

## LESSON PLAN

### THE PHILIPPIAN JAILOR

#### Acts 16:6-40

**Lesson Memory Verse:** Acts 16:31 - "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, and your house."

**Lesson Aim:** To assist the children to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and ask Him to be their Savior.

**Lesson Plan:** Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

**KEY (for Attention):** Christians often talk about being saved, but do you know what it means to be saved? A young boy was asked if he were saved and he said he knew he was saved. Then he was asked to tell how he was saved, He said, "I was in the forest with my father and he was cutting down trees. My father saw that I was in the place where a tree was about to fall and he grabbed my arm and pulled me out of danger from the falling tree. He saved me from being killed."

Well, that is one way to be saved, but that is not what the Bible means when it talks about being saved. What do you think the Bible means when it talks about being saved? Can you tell me what God wants us to be saved from? (Saved from living a sinful life and saved from going to Hell to live with Satan forever.) What does God want us to be saved unto? (Saved to live a godly life and saved to live with Jesus Christ in Heaven, then in His Kingdom on earth for 1000 years and finally in the New Jerusalem forever)

If you want to go to Heaven, you must be saved from Hell. If you want to live a godly life, you must be saved from the power of sin which makes you do wrong. If you want to live with Jesus Christ, you must be saved from living with Satan.

Being saved is the most important thing you can ever do. It is a wise boy or girl that makes sure he or she is saved.

**HE (for Authority):** But you ask, "How can I be saved? What do I have to do?" Our memory verse tells us the answers to these questions. (Print the verse on a large card and post it on the wall and have all the children read it. Leave it there while you teach the lesson.) Your question on how to be saved is done by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can save you. He is God's Son and was sent to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross. His last words on the cross were, "It is finished." He was telling us that He had finished all the work that was needed for us to be saved. Now all we have to do is to believe what He has done for us.

**SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application):** PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. In our Bible story, we will see how some people got saved in the city of Philippi.

#### I. Lydia Saved - Acts 16:12-15

- A. She attended a prayer meeting (16:13).
- B. She heard Paul preach (16:13).
- C. God opened her heart to believe what Paul preached and was saved (16:14).
- D. She was baptized to let others know that she was saved (16:15).
- E. Her household was saved, too (16:15).
- F. She urged Paul, Silas, Luke and Timothy to stay at her house (16:15).

**WE:** When we are saved, we will want to be baptized, we will want to help others and we will want to be with the Christians.

#### II. Soothsayer Saved - Acts 16:16-18

- A. She was possessed by an evil spirit (16:16).
- B. She kept following Paul and Silas and bothering them (16:17).
- C. Paul cast the evil spirit out of her (16:18). She was saved from the evil spirit, but it is not certain that she was saved from going to Hell. (We cannot say for certain because we do not know if she ever believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to save her.)

**WE:** We may be saved from some danger, accident, sickness or attack from Satan by the goodness of God, but that does not save us from Hell. We must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved from

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Hell. If you believe Jesus paid the penalty on the cross for your sins and you have asked Him to save you from living a sinful life, He will be your Savior, so you can live with Him forever,

### III. Jailor Saved (Acts 16:19-34)

#### A. Paul and Silas were sent to prison (16:19-23).

1. The masters of the soothsayer were angry with Paul and Silas when the evil spirit was cast out of her (16:19).
2. The soothsayer's masters brought Paul and Silas to the rulers of the city and charged them with troubling the city (16:19-21).
3. The rulers beat Paul and Silas and cast them into prison (16:22-23).

#### B. The Jailor was troubled about his sin (16:24-30).

1. The jailor threw Paul and Silas into the inner prison and put their feet in stocks (16:24).
2. Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God and the prisoners heard them (16:25). (The jailor must have heard, too, because he knew that Paul and Silas could tell him the way to be saved – 16:30.)
3. God sent an earthquake at midnight and the prison was broken open (16:16).
4. The jailor was ready to kill himself when he saw the prison doors were open (16:27).
5. Paul stopped him from killing himself by telling him in a loud voice that they had not left the prison (16:28). Most prisoners would be glad to have the jailor kill himself; then they could be free. Also they would feel the jailor got what he deserved.
6. The jailor called for a light and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas (16:29).
7. The jailor asked them how to be saved (16:30).

#### C. The Jailor was saved from his sin (16:31-34).

1. The jailor heard that he could be saved by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ (16:31). When one believes on the Lord for salvation, it means more than believing with one's mind that He is God. It means that one loves Jesus for dying on the cross for him and trusts Jesus to save him from living a sinful life. He also believes Jesus will save him from living in Hell with Satan.
2. The jailor's family also heard how to be saved (16:32).
3. The jailor's life was saved from doing sinful things. God changed his heart so that he wanted to do good things to others. He showed his changed heart when he washed the stripes of Paul and Silas (16:33).
4. The jailor and his family also showed that they were saved when they were baptized (16:33).
5. The jailor fed Paul and Silas and rejoiced in his salvation along with his family (16:34). Once again the jailor showed that he was saved from the power of sin when he fed Paul and Silas and rejoiced in his salvation along with his family.

**WE:** We should be able to show proof that we are saved by the way we treat others and by our joy in the Lord.

**BE (for Action);** Lydia was saved. Those in Lydia's house were saved. The soothsayer may have been saved. The jailor was saved and his family was saved. You, too, can be saved like they were. I can help you today if you believe Jesus Christ has finished the work that needed to be done to save you. If you love Jesus and ask Him to save you, He will do it right now. (Give an invitation for the children to accept Jesus Christ by staying after class and you will help them. You may want to have them raise their hands in class to let you know that they want your help.)