Facebook page, from 4pm on Sunday 11th October.

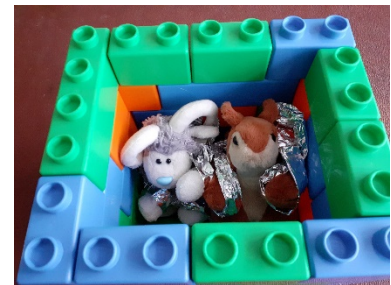
Crafts you can try at home:

Lego prison

Paul and Silas were chained inside the dark, inner cell of the prison. Can you build a prison from lego? Here is a prison I made from large lego bricks:



I do not have any lego figures, so I used two soft toys to be Paul and Silas and I used foil to make chains:

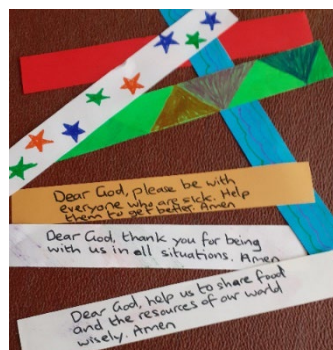


Prayer chain

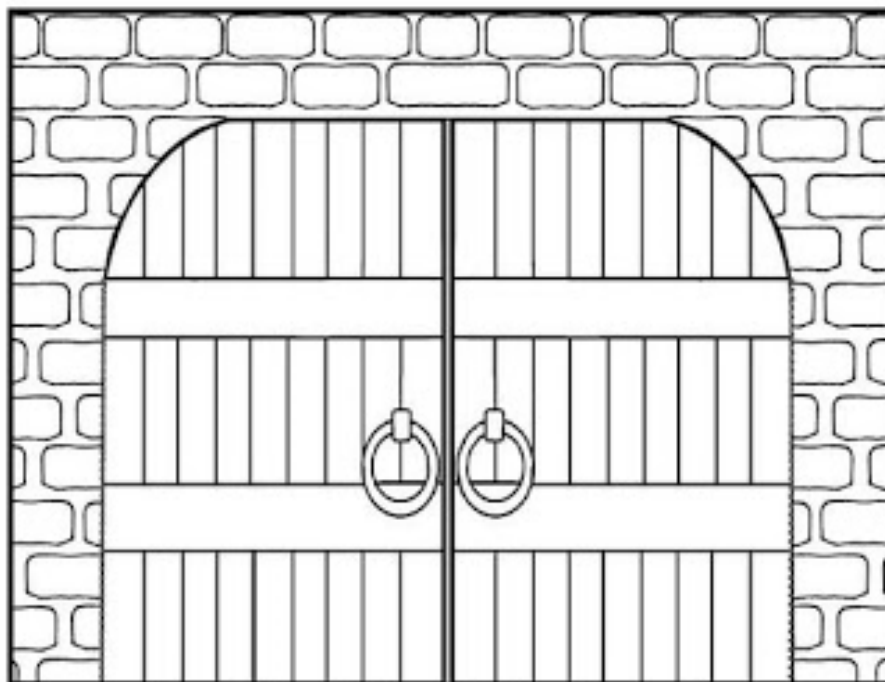
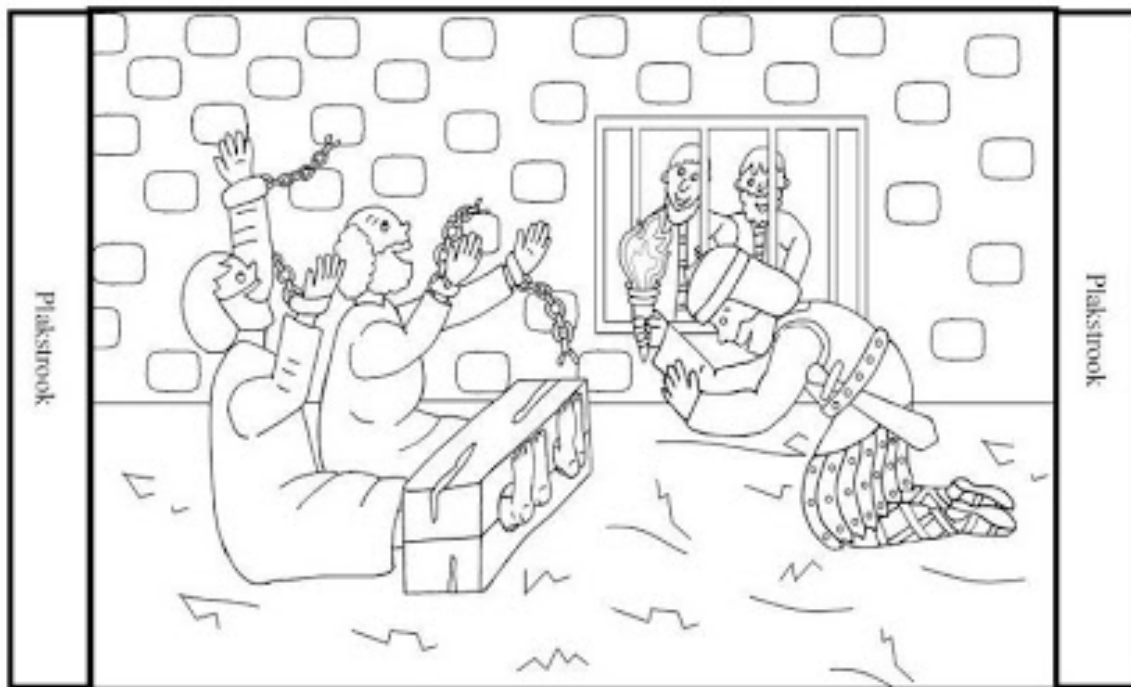
Paul and Silas knew God was still with them. They sang hymns and prayed to God.

