

THE STORY OF PAUL AND SILAS

Memory Verse

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

Story Characters

Narrator
Paul
Silas
Girl
Men
Judge
Jailer
Messenger

Narrator:

Have you ever been in so much trouble that you thought there was no way God could help you or hear your prayers? Then you should meet Paul and his friend Silas.

(WALLA: crowd)

(Music transition)

Silas:

Paul, let's walk outside the city gate to the river and find a place to pray.

Paul:

Good idea, Silas. We need some time to talk to God.

(WALLA: crowd shouting)

Silas:

Paul, that poor slave girl is following us again.

Girl:

These men are servants of the Most High God, and they have come to tell you how to be saved. (repeat)

Silas:

What should we do, Paul?

Paul:

I feel so bad for her. She is able to tell fortunes because of the evil spirit that controls her. And her masters just use her to make money for themselves. I can't ignore this any longer.

Come here, girl.

Evil spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!

Girl:

(calmer) Oh my. I feel so different. I am well. I am whole again. Oh, thank you so much. Thank you!

(WALLA: crowd)

Narrator:

The owners of the slave girl noticed that she was no longer telling fortunes.

Men:

Slave girl, what has happened to you? Why aren't you working? Why aren't you telling fortunes?

Girl:

These men have healed me. I am no longer controlled by an evil spirit. Thanks be to God.

Men:

What? How will be able to make money if our slave is healed? Now we'll never become rich.

(WALLA: angry crowd)

Narrator:

The owners of the slave girl were so angry that they dragged Paul and Silas into the marketplace where the judges were holding court.

Men:

These men are making trouble in our city. They are suggesting practices that are against Roman law.

(WALLA: crowd agreeing with the men)

Judge:

These men will be beaten and thrown into prison. Command the jailer to guard them closely.

(Sounds of beating and crowd noise, fades out)

Narrator:

So Paul and Silas were beaten with wooden rods and put in prison. The jailer put them in maximum security

with their feet in chains. He made sure the doors of the jail were locked, and then he left for the night.

(Sound of prison door slams shut)

Silas:

Well, Paul, what should we do now?

Paul:

My back hurts so much from the beating, but this is a good time to pray. I know that God is here with us even now and that He will hear our prayers.

Silas:

Yes, Paul let's pray.

(Music transition)

Narrator:

At about midnight, the other prisoners were listening while Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs of praise to God.

(WALLA of singing)

Suddenly there was a powerful earthquake.

(Sounds of earthquake swell, jail opens, and chains fall off)

The jailer ran back to the prison to see what had happened.

Jailer:

Oh no! The prison doors-they are wide open! The prisoners must have escaped. What am I going to do? My prisoners are gone and the judges will be angry with me. I will take my sword and kill myself because I have failed.

Paul:

Wait! Don't hurt yourself. We are all here.

Jailer:

Quickly, guards, get some lights. Paul and Silas, are you still here? Come out and let me see you.

(Sounds of Paul and Silas stumbling to find jailer)

Jailer:

Sirs, truly God is with you! I want to know more about your God and how I too can be saved.

Paul:

Believe in the Lord Jesus. Trust in Jesus to forgive the things that you have done wrong and tell Jesus that you

want Him to be the leader of your life from now on. Then you will be saved.

Jailer:

Let me take you to my home and wash your wounds. I will feed you, and you can tell me and my family more about Jesus.

Narrator:

The jailer and his whole family accepted Jesus as their Savior that very night. They were baptized and filled with joy. Early the next morning a messenger from the judges came to see Paul and Silas.

Messenger:

Paul and Silas, I have a message for you. The judges are releasing you. You may now leave in peace.

Paul:

No! We are Roman citizens and yet we were beaten in public and not given a trial. You threw us into jail, and now you want to get rid of us quietly? Tell the judges that they must come themselves and escort us out to prove our innocence.

Narrator:

When the messenger reported this to the judges they were afraid because of what they had done. So they went to see Paul and Silas and apologize to them in person.

Judge:

Paul and Silas, please, we are sorry for what we have done. We will personally walk you out of prison to show everyone that we were wrong.

Narrator:

Paul and Silas knew that they could pray to God anywhere, even in prison. Do you know that you can do that too? There is absolutely no place on this earth where you cannot talk to God. If you want Jesus to be your friend, just pray to Him and ask Him to come and live in your heart. When you belong to Jesus, He will be with you everywhere you go and in everything you do.

*You can read more about Paul and Silas in the book of **Acts** in the New Testament part of your Bible.*

Bible Source: Holy Bible, New International Reader's Version, A Bible for Kids, Zondervan Publishing House, 1999.

<https://kidscorner.reframemedia.com/bible-stories/the-story-of-paul-and-silas>

Printed on February 20, 2020