



Date: _____
Series: We Are in God's Family
Spring Year 2, Lesson 54

Peter's Miraculous Escape

Take Home Point: *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH
... *We pray for each other.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Acts 12: 1-17

We will help children know:

- The Bible Event of Peter's miraculous escape from prison.
- When God's people pray, miraculous things can happen.
- Jesus rescued us from sin when he died on the cross.

We will help the children feel:




- Awed by God's power.
- Empowered to help others through prayer.
- Confident that God hears and answers prayers.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Praying Hands.
- Snack: Praying Hands.
- Game: Guard and Angel.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...We pray for each other.
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 54 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 5	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	Puppet Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubba puppet with handcuffs on (or holding them) Bible Bible Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> crown 2 headpieces swords or helmets for 3 children throne (chair covered with cloth) room divider to act as door jail (suspend black crepe paper from ceiling or use dividers to form jail with crepe paper suspended in front of the entry)
Small Group Application 	8 9 10 11	Activity 1: Craft-Praying Hands Activity 2: Snack-Praying Hands Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> copy of Appendix A on cardstock four 11" black streamers per child glue sticks crayons or markers <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins, cups, water or juice two oval crackers per child filling of your choice (cheese, frosting, whipped topping, etc.) plastic knives for spreading filling <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> none needed
Large Group Wrap-up 	12 12	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of music Albie puppet Example of craft Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Bubba puppet wearing (or holding) handcuffs)' Presenter holds a Bible

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: (says sadly) Hi everyone.

Presenter: Bubba, are you OK?

Bubba: (raising his cuffed hands in the air) I am certainly NOT OK! I feel like I am in jail!

Presenter: Bubba, please tell me what's going on with you.

Bubba: It's a sad story really. I got into trouble yesterday for fighting with my sister.

Presenter: What happened?

Bubba: My dad sent me to my room. No video games, no movies, no TV, no fun at all!

Presenter: So why do you have handcuffs?

Bubba: I was stuck in my room just like a prisoner in jail. It was terrible!

Presenter: It probably wasn't much fun to be stuck in your room. Sometimes when you fight with your sister or break the rules you have to go to your room for a while. I'm sure it's not as bad as being in jail.

Bubba: (Bubba takes off handcuffs.) Well, it was boring, but it wasn't *that* bad.

Presenter: Bubba, surprisingly enough, this reminds me of a story from the Bible.

Bubba: Did someone go to jail?

Presenter: Yes. Once Jesus' friend Peter was thrown in jail.

Bubba: He must have done something really bad to be in jail. Did he fight with his sister?

Presenter: No, he did not fight with his sister. In fact, he did not do anything wrong. Peter was thrown in jail by an evil king just because Peter believed in Jesus.

Bubba: Wow! That's scary. I believe in Jesus. Will someone put me in jail?

Presenter: No, Bubba.

Bubba: What happened after they put Peter in jail?

Presenter: Are you sure you want to know?

Bubba: YES!

Presenter: Peter's friends prayed to God. Then something miraculous happened.

Bubba: What? What happened?

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Bubba: Of course I would. I can't wait. Tell me what happened to Peter.

Presenter: You will have to wait. I need to teach the boys and girls the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

Presenter: *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...now you say, "We pray for each other."

Bubba: We pray for each other.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: OK everybody, *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...

Bubba: (and everyone): We pray for each other.

Presenter: One more time. *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...

Bubba: (and everyone): We pray for each other.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Imagination Theater

Supplies: boy headpiece; crown; girl headpiece; swords or helmets for three children; throne (chair with fancy blanket or cloth covering it); jail (black crepe paper [jail bars] suspended from the ceiling or dividers to form partition with crepe paper suspended in front of the entry); room divider or partition to act as a door

Presenter holds the Bible

- Ask for a boy volunteer to be Peter and give him a headpiece.
- Invite another boy to be King Herod and give him a crown.
- Invite another girl to be Rhoda and give her a headpiece.
- Choose three children to be King Herod's guards and give them swords or helmets.

Presenter begins:

Let's put on our imagination hats and imagine what happened when the Bible tells us that Peter was thrown in jail. After Jesus' time on earth, he promised he would always be with his followers and help them no matter what. His best friend was Peter.

Bring Peter onto the stage.

Peter loved to tell people about Jesus. He told them that Jesus died on the cross so we could be freed from our sins. Sins are the bad things that we do.

A wicked King named Herod was the ruler at the time. He hated the followers of Jesus.

Lead Peter to stage right and bring out the throne. Ask Herod to come sit in the throne.

Herod knew that there were lots of important religious leaders who did not like Jesus or his followers. Herod decided he wanted to please those evil people. So wicked King Herod said, "I'll show those people just how mean I can be! I'll capture Jesus' followers and have them put to death!" He did have some put to death and then he captured Peter. His guards took Peter to jail!

Have the guards surround Peter and lead him to the jail. Remove the throne and lead King Herod off stage.

The guards took Peter to jail and kept him surrounded at all times by sixteen guards! Wicked King Herod knew how important Peter was to Jesus' followers and did not want him to escape.

While this was happening, Jesus' followers knew how important it was to pray. I see all the believers out there right now. Everyone lets fold our hands to pray like Peter's friends did to keep Peter safe.

Coach children to fold hands and to keep them folded for the rest of the story.

The whole time that Peter was in jail, Jesus' followers got together and prayed and prayed and prayed that God would somehow rescue Peter.

