

DEEP BLUE CONNECTS **Loving God, Loving Neighbor** **SESSION 12**

Singing for God

Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth!

(Psalm 100:1)

Read the Bible Story Together: Follow the Suggested Motions



Based on
Acts 16:16-40

Today we will hear a story about a man named Paul.

(Cup hand around ear.)

Paul had a friend named Silas who traveled with Paul.

(Walk fingers.)

They told many people that God loves them all. *(Hug yourself.)*

One day Paul and Silas found themselves in jail, but they didn't mind at all. *(Shake head no.)*

Paul and Silas trusted God, and they began to sing.

(Sing, "Praise God; praise God.")

An earthquake came and set them free. *(Jump up and down.)*

The jailer was afraid the prisoners would escape.

(Shake and act afraid.)

Paul and Silas shared Jesus with their friend and did not leave.

(Shake head no.)

"Come home with me," said the jailer, "and share with my family."

(Motion to come.)

1

Bible Story Retelling: *Singing for God* (Acts 16:16-40)



Paul: Hi, my name is Paul. You may have heard of me. I was a follower of Jesus. I told people about Jesus and started many churches.

Today I want to tell you about a time when my friend Silas and I were preaching in Philippi. We were in Philippi staying with our friend Lydia. Every day we would go to the place of prayer down by the river and tell people about Jesus.

One day on our way, we met a woman who had a spirit that enabled her to predict the future. Her owners used her to make money by having her tell fortunes for other people. This woman began following us and shouting about God.

For several days this woman followed us and shouted. Finally I turned around and said, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I command the spirit to leave her!" The spirit left the woman immediately.

Now you would think this was a good thing, but the owners of the woman were not happy. You see, by healing the woman, I had messed up how they made money. They grabbed us and took us before the authorities. The authorities gave

orders to have us thrown in prison.

So there Silas and I were in prison. It would have been easy to get upset. But we knew God was with us. We sang hymns and prayed to God all through the night.

Around midnight there was a violent earthquake that shook the prison. The doors flew open and everyone's chains came off. When the jailer woke up and saw the open doors of the prison, he thought we had all escaped. Knowing he would get in a lot of trouble for letting prisoners escape, he became very upset.

We shouted out to him, "Don't worry! We're still here!"

The jailer came and saw that we were still there. We told him about Jesus. We preached to him and everyone else in his house. That night the jailer and his household were baptized.

The next morning Silas and I were released from prison. Being in prison is no fun. But even in prison we were able to do God's work.

2

Spiritual Practice: *Sing Songs*



Paul and Silas sang to God and they were freed from prison.

This week...

- Sing your favorite song.
- Sing with friends and family.
- Perform your song for someone.



BIBLE STORY RETELLING

Singing for God (Acts 16:16-40)

1

Narrator 1: Paul and Silas were on their way to pray. They met a woman who was a slave. The woman had a spirit that let her see the future.

Narrator 2: The woman who was a slave made lots of money for her owners by telling fortunes for people. She started following Paul and Silas around, shouting about them.

Woman: These people are servants of the Most High God! They are showing you the way to salvation!

Narrator 1: She did this for many days, and Paul became annoyed.

Paul: In the name of Jesus Christ, I command you, spirit, to leave her!

Narrator 2: The spirit left the woman right then and there. Her owners were upset because she couldn't make money for them anymore. They had Paul and Silas thrown into jail.

Jailer: *(Pantomime putting Paul and Silas in jail.)*

Narrator 1: Paul and Silas began to pray and sing hymns to God. The other prisoners were listening to them.

Paul and Silas: *(Pantomime singing.)*

Narrator 2: All of a sudden, there was a violent earthquake! The prison

shook so hard, the doors flew open and everyone's chains came off.

Narrator 1: The jailer thought the prisoners escaped and felt hopeless.

Paul: We're all still here!

Narrator 2: The jailer was so moved by everything that had happened that he led them out of the prison.

Jailer: What must I do to be saved?

Paul and Silas: Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you and your entire household will be saved.

Narrator 1: The jailer welcomed Paul and Silas into his home. Everyone in the jailer's household was baptized.

Narrator 2: The next day, the authorities sent the police to tell the jailer to release Paul and Silas.

Jailer: Go in peace.

Narrator 1: Paul told the police that they should come and escort them out of the city because he and Silas were Roman citizens who had been arrested when they had not committed a crime.

Narrator 2: Paul and Silas went to Lydia's house, encouraged the brothers and sisters, and then left Philippi.



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Journal

2

What's your favorite worship song and why? Write about your favorite worship song below.



SESSION 12

Singing for God

Psalm 100:1 Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth!