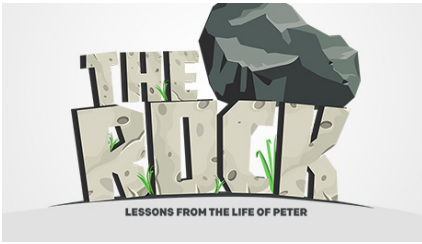


Small Group Experience

LESSON 8 - “Jailbreak”



Whatchagaddaknow?:

“Jesus Came And Died For Me, And From Sin He Sets Me Free!”



Power Verse:

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”

-John 8:36

Retelling The Bible Story

SUPPLY LIST:

* Bible Story Print Piece (*provided; print one*)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print the Bible Story Print Piece and review the story so you are familiar with the main points. Once small group begins, choose four volunteers who are willing to read aloud. Hand the lesson excerpt to one volunteer, and ask them to read the first part. Once they complete their portion, they should pass the lesson excerpt to the next volunteer so they can read the second part. Continue on this way until the story is complete.

Say- It's time to break free, and we are going to need some help. “Break free from what?” you ask? You'll find out soon! I need four volunteers who are willing to read aloud.

-Choose volunteers and give one of them the Bible Story Print Piece-

Say- Each of you will read one part of the Bible Story aloud. When you're done reading your part, pass the story page to the next volunteer. We will continue on this way until the story is complete.

-Allow time for the volunteers to read the story aloud-

Say- Thank you for being willing to read aloud. Great job! Peter was desperate and needed major help to break free! I want to hear your thoughts on a few things from the story.

Ask- How do you think Peter felt as he sat shackled between the guards?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Ask- Why couldn't Peter free himself from prison?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Ask- God was able to set Peter free. Why?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Game/Activity**SUPPLY LIST:**

- * True/False Print Piece (*provided; print one per kid*)
- * Craft sticks (*one per kid*)
- * Scissors (*for the group to share*)
- * Glue (*for the group to share*)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print the True/False Print Pieces and gather all classroom materials. Once activity time begins, give each kid a copy of the True/False Print Piece and a craft stick. Have them cut out the True/False piece, fold it in half, and glue the craft stick between the two halves. This will be used during the activity. Read the list of strange laws, pausing after each one so the kids can answer. If they think the law is real, they will display the TRUE side of their sign. If they think the law is fake, they should display the FALSE side. Once everyone has answered, reveal whether the law is real or fake and then move to the next law. Continue on this way until you ask about all the laws. This is a fun lesson concept reinforcing activity.

Say- One consequence of breaking the law is going to prison or jail. There are some strange laws out there! You guys are going to determine if the laws on my list are real or fake. First, you'll need to make a sign so you can answer “true” or “false.” Cut out the True/False piece, fold it in half, and glue a craft stick between the two halves so that when you hold up the craft stick, one side says “F” for “false” and the other says “T” for “true.”

-Allow time for the kids to complete the task-

Say- Are you ready to hear these strange laws? Me too! I am going to read the law aloud and give you to time to answer. If you think the law is real, vote “true.” If you think the law is fake, vote “false.”

-Read the laws aloud, and allow time for the kids to respond. Once they respond, reveal whether or not the law is real or fake-

1. In Washington, it is illegal to kill Bigfoot. (*True*)
2. In Virginia, it's illegal to hunt on Sundays - unless you're hunting raccoons. (*True*)
3. In North Carolina, it's illegal to hold a meeting if you're wearing a costume. (*True*)
4. In New Mexico, it's illegal to eat vanilla ice cream on Mondays. (*False*)
4. In Nevada, it's illegal to lie down on the sidewalk. (*True*)
5. In Louisiana, it's illegal to wrestle a bear. (*True*)
6. In Texas, it's illegal to drive a purple car. (*False*)
7. In Kansas, it's illegal to serve ice cream on cherry pie. (*True*)
8. In Georgia, it's illegal to eat fried chicken with a fork. (*True*)

(Continued on next page)

9. In California, it's illegal to eat frogs that die in frog jumping contests. (True)

10. In Alabama, silly string is illegal. (True)

11. In Alaska, it's illegal to have a moose in your hot tub. (False)

Group Sharing

SUPPLY LIST:

- * Wanna Be Free Print Piece (provided; print one per kid)
- * Pencils, crayons, or markers

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print the Wanna Be Free Print Pieces and gather all classroom supplies. Group sharing is focused on encouraging the kids to open up and discuss the lesson concepts and relate those concepts to their lives. Help facilitate and guide the discussion time.

Say- The laws we just heard are pretty funny. I can't imagine getting in trouble for using silly string or eating fried chicken with a fork! We laugh at these extreme examples, but breaking rules carries serious consequences. Laws and rules are put in place to keep us safe. God also established laws and rules to keep us safe. Breaking God's rules carries serious consequences as well.

Ask- What are some consequences of sin?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Ask- How is sin like a spider's web?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Say- Spiders spin webs to attract their victims. Lured in by the web, unsuspecting bugs decide to step in and check it out. Before they realize what has happened, they're hopelessly trapped. Satan spins sin in a way that seems harmless in order to attract his victims. Lured in by the illusion of fun, unsuspecting people decide to step in and check it out. Before they realize what happened, they're hopelessly trapped. Sin is a sticky situation.

