

THE
GOSPEL
PROJECT
FOR KIDS[®]

The Church United

Kids Worship Guide

VOLUME II



THE GOSPEL PROJECT[®] FOR KIDS

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Write the dates for each session here! —

*The Gospel Project for Kids:
Kids Worship Guide*

The Church United

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Bible Study at a Glance

Leader Bible Study

Familiarize yourself with the content and context of the Bible story and how it relates to God's plan of redemption

Preparation

Pray for your kids and gather and prepare session materials.

- Prepare videos
- Prepare slides or posters
- Assemble supplies
- Print/download printables
- Pray for your kids

Kids Worship Leader

The master-storytellers guide kids through a themed dialogue of the Bible story and Christ Connection.

- Introduce the Session
- Giant Timeline
- Big Picture Question
- Christ Connection
- Group Demonstration
- Review
- Key Passage
- Worship Options
- Pray

Sing and Offering

Fresh praise and worship songs help kids relate to the Bible story.

- Unit Theme song
- Key Passage song
- 4 worship videos

Missions

Help kids learn how God equips all Christians to share the gospel with others.

- Missions Video or Story
- Missions Activity Option

Activities

Play games and experience object lessons to internalize the Bible story and Christ Connection.

- Demonstration
- Games

Worship Options

Choose what works best with your group, space, and budget.

Suggested times

The times provided allow you to complete the session plan in an hour and fifteen minutes. Lengthen or shorten the session as needed.

Unit 33: A Firm Foundation

Unit Description:

Paul reminded believers about the truth of the gospel. The Bible gives us a firm foundation for our faith. By reading and studying Scripture, we can remember what is true and encourage others as they live by faith.

Key Passage:

Acts 4:12

Big Picture Question:

What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

Session 1:

The Jerusalem Council

Acts 15

Story Point:

Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus.

Session 3:

No Other Gospel

Galatians 1–3

Story Point:

Believers are saved and grow in godliness by faith in Jesus.

Session 2:

Paul's Second Journey

Acts 15–18

Story Point:

Paul and Silas planted new churches.

Session 4:

Paul Gave Hope

1–2 Thessalonians

Story Point:

Paul told the church to stand firm as we wait for Jesus' return.



The Jerusalem Council

Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus.

Paul's Second Journey

Paul and Silas planted new churches.



No Other Gospel

Believers are saved and grow in godliness by faith in Jesus.

Paul Gave Hope

Paul told the church to stand firm as we wait for Jesus' return.





Use Week of:

Unit 33 • Session 2

Paul's Second Journey

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Acts 15–18

STORY POINT:

Paul and Silas
planted new churches.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 4:12

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

- Countdown
- Introduce the session (2 min.)
- Big picture question (1 min.)
- Giant timeline (1 min.)
- Tell the Bible story (10 min.)
- Christ connection
- Group demonstration (5 min.)
- Review (4 min.)
- Key passage (5 min.)
- Group game (5–10 min.)
- Sing and give offering (3–12 min.)
- Missions moment (6 min.)
- Announcements (2 min.)
- Prayer (2 min.)
- Additional idea

Leaders, grow on the go! Listen to session-by-session training every week on Ministry Grid, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or LifeWay's Digital Pass:
ministrygrid.com/gospelproject | gospelproject.com/podcasts

LEADER Bible Study

Paul was back at the church of Antioch in Syria. The church had sent out Paul and Barnabas to preach the gospel to Jews and Gentiles in places like Lystra and Derbe. Then they returned to the church of Antioch. Some time passed, and Paul wanted to return to some of the cities he visited on his first journey to see how the new believers were doing.

Silas accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey, which is recorded in Acts 15:36–18:22. The pair traveled through Syria and Cilicia (sih LISH ih uh), encouraging believers and strengthening churches. The number of believers in the churches increased daily.

Paul and Silas obeyed the Lord's call to go to Macedonia. Two major events happened while Paul was in Macedonia. First, a woman named Lydia became a believer. Paul and Silas had gone to the river to pray. They spoke to the women at the river. God opened Lydia's heart to the good news of the gospel.

Then, a jailer became a believer. This happened when Paul and Silas were thrown into prison. Late at night, an earthquake rocked the prison. The prisoners could have escaped, but they stayed where they were. This was a huge relief to the jailer. Had the prisoners escaped, the jailer would have been punished. In fact, the jailer was ready to kill himself when Paul shouted, "We are all here!" The jailer asked Paul and Silas how to be saved. They told him, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." The man believed and was baptized.

