

## Bible background

Acts 5:15-42

## Aim of lesson

To show that Jesus was still with his disciples and helped them when he was in heaven.

## Preparation required

It would be useful to have a table or some similar space available which could serve as a prison or dungeon.

You will need colouring materials.

## Suggested outline of lesson

1. Ask the children to mime the lesson as you tell it. Remind them that when Jesus went to heaven he gave his special power to his disciples. Ask who wants to be one of the disciples in the story.  
  
Tell how they preached and healed sick people. Other children could play the part of those sick people and should lie down waiting to be healed. Two other children could be guards which the high priest sent to arrest the apostles and put them in prison. The corner of the room or the space under the table could serve as the prison. At this point the apostles should go to sleep. Then an angel arrives and sets them free and tells them to go to the temple and tell the people about Jesus.  
  
End this little drama with the report of the guards to the high priest emphasising their surprise, and the fact that the disciples were not afraid to preach in the name of Jesus because they knew that Jesus was still with them.  
  
You could repeat the drama. Now that the children know what is happening they will be able to join in better. Alternatively, you could tell the story first and then get the children to mime.
2. The activity sheet can be made into a booklet. The children could draw the disciples praying, thanking God for looking after them, in the centre pages.
3. You can teach the song 'The Lord Loves Me'.

## Alternative activities

1. Build the prison out of Lego, modelling clay or blocks. Use play figures, or make some from modelling clay, to retell the story.
2. Help children to draw pictures of times when they have been afraid, e.g. getting lost, being in the dark, going to a strange place. Add a caption 'Thank you God for looking after me when...'
3. If you have space to put up a wall display, write or print out a large copy of the song words for The Lord loves me from the teacher's notes. Get the children to draw pictures of themselves to stick around the edge. Alternatively, give each child a circle of card or a paper plate and get them to draw or stick on their features and some hair. Add a name label and display these around the song words.
4. If you don't have room for a wall display, give each child an A4 size figure cut from card to make into themselves by drawing or sticking. Glue a copy of the song words on to each figure. You could add a loop of thread to each figure so it can be hung up at home.

## Relevance to the children's lives

Ask the children what they are afraid of. Discuss how God can help us

## Prayer

Discuss what each child might pray when they are afraid.

## Verse

'When I am afraid I will trust in you.' Psalm 56:3.

# Song

## The Lord Loves Me (Tune: Plaisir D'Amour)

Musical notation for the song 'The Lord Loves Me' (Tune: Plaisir D'Amour). The notation is in 3/4 time and features two staves. The first staff contains the melody with notes and rests, and the second staff contains the accompaniment with notes and rests. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, C, F, Bb, F, C on the first staff, and Bb, C, Dm, Gm, C, C7 on the second staff.

The Lord loves me  
Wherever I am he can see  
When I am afraid, I remember  
The Lord loves me.

*Music: cop con.*