

POINT ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.

Open your Bible to Acts 16, and show kids the words. **SAY: The Bible, God's special book, says that Paul and Silas were in jail and they sang to God. We're going to hear about something else the Bible says Paul and Silas did while they were in jail.**

ASK: What do you do when you're in trouble?

Have kids fold their hands as you **SAY: Paul and Silas prayed while they were in jail. They knew that ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER. God was there to listen to Paul and Silas while they were in jail. So Paul and Silas talked to God. We can talk to God, too. When we pray, we remind ourselves that God is powerful enough to answer our prayers.**

ASK: Tell about a time God answered one of your prayers.

We don't have to be in jail to pray to God. He's always ready to hear our prayers. What would you like us to pray for right now?

Prompt kids to hold their fists up as if they're holding on to jail bars as you pray together for those needs.

SAY: Remember, God is powerful, and he can answer all our prayers. ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER. just like Paul and Silas did.



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SAY: Let's sing a song about praying to God.

Sing ● "Pray Every Day" (track 4) on the CD to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Have children do the movements suggested.

SING:

Don't be anxious; (*shake head "no"*)
Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)

He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

If you're scared (*shake knees*)

And worried, too, (*put hands on cheeks*)

God will listen; (*point to one ear*)

He loves you! (*cross arms over chest*)

Don't be anxious; (*shake head "no"*)

Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)

He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

ASK: How often do you think someone can pray? Why?

Why is praying a good thing to do when you're scared or worried?

SAY: We can pray to God all day, every day. Paul and Silas even prayed from jail! And when we pray to God ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER** to answer our prayers.

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SAY: ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.** We can pray to God, and he will use his power to answer our prayers. We're going to use our **Color Cube** to tell us what to pray for today.

Pass around the *Color Cube*, and let each child have a turn rolling it. Encourage the child who rolled the cube to be the Pray-er, and tell that child the topic that corresponds with the color rolled, as indicated below. If some children would prefer not to pray, help them by leading a prayer and having them repeat each line after you.

Red—Pray for family members you live with.

Yellow—Pray for people who are in jail.

Green—Praise God for ways he's helped you grow.

Blue—Praise God for ways he's helped you feel better.

Purple—Pray for people who need to know God's love.

Black—Pray for family members who are far away.

ASK: Which of these prayers do you want to remember to pray this week?

What's one way you've seen God's power by praying for something?

SAY: Jesus taught us to pray, and he wants us to pray like Paul and Silas did in jail. ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER** when we see how he answers our prayers.

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Choose an area of your room to be a jail. Make sure it's a place where kids will have to crowd together. SAY: **The Bible tells us that while Paul and Silas were in jail, they prayed to God. We're going to pretend that the jail is** [point to the part of the room you decided on].

Have the children crawl around on the floor. Tell them that if *Squiggles* touches them, they'll go to jail. Pull *Squiggles* around and make sure he touches each child.

After everyone has been touched by *Squiggles* and all the kids are in jail, have children hook their arms with each other as if they are in chains. Take *Squiggles* with you, and join the kids in the jail.

ASK: **Do you think it's fair or unfair that you got sent to jail? Why?**

What are some things a person in prison might want to pray about?

What are some things people can't do if they're in jail?

Hold *Squiggles* and have him SAY: **There are lots of things we can't do when we're in jail, but we can still pray and praise God. ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.**

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Have children sit in a circle. SAY: We've been learning that ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.** We know that Paul and Silas prayed to God in jail because they knew he was powerful.

We're going to use our *Buzz Boing Putty* to talk about prayer. I'll ask you some questions about the Lord's Prayer that Jesus taught.

If you want to answer a question, I'll hand you the *Buzz Boing Putty*. As you answer, fold your hands as if you're praying and squish the putty between your hands so it comes out between your fingers. Then make it into a ball, and hand the putty to someone else who wants to answer the same question. When everyone who wants to has had a turn to answer, I'll ask a different question and we'll play again.

ASK: The Lord's Prayer says, "Our Father." Why would we call God our Father?

The Lord's Prayer says, "May your name be kept holy." What can you do to keep God's name holy, or special, when you pray?

The Lord's Prayer says, "May your Kingdom come soon." Why do you think we want God's kingdom to be here?

The Lord's Prayer says, "May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." Doing God's will means obeying him. What are some ways you can do God's will?

SAY: The Bible doesn't tell us exactly what Paul and Silas prayed in jail. But they probably knew how to pray because someone had taught them. Jesus taught us how to pray, and when we pray, ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.**