Then, late one night, while Peter was in jail and the guards were all around him, an angel came! Presenter acts as the angel. The angel entered the jail and said to Peter, "Get up! Put on your coat and grab your sandals. We are leaving!" The chains fell right off Peter's hands and they walked right through the jail gate! It was a miracle! Peter thought he was dreaming. They walked right out of the jail and past all of the guards and down the street.

As they walked down the street, Peter looked up, but suddenly the angel was gone. Peter was alone. Peter said to himself, "Now I know God has taken care of me. He sent an angel to get me out of prison. At first I thought it was a dream, but now I know it's true." Then he ran to the house where all of Jesus' followers were gathered to pray for him.

As he got closer to the house, Peter said, "Oh, I wonder if all my friends are at our meeting house?"

Many people were there praying. Move partition on stage so children can see Peter on one side and Rhoda on the other as they "act" out the scene.

Peter knocked on the door. Rhoda the servant girl came to answer the door. Before she even opened the door, she heard Peter's voice and knew it was him! She ran back to the believers who were praying and said, "It's Peter! It's Peter at the door!" They said, "You are crazy! Peter's in jail." But Rhoda knew it was really him. She said, "No, it is really Peter!" They didn't know whether to believe her or not, but they did hear knocking at the door. They ran to the door and answered it.

It really was Peter! He came in and everybody stood and clapped. Have children stand and clap. They knew that God had heard their prayers and Peter had been rescued from jail. All of the believers were in awe. They were amazed at how wonderful God is. God answered their prayers.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...*We pray for each other.*

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
We are your church.
We pray for each other.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Frere Jacques*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

WE are GOD'S church.
WE are GOD'S church.
YES we ARE.
YES we ARE.
WE pray FOR each OTH-er.
WE pray FOR each OTH-er.
GOD hears US.
GOD hears US.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft “Praying Hands”

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A on cardstock; 11” pieces of black streamers, four per child; glue sticks; crayons or markers

Boys and girls, today we are going to decorate a picture of praying hands. We will cover them with pretend jail bars to show that the power of prayer can overcome anything.

Allow children to color the hands.

With a glue stick, attach lengths of black streamers at the top only of the page.

Streamers may be lifted and folded over to the back of the page to show what prayer can do.

Review the Bible Event.

Who had Peter arrested and put in jail? (King Herod.)

Let’s practice the take home point. *WE ARE GOD’S CHURCH...We pray for each other.

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
We are your church.
We pray for each other.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Frere Jacques*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

WE are **GOD’S** church.
WE are **GOD’S** church.
YES we **ARE**.
YES we **ARE**.
WE pray **FOR** each **OTH**-er.
WE pray **FOR** each **OTH**-er.
GOD hears **US**.
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Activity 2: Snack “Praying Hands”

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; oval crackers, 2 per child; filling of your choice (cheese, frosting, whipped topping, etc.) plastic knives for spreading filling

*****CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
We are your church.
We pray for each other.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of praying hands. What are some things we can pray to God about?

Spread one oval cracker with topping of your choice. Cover it with second cracker to create a cracker sandwich. Eat.

Review the Bible event.

Who came into the jail and helped Peter escape? *(An angel.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. ***WE ARE GOD’S CHURCH...We pray for each other.**

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Frere Jaques*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

WE are **GOD’S** church.
WE are **GOD’S** church.
YES we **ARE**.
YES we **ARE**.
WE pray **FOR** each **OTH**-er.
WE pray **FOR** each **OTH**-er.
GOD hears **US**.
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Activity 3: Game “Guard and Angel”

Supplies: none

Boys and girls, today we are going to play a variation of the game London Bridge. As you are captured in the bridge, you will get to choose to stand behind a guard or an angel. The trick is, you won't know which person is the guard or which person is the angel.

Play a version of London Bridge. Before the game begins, designate one person making the “bridge” as a guard and the other person as an angel but do not tell them which they are. No one knows which is which. Start normally, with a line of children passing through the two children forming a “bridge” with their arms. When the song ends and the “bridge” captures a child, that child must choose which person to stand behind. After several children are behind each person, reveal who is the guard and who is the angel. Those who chose to stand behind the angel get to re-enter the game. Those who chose the guard must sit out one turn. Allow several children the chance to be the angel and guard.

Review the Bible event.

What did Jesus’ followers do to help while Peter was in jail? (*Prayed to God.*)

Let’s practice the take home point. *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...*We pray for each other.*

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
We are your church.
We pray for each other.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Frere Jacques*)

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WE pray FOR each OTH-er.
GOD hears US.
GOD hears US.**

Prayer Time

What things can you pray about for God to help you with? (*Family, school, sickness, friends, etc.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. *WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...We pray for each other.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: **We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.**

(If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: **Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is praying hands. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
...We pray for each other.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
A bird can fly right out of jail!



Presenter: **Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like praying hands. Now listen carefully to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
...We pray for each other.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
We can tickle each others' toes!

Presenter: **Albie, today we played a game called Guard and Angel. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
...We pray for each other.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
We play board games when we are bored!

Presenter says: **Albie, listen one last time.**

Kids response: ***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**
 ...We pray for each other.
Presenter: (says to Albie): ***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...**

Albie's response: (Warms up his singing voice with “Mee, mee, mee, mee...” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
 ***WE ARE GOD'S CHURCH...We pray for each other.**

Presenter says to Albie: **Good job, Albie!**
Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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Song:
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WE pray FOR each OTH-er.
GOD hears US.
GOD hears US.**

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants you to pray for each other.

