

Rising 3rd-Rising 6th



Day 2

Small Group Instructions

Bible Point: Jesus's power gives us hope.

Bible Verse: "So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the Lord
Psalm 31:24

Bible Story: Paul encourages others in a storm and shipwreck. (Acts 27)

"Today we learned that Jesus' power gives us hope.

Paul was a follower of Jesus and was arrested for sharing his faith. He was placed on a ship to travel to Rome to stand trial.

The ship Paul was on encountered a very dangerous storm. The sailors battled the fierce storm for almost two weeks. They began to lose hope that they would survive."

"Sometimes we face challenges in life that cause us to be worried or afraid. Sometimes we call those situations 'storms'. The sailors that were with Paul put their focus on how they could save the ship or save themselves. They didn't know about Jesus or trust in Jesus."

Activity

Supplies (for each child): maze (printed) paperclip, magnet,

(Give each child a copy of the maze and a paperclip)

"We are going to use this paperclip to show a life that is not connected to Jesus. Without using your finger to drag the paperclip through the maze, see if you can get the paperclip correctly through the maze by only sliding it around lifting the edges of the paper."

"Is the paperclip going in a straight line?"

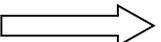
(The paperclips are being tossed around or sliding off the paper all together)

(Encourage the kids to hold their supplies and listen)

"The sailors were so fearful that they even decided to try to escape the ship, but Paul told them not to.

When we are not connected to Jesus and we encounter challenges in life, we will be tossed around like the paperclip on the page. We have nothing to help guide us through life."

"God had a message of hope for Paul to share with the sailors. God's angel assure Paul that "none of you will lose your lives." Paul had a firm foundation with Jesus and so he wasn't tossed around by fear and worry. He trusted Jesus."

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(Pass out a magnet to each child)

“Place the magnet on the bottom of the paper and the paperclip on the top so that they attach. Now use the magnet to guide the paperclip through the maze.”

“Just like Paul we will face some challenging situations. Tell about something in your life that you feel powerless about?” (see if any of the kids want to share)

“There are times when we need hope when we face hard times. We can trust in Jesus’ power to give us hope and hold us steady through challenges. We need to remember during those times that Jesus is right there with us. He does care about us and will help us with all the struggles we face in our daily lives.”

Prayer: “Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to be hope for us. Thank you that when life is crazy like a storm that you help to hold us steady and give us peace. Keep us connected to you. Amen.”