You could make a prayer chain and add prayers whenever you want to pray for someone or for a situation in the world.

You need strips of paper, felt pens and a glue stick or Sellotape. Decorate the strips of paper and write a prayer on the inside. Join together to form chains. Add more chain prayers whenever there is a person or a situation that you want to pray for.



'Paul and Silas in prison' activity sheet



Colour the pictures. Cut between the doors and across the top as far as the end of the curve so that the doors open out. Fold the side tabs on the top picture in and put glue on them so that you can stick the gates over the top. You can now open the gates and see Paul and Silas in Prison.



Gingerbread biscuits

We are going to make gingerbread men to remind us of the story of Paul and Silas. You can even add strips of gingerbread to look like prison bars if you would like to do that as well.

You will need:

350 grams self-raising flour (if you use plain flour, add 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda)

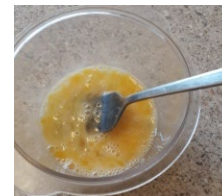
2 teaspoons of ground ginger

100 grams of margarine or butter

175 grams brown sugar

2 tablespoons golden syrup or treacle

1 egg beaten.



How to make the gingerbread men:

Pre-heat the oven to 190C / 170C fan.

Line 3 baking sheets with greaseproof paper.

Measure the flour into a bowl and add the ginger.

Add the butter or margarine and rub it into the flour until it looks like breadcrumbs.



Add the sugar into the mixture and then add the syrup, stirring until it is well mixed.

Add the beaten egg and stir the mixture until you have a nice smooth dough.

You may want to split the mixture into two lots and roll out each half on a floured board until it is about 5mm thick.

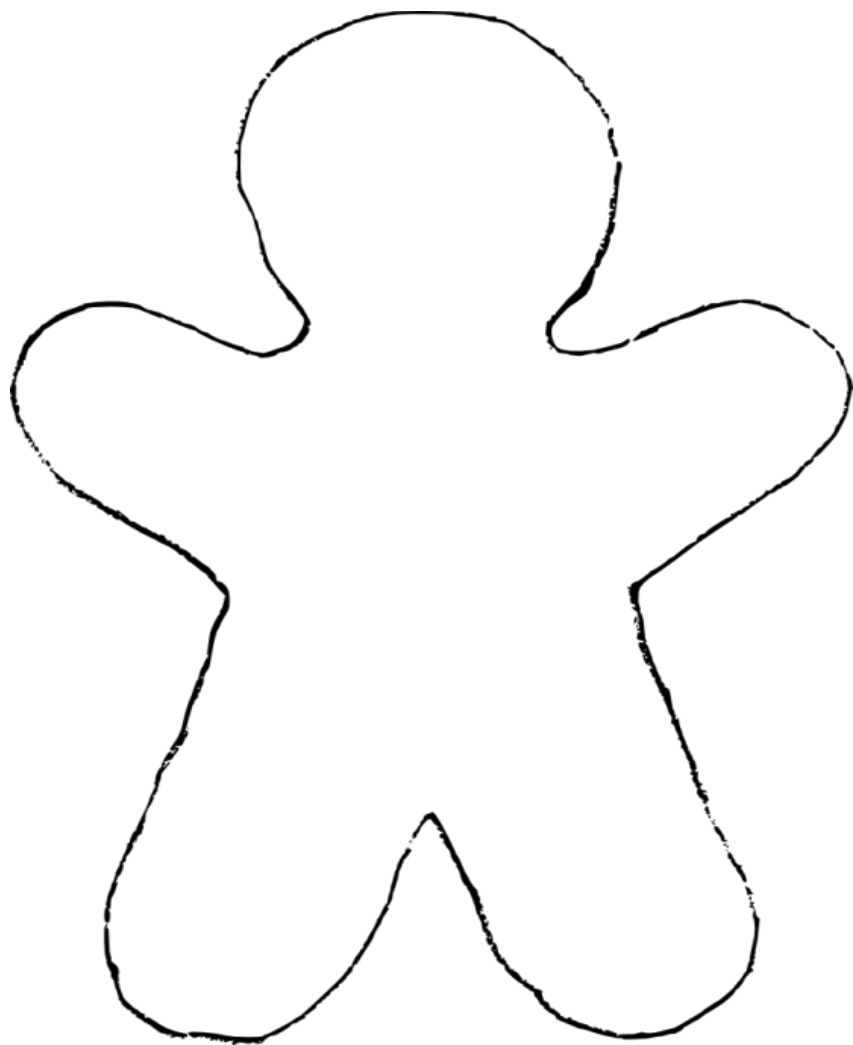
Use your gingerbread man cutter to cut out the gingerbread men. If you do not have a cutter, you could cut out around the template that is on the next page.

