

## Paul and Silas Tell About Jesus Even When It's Hard

Acts 16:6-40

Paul and Silas came to Philippi to tell people about Jesus. Many people listened and started following Jesus. They started a church where people could learn even more about Jesus. Some of the men in Philippi were angry with Paul and Silas. They did not want them teaching the people about Jesus, but Paul and Silas kept right on! It's hard to follow Jesus when other people are mad, but Paul and Silas continued to teach people about Jesus and His love.

So, the angry men just decided to grab Paul and Silas. They took them to the city leaders and told them, "They are teaching things that we think are wrong. They are teaching about Jesus." Other people began to shout too so the leaders ordered the soldiers to take Paul and Silas to jail.

The jailer put them in a cell where he thought they could *NEVER* get out. He put chains on their hands and feet. It was very dark, dirty, and cold in their cell. It's pretty hard to follow Jesus when you are in jail but that didn't bother Paul and Silas. They *SANG* and *PRAYED* and *PRAISED* God. The other people in the jail heard them and wondered how they could be singing about Jesus in jail.

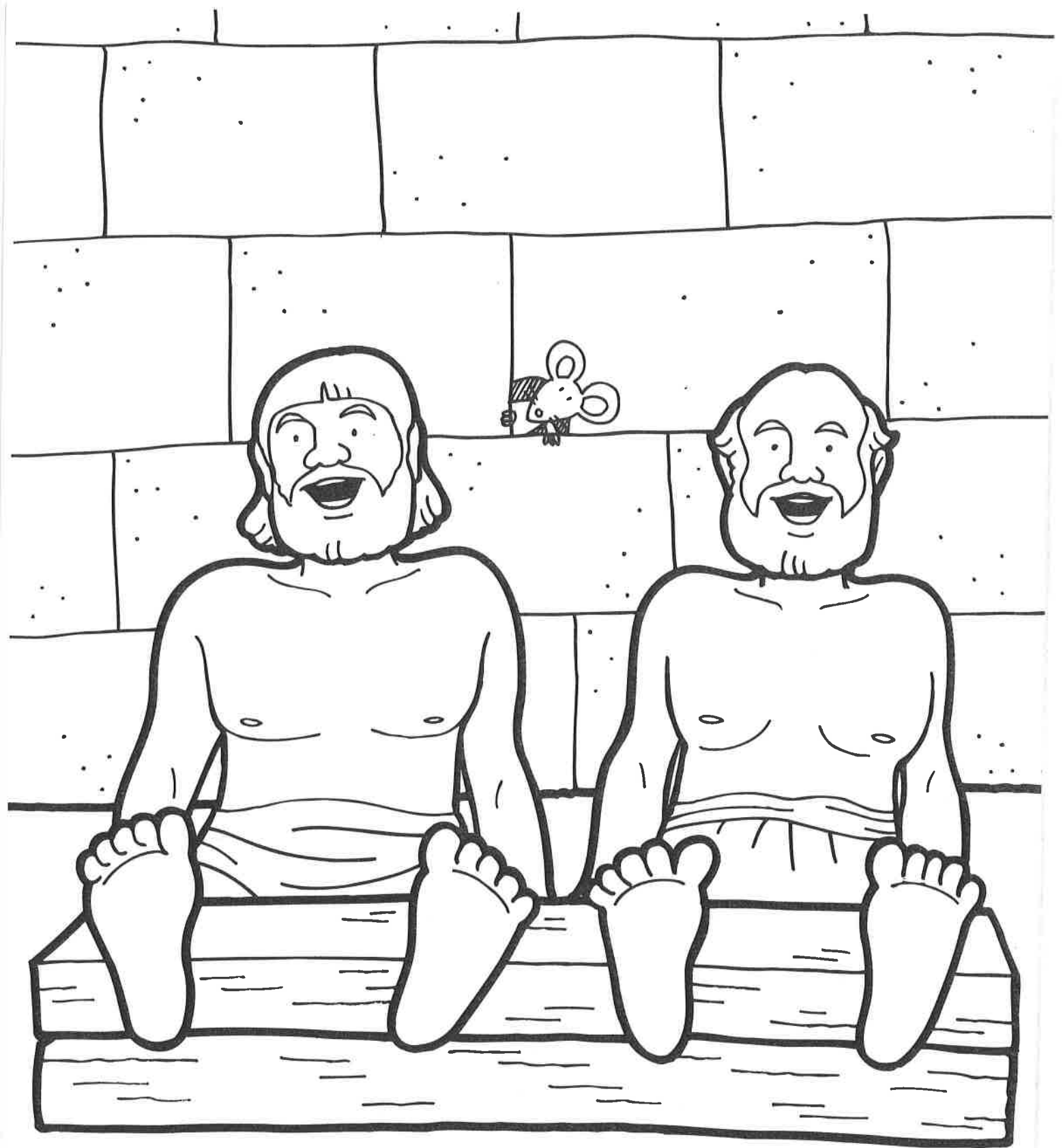
About midnight, the ground began to shake and tremble. It rocked the jail and everyone inside. Then the prison doors flew open, and their chains fell off. The jailer woke up and ran to see what had happened. He was afraid Paul and Silas would be gone and if they were, he would be in big trouble – he could even be killed for letting them get away.

He grabbed a torch and looked inside the cell. There stood Paul and Silas – they had not run away. "Don't worry we are still here," they said. The jailer was very glad to see them. He would not be punished for letting them go. But he wanted to know what made them sing when they were in jail and why they didn't run away when they had the chance. Paul and Silas told the jailer about Jesus and how he could become a follower of Jesus.

The thankful jailer took Paul and Silas home to take care of them. He gave them clean clothes and food and then he called his family in to listen to Paul and Silas talk about Jesus. The jailer and his whole family believed in Jesus. The next day Paul and Silas were on the streets of the city again telling anyone who would listen about Jesus. *What if they got arrested again?* They could have decided it was just too hard to tell others about Jesus because they might get put in jail again. Instead, they decided to keep on teaching about Jesus.

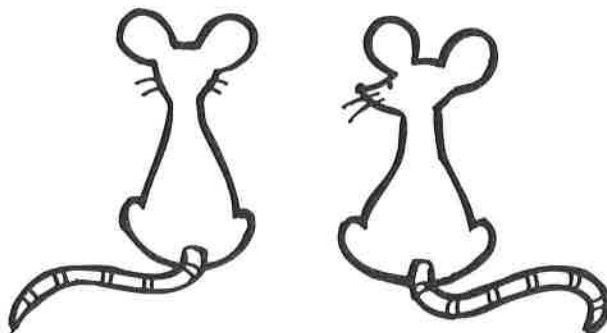
### **Bible Verse:**

Go home to your friends and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you. Mark 5:19 (NKJ)



**Paul and Silas sing  
praise to God in jail.**

Acts 16:16-40



**Paul and Silas Tell About Jesus Even When It's Hard**  
**Acts 16:6-40**

**Paul and Silas Sing Praises in Prison**

Material:        \*Master of Paul and Silas in Prison – one per child  
                     \*Thin black strips cut from construction paper to make prison bars (6.5" long)  
                     \*Glue sticks                                \*Markers

The children will color their picture and then glue on strips of black construction paper to represent the prison bars. Review the story as they work!



Paul and Silas Sing Praises in Prison