Emphasize the Christ connection as you review the Bible story with kids. Lydia was saved and the jailer was saved because they believed in Jesus. Jesus offers us salvation as a gift. He did all the work to save us by dying on the cross. We do not need to earn salvation; we can receive it by repenting and trusting in Jesus.

The BIBLE Story

Paul's Second Journey

Acts 15–18

One night, God told Paul in a vision to go to Macedonia to share the gospel there. On the way, Paul and his friends stopped for a few days in a city called Philippi. They went to the river to pray. Some women were there, and Paul started talking to them. A woman named Lydia was listening, and God opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. Lydia and everyone in her house were baptized.

On another day, **a servant girl met Paul and Silas. She had a spirit in her that allowed her to predict the future. The girl followed Paul and Silas, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God!” Finally, Paul turned and said to the spirit in her, “By the power of Jesus, I command you to come out of her!” And the spirit came out right away.**

Now the girl's owners were upset because she could no longer tell the future. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities. The officials put Paul and Silas in jail.

About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God. Suddenly, a violent earthquake shook the jail. All the doors flew open, and all the prisoners' chains came loose. The jailer woke up and



thought the prisoners had escaped, so he took out his sword and was about to kill himself.

“Don’t hurt yourself!” Paul said. “We are all here!”

The jailer took Paul and Silas outside. “Men, what must I do to be saved?” he asked.

They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.” The jailer and everyone in his household believed and were baptized. Later that day, Paul and Silas were set free.

When Paul got to Athens, he was upset that the people there did not worship the one true God. Instead, they worshiped many idols. Paul told the people the good news about Jesus. He said, “Men of Athens, I saw in your city an altar that said: ‘To an Unknown God.’ You worship without knowing.”

Paul told the people about the one true God. He explained that God made everything. He is not like the idols in Athens that are made of gold, silver, or stone. God does not need anything, and He is not far away. **Paul also said that God wants everyone in the world to repent, to turn away from their sin and turn to Him.**

When the people heard about Jesus being raised from the dead, some of them laughed; however, some people believed in Jesus.

Christ Connection: Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.”

Bible Storytelling Tips

• Display a map:

Show locations of Paul’s second journey. Use sticky flags to represent Paul and Silas and move them around the map as they travel.

• Change the point of view:

Tell the story from the perspective of Lydia or the jailer. Tell how you (Lydia or the jailer) came to salvation. Then go on to tell what Paul and Silas did on the rest of their journey.

TEACH the Story



SESSION TITLE: Paul's Second Journey

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 15–18

STORY POINT: Paul and Silas planted new churches.

KEY PASSAGE: Acts 4:12

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

Countdown

• countdown video

Show the countdown video as your kids arrive, and set it to end as worship time begins.

Introduce the session (2 min.)

• leader attire

• cup or bowl

• o-shaped cereal

[Sophie is already on stage. Will enters holding a cup or bowl of o-shaped cereal.]

WILL • I brought you some of my favorite breakfast. Know what it is?

SOPHIE • I sure don't.

WILL • *Cheering-os!* *[laughing and holding up an o-shaped cereal piece.]*

SOPHIE • Wow, that was so bad it was good. I'm impressed.

WILL • Yesterday's practice went well, don't you think?

SOPHIE • Yes, it did! I was so happy with what we accomplished. I feel like our team is really working together this season. Everyone is doing their part to make the team better. But the pyramid still needs a little more work.

WILL • You think so? What are you *base*-ing that on? Get it? Because the base is the most import—ah, never mind, I'll be more serious. The pyramid needs some help. Maybe we should ask the team to practice their parts at home.

SOPHIE • We can ask the team to practice the individual parts of the routine at home, but the pyramid we kind of have to work on together. You can't really do a pyramid by yourself in your backyard, can you? We should focus our group practice on the pyramid and leave individual stunts for practice at home.

WILL • While we think about that, do you think the Bible has any more stories to help us learn how to work more closely as a team? I learned so much from our story last week.

SOPHIE • That's a great idea! Everything in the Bible can be used to teach us and correct us. Let's see what we can find.

Big picture question (1 min.)

• Big Picture Question
Poster

SOPHIE • Did you read anything else in the Bible this week?

WILL • Actually, yes! I was so interested in everything you taught me last week, that I spent hours reading the Bible. I started reading the Book of John. Some of it still confused me, though.

