



The Shipwreck

Bible Story: The Shipwreck, Acts 28:11-16

Bottom Line: God protected Paul in the shipwreck so he could stand before Caesar.

Memory Verse: ²⁰ I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. Philippians 1:20-21 NIV

Christ Connection: *Paul trusted God to keep His promise to rescue them from the storm. He encouraged the sailors to trust and obey God too. God calls us to trust in His Son, Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin and death, and to tell others this good news.*

10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

Dots and boxes

What You Need: paper, different colored markers (1 for each kid)

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to form pairs.
- Give each pair a piece of paper and two markers of different colors.
- Lead each pair to draw a grid of dots—3-by-3 or 4-by-4.
- Players should take turns joining two neighboring dots with a horizontal or vertical line.
- When a player completes the fourth side of a box, she should write her initials in the boxes and draw another line.
- The player to complete the most boxes wins.

What You Say "Was it hard to stop your partner from winning? Today's Bible story is about a plan to stop Paul. Did God let this evil plan stop Him? Let's find out."

10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

GAME, SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

Game- Candy Elevator

What You Need- Elevator (string tied to ends of two pencils taped together), 3 pieces of candy per player, Game instruction video, countdown clock

What You Do- Each player will string the elevator around their ears. They will then pull up each side of the elevator till the candy gets to their mouth. They try to dump the candy into their mouths before the time runs out.

What You Say- Which was easier to trust the player or the elevator? In our story today we are going to talk about how Paul trusted God to keep his promises.

15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

Today's Passage

²⁷ On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. ²⁸ They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. ²⁹ Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. ³⁰ In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. ³¹ Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved."³² So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.

³³ Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. "For the last fourteen days," he said, "you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food—you haven't eaten anything."³⁴ Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head."³⁵ After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. ³⁶ They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. ³⁷ Altogether there were 276 of us on board. ³⁸ When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

³⁹ When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. ⁴⁰ Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. ⁴¹ But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

⁴² The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. ⁴³ But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. ⁴⁴ The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely. **Acts 27:27-44**

Context:



All Star Kids

July 8, 2018
3rd-5th grade

The Bible tells us the story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus. In the New Testament, we find the story of Paul, a believer who helped spread the gospel—the good news about Jesus. We've heard some incredible stories about how Paul boldly shared Jesus. A couple weeks ago, we heard about the Jewish people's plan to stop Paul. They wanted to kill Paul, but Paul was arrested. When Paul was arrested, God protected him so he could preach about Jesus.

Last week, we learned about Paul before rulers. Paul preached about Jesus to governors and kings, just as God had chosen him to do. He was all set to go to Rome to see Caesar.

Today we are right here [point to today's story on the timeline] where Paul's story really gets stormy. Today's story is called "The Shipwreck." Uh-oh. It sounds like Paul's trip to Rome wasn't exactly a piece of cake.

As you teach kids, emphasize that Paul trusted God to keep His promise to rescue them from the storm. He also encouraged the sailors to trust God too. God calls us to trust in His Son, Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin and death, and to tell others this good news. We can encourage others to trust God because we know He is good and in control.

Today's Takeaways

- God worked everything out for His plan.
- God still works today, giving believers strength and courage through the Holy Spirit so that people all over the world will hear the gospel and believe.
- **BL: God protected Paul in the shipwreck so he could stand before Caesar.**
- God called Paul to trust Him in a tough situation. God also wants us to trust His Son, Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin and death, and to tell others this good news!

TOC & Prayer

Give kids a chance to believe in Jesus for the first time. Remind them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus to earth to pay for their sins. Lead them to pray as you pray. Pray that believers will submit their lives to the Holy Spirit, follow Jesus, and tell others about Him.

25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Discussion Questions:

- Think about the last time you felt discouraged. What happened? How did you respond?
- Have you ever felt discouraged as a Christian? What things might discourage believers today?
- Why is it important to not give up living out God's mission?

Activity: Float a boat

What You Need: clay (1 small clump per kid), small tub of water, pennies, paper, scissors, toothpicks

What You Do:

- Give each kid a golf ball-size lump of clay.
- Invite kids to use the clay to form a boat. Encourage creativity.
- If kids need help, suggest they roll the clay into a ball and press in the center with their thumb.
- Then they could pinch the sides and flatten out the bottom.
- Allow kids to test out their boats in a shallow tub of water.
- Provide pennies to see how much weight their boats can carry before they sink.

What You Say "In today's Bible story, Paul found himself on a ship in some dangerous waters. Everyone on the ship was afraid they wouldn't survive. In fact, the boat hit a sandbar and broke into pieces! Did the shipwreck keep Paul from sharing about Jesus with others?"

Activity: Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, foam ball

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to stand in a circle.
- Show the memory verse poster and lead kids to read Philippians 1:20-21 aloud.
- Give a foam ball to one player in the circle.
- Explain that the player with the ball will say the first word in the key passage and then toss to ball to another player, who will say the next word, and so on until kids say the entire key passage and reference.
- Allow kids to refer to the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words.

What You Say "This is a bold statement made by Paul, but he could say this because he believed firmly in the love of Christ and trusted Him with his life."

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Say:



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3rd - 5th grade

"Pray, thanking God for His Word. Pray that boys and girls would trust in Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin and death. Pray that they would tell others the good news about Jesus.

5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to show off their boats. Encourage your kids to tell their parents all the tough things Paul has endured to share about Jesus.