

Bible background

Acts 21:17, 27-36; Acts 22:30; Acts 23:10, 11, 16-24

Aim of lesson

To show Paul was looked after by God.

Preparation required

You will need pencils and colouring materials.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. Explain that Paul is now in Jerusalem and why the Jewish leaders stirred up the people against him, pulling him out of the Temple in order to kill him.
2. Tell the children about the attitude of the Romans to the uproar and how they safeguarded Paul.
3. Explain how Paul was threatened with flogging by the Roman soldiers and how he escaped this by revealing his Roman citizenship. Reinforce the way the Roman soldiers felt when they discovered Paul was a Roman too.
4. Describe how Paul was taken to a cell by the Romans in order to keep him safe a second time and how an angel told him that he would go to Rome.
5. Tell the children about the plot hatched by the Jewish leaders and how Paul's nephew saved him. Emphasise the trouble the Romans went to get Paul safely away to Caesarea.
6. Conclude this week by telling the children how Paul remained in Caesarea for two years and yet did not give up hope of going to Rome.

Alternative activities

1. Using Lego/blocks make models of the Temple and prison. Use play figures or make Plasticine models to retell the story.
2. Make some Roman soldiers. Cut figures out of card and let the children colour or stick on some armour then give each soldier a cardboard, art straw or pipe cleaner and foil spear.
3. Alternatively, draw round one of the class on a large piece of paper, e.g. wallpaper, and then either colour, paint, print or use collage materials to turn them into a Roman soldier.
4. Cut some strings of paper dolls so that each child has 3 figures. Let the children colour them so that Paul is in the middle with a guard on each side.

Relevance to the children's lives

Remind the children how we are looked after by God.

Prayer

The children can thank God in their own words for all his loving care.

Verse

'The Lord stood at my side and gave me strength.' 2 Timothy 4:17.