SOPHIE • I'm glad you've been reading! I can get some resources from church to help you understand. In the meantime, do you remember our big picture question and answer from last week? ***What is the Bible about?***

WILL • ***The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.***

Giant timeline (1 min.)

• Giant Timeline

SOPHIE • Yep! Every single story in the Bible teaches us about Jesus and how He rescued us through His death and resurrection. Last week we talked about

the council of church leaders who met in Jerusalem. They agreed that salvation comes only through faith in Jesus.

WILL • I remember! We talked about how the law was a burden, and we learned that God frees us *to be able* to obey Him, not *from* obeying Him.

SOPHIE • Good memory. This week, we are going to look at Paul. At first, Paul hated Christians and tried to get rid of them. But Jesus saved Paul, and Paul began traveling and preaching the good news of Jesus. Our story this week is called “Paul’s Second Journey.”

Tell the Bible story (10 min.)

Open your Bible to Acts 15–18. Use the Bible storytelling tips provided with the Bible story script to help you tell the story, or watch the Bible story video “Paul’s Second Journey.”

WILL • That seemed like ten stories in one. There were a lot of people and places in that Bible story.

SOPHIE • I know! Paul and Silas journeyed to so many cities and met so many people along the way.

WILL • How did Paul know what cities to go to?

SOPHIE • In our Bible story today, God told Paul to share the gospel in Macedonia. As Paul and Silas traveled, they told pretty much everyone they met about Jesus. Even when it got them in trouble with the rulers of the area, they never stopped preaching about Jesus.

WILL • It’s hard to imagine that kind of boldness. I don’t know if I could stand up for the truth if I knew I’d get in trouble for it. Where did their courage come from?

SOPHIE • That’s a good question. The truth is, courage like

- Bibles, 1 per kid
- “Paul’s Second Journey” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Story Point Poster

that comes from the Holy Spirit. The Bible teaches us that He is with believers always, no matter where we go. He helps us remember the truth and know what to say to others.

WILL • That's a good point. It makes sense that **Paul and Silas planted new churches**, because they were being guided and protected by God the whole way!

SOPHIE • Yep! Their message was simple but the power and boldness came from God's desire to see all people hear the gospel and believe.

Christ Connection

SOPHIE • Those are some of my favorite Bible stories. I love reading about when people heard the gospel and immediately believed in Jesus.

WILL • And not just the individuals, but in a few of those cases their whole households believed in Jesus!

SOPHIE • Isn't that awesome? Lydia, the jailer, and many others were saved because they heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. Paul and Silas preached the same message to all people, no matter who they were: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

WILL • I feel bolder already. We can share the good news of Jesus to people at school, in our neighborhood, on our teams, and everywhere we go. We share the same message as Paul did: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

Tip: Consider using your Bible and the gospel poster provided to explain to kids how to become a Christian. Anytime you invite kids to respond in a large group setting, make sure you have counselors available to speak with kids individually to answer questions.

Group demonstration (5 min.)

Invite two volunteers to the stage. Ask the whole group to count aloud how many people are on stage. Encourage each volunteer to bring two more kids to the stage. Ask the

whole group to count how many people are on stage aloud. Encourage the four volunteers to each bring two more kids to the stage. Ask the whole group to count how many people are on stage aloud. Continue until the stage is full or every kid is on stage. If you have a smaller group, start with one volunteer and only invite one more kid to the stage each time.

WILL • This stage got super crowded—and fast! There was barely any room for me!

SOPHIE • Ha! This was a great way to see how the gospel spreads. Paul and Silas kept sharing the good news of Jesus with all kinds of different people they met in all kinds of different places. Many of those people heard the gospel and believed in Jesus. How will people know about Jesus unless someone tells them? We must share the message of Jesus with as many people as possible!

WILL • I get it! If we each share the gospel with a few people and then they share the gospel with a few people, it could multiply so fast.

SOPHIE • Exactly! It could multiply as quickly as the people on this stage!

Review (4 min.)

SOPHIE • Now would be a great time to review the story to see how much we remember, and what we learned.

WILL • Yeah, let's do it!

Invite the kids to answer the following questions:

1. Who are some of the people who believed and were saved? (*Lydia, a servant girl, the jailer, and some people from Athens, Acts 16:11-34; 17:34*)
2. How did God save Paul and Silas from jail?