Add all the odd pieces together and roll out and cut out more gingerbread men. You may like to cut out strips from the dough to look like bars of a prison.

Bake in the oven for about 10 to 12 minutes until they are a little darker brown and cool in the tin slightly.

Carefully remove the biscuits and cool on a cooling tray.

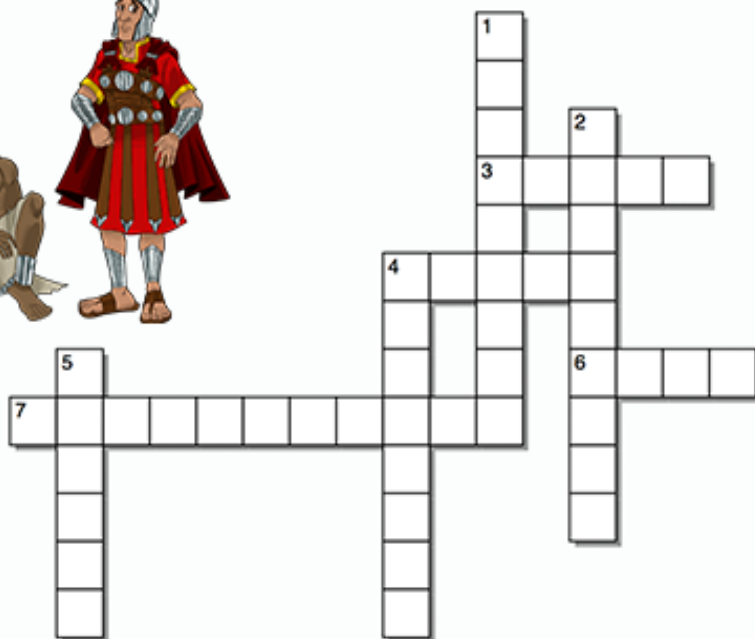
You can use icing or food colouring to add eyes and mouths to Paul and Silas or little pieces of sultana for the eyes and small pieces of orange peel for their mouths.
If you have made 'prison bars' for the prison, you can lay them on top of Paul and Silas.



Bible Pathway Adventures

CROSSWORD

PAUL & SILAS IN PRISON



ACROSS

- 3) "They ____ the word of God to him and everyone in his house." (Acts 16:32 ESV)
- 4) "The doors were opened and everyone's ____ were unfastened." (Acts 16:26 ESV)
- 6) "Paul cried out, "Do not ____ yourself for we are all here." (Acts 16:28 ESV)
- 7) "The _____ have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace." (Acts 16:36 ESV)

DOWN

- 1) "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to Yah (God), and the _____ were listening to them.." (Acts 16:25 ESV)
- 2) "He rejoiced along with his entire ____ that he had believed in God." (Acts 16:24 ESV)
- 4) "Paul took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was ____ at once, he and all his family." (Acts 16:33 ESV)
- 5) "The _____ called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas." (Acts 16:29 ESV)

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Acts 16

N U V B O E C B N N F V E H V L A
P I K E Y K H D U M K F X E B D Y
W B E A G J N Z U E E S I L A S U
H U U R D A C T S L E D I O Y S F
I I V T H U J J T P R I S O N B J
F G Z H E X E R S S M A D S N U W
S Z K Q D J H O X I S V S J Z M J
D B Z U A I M M E N L D U S D K U
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S L Q K R E I N J I N X N C N N E
Y I O E X F Y S G N D M W V M T S
U E M Q I M T W K G J W H B P A U
G V K D N L A U G W E P T B P L S
T E Q C D X D M K M G E L Z Z E Y
K D A F M A G I S T R A T E S L W
Z S S W I H Z C C C K U W Z A D E
W E I X L Z P A U L M U E U A I Q

Believe	Earthquake	Singing	Prison
Magistrates	Romans	Jesus	Silas
Paul	Acts		