(through an earthquake, Acts 16:26)

3. What message did Paul share with the jailer?
("Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved," Acts 16:31)
4. What does this story teach me about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or the gospel?
5. What does this story teach me about myself?
6. Are there any commands in this story to obey?
How are they for God's glory and my good?
7. Are there any promises in this story to remember?
How do they help me trust and love God?
8. How does this story help me live on mission better?

Key passage (5 min.)

Read Acts 4:12 and encourage the kids to read along in their Bibles. Display the key passage poster for kids to read. You may also sing the key passage song.

• Key Passage Poster
• "In No One Else (Acts 4:12)" song

SOPHIE • Only Jesus can save us. We can believe in Jesus and put our faith in Him. No one else can save us, only Jesus.

WILL • Just like all the people who believe in the Bible story?

SOPHIE • Exactly. Just like Lydia, the servant girl, the jailer and others who believed in Jesus, we can trust Jesus, too. Jesus' death and resurrection made the way for us to be made right with God. Salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone.

Group game (5–10 min.)

GOOD NEWS

• old newspapers
• scissors

SOPHIE • Good news is exciting! When you hear good news you want to share it with others. Let's see if we can

find some good news to share with each other. Form small groups of three or four kids. Provide each group with an old newspaper (that you have previewed for age appropriate content) and a pair of scissors. Invite the small groups to work together to find and cut out stories or pictures that they believe to be good news. When every group has something, allow time for each group to share their good news with the whole group.

WILL • Sometimes hearing good news makes you feel so happy.

SOPHIE • And these good news stories are nothing compared to the good news of Jesus. Although these stories were fun to share with each other and nice to hear, they can't rescue anyone. People need to hear the gospel! We need to be more like Paul and Silas. We need to share the gospel so many people will have the opportunity to put their faith in Jesus.

Sing and give offering (3–12 min.)

• “Go Tell the World”
song and other
songs of your choice

SOPHIE • Paul and Silas planted new churches. They took the Great Commission seriously, and dedicated their lives to obeying that command from Jesus. We can be a part of the same mission when we go tell the world about Jesus.

WILL • I'm in! Let's sing about it!

Sing “Go Tell the World,” choose from the songs provided this quarter, or sing other songs as time allows.



Missions moment (6 min.)

• “William Carey
Story” printable

LEADER • Missionary William Carey is often called “The Father of Modern Missions.” He helped churches understand the need to send missionaries

to places where people had not heard of Jesus. In the New Testament, we read that Paul and Silas planted new churches. William Carey planted new churches many years ago, and missionaries today plant new churches, too.

Display the photo and ask a volunteer to read the short story about William Carey. Pray for missionaries working in India today and for any missionaries your church supports.

Announcements (2 min.)

WILL • Paul and Silas made a good team. They worked so well together to tell people about Jesus. That was a great story to learn and some good encouragement for our own team.

SOPHIE • I have a great idea for our practice. What if we divide and conquer. We can divide into small groups. Some of the teammates who can do the pyramid really well can take a couple of teammates who need more help. We can all learn from each other.

WILL • That's just like the churches learning from Paul and Silas. I love it!

SOPHIE • Ooh, good connection, Will! Let's go over the announcements before we gather the team.

Make any announcements from your kids' ministry.

Prayer (2 min.)

SOPHIE • God, We praise You for the good news of Jesus. We pray that You would give us the courage to share the gospel with people we know in our schools, our neighborhoods, our teams, and everywhere we go. Amen.

Additional idea

THE SAME MESSAGE

Before the session, write the following messages on three separate sheets of paper. You will have nine sheets total, three of each:

- *God gives the gift of salvation.*
- *Jesus is the only way to be saved.*
- *Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.*

Form three groups. Invite the groups to sit in a line. Provide the last kid in each group with a piece of paper and a pencil. Pass out one message (each group needs the same message) to the first kid in each group. The first person will look at the message on the paper and then whisper the message to the next kid in line. Each kid will whisper the message until it gets to the last kid in line. The last kid will write the message he heard on his paper. Then the three kids who were last in line will meet and show each other their messages. They will work together to figure out what the message was supposed to be and present the final message to the whole group. Discuss whether the message is correct or not. Continue playing with the last two messages.

WILL • This was fun! Those were important messages.

SOPHIE • Paul and Silas shared the message that “Jesus saves,” with everyone they met. We need to be sharing the same message with all people: “Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved.”