Ask- Can we set ourselves free from sin? Why or why not?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Say- Peter wasn't in prison because of sin, but he was hopelessly trapped. His story reminds us that when we are trapped in sin, we are doomed unless God steps in and sets us free. So if you want to be free from sin, what do you do? Let's talk about that! First, you need ask for prayer. Write, "Prayer," in the blank on your page.

-Allow time for the kids to write the word on their page-

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Ask- Why does prayer help when we are trapped in sin?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Say- Prayer is powerful! Prayer moves God on our behalf and engages the power of Heaven. Next, if you want to be free, do your part - obey! Write, “Obey,” in the blank on your page.

-Allow time for the kids to write the word on their page-

Say- You can ask for help all day long, but if you aren’t willing to do your part and obey, you will never be free from sin. Finally, if you want to be free, never look back. Write, “Back,” in the blank on your page.

-Allow time for the kids to write the word on their page-

Ask- What does that mean?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Say- Imagine you see a butterfly trapped in a spider’s web. You spend time gently removing its wings from the web so the butterfly can be free. You place the newly liberated insect on a branch so it can fly away, and to your horror, the butterfly makes a beeline for another web. Crazy butterfly! Why in the world would it fly right back into a trap from which it was just set free? That’s a great question. All too often, God liberates us from sin and we turn around and head right back into the trap from which we were just set free. If God sets us free, we need to run away from sin and never look back. Would someone please read the verse on your page aloud?

-Choose a volunteer and allow them to read the verse aloud-

Ask- What does that verse mean to you?

-Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

Prayer Time

Say- When God sets you free, you are really free! If you need freedom from sin, ask God to set you free. Prayer is powerful, and God is stronger than any trap of the enemy.

Pray

Closing

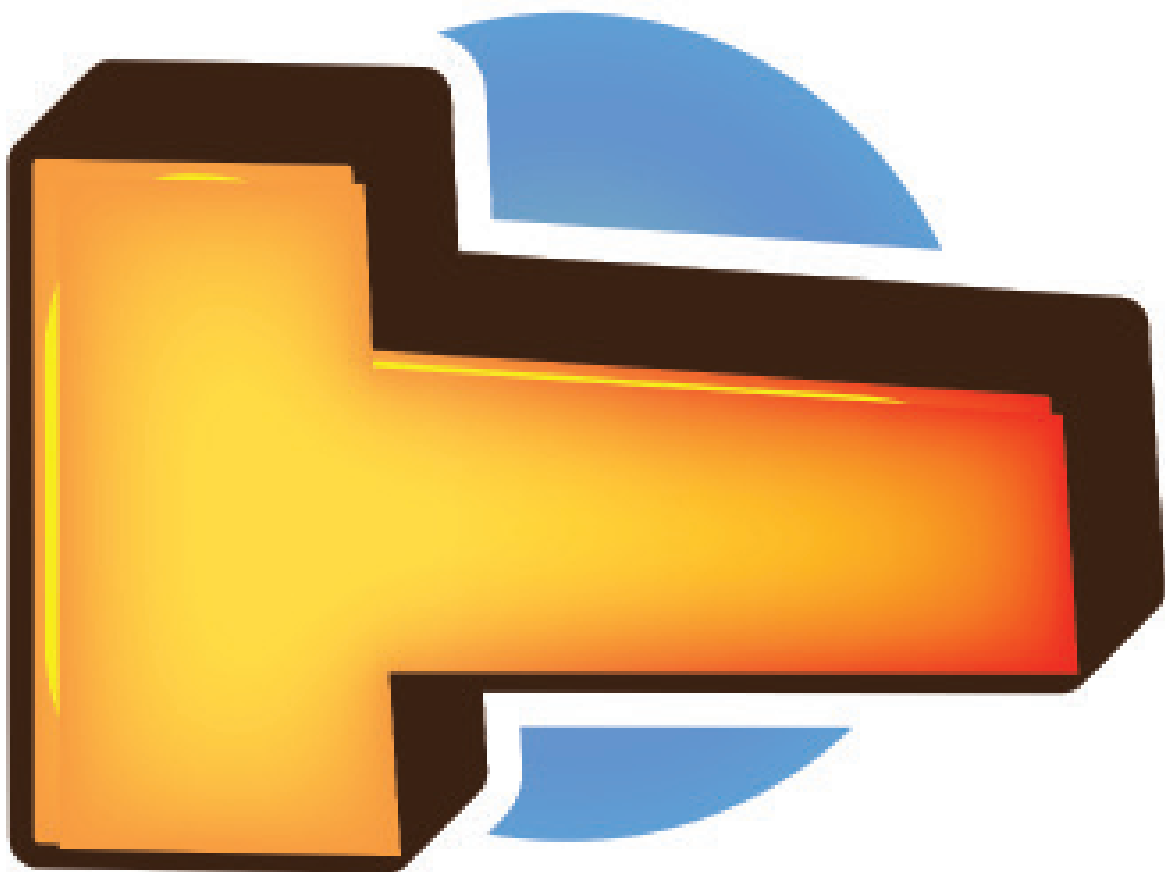
Say- Peter was trapped in a hopeless situation. His strength wasn’t going to be enough to set him free. Peter needed a supernatural intervention. People prayed, God intervened, and Peter was liberated from prison. It’s an amazing reminder of God’s grace and awesome power. If you find yourself trapped in a hopeless situation and the cycle of repeating sin, there is Someone who can help. You need supernatural intervention. Pray and ask God to step in and work on your behalf. Obey Him, and when God sets you free, never look back! *John 8:36* - “So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” Thank you for coming today. I will see you again soon!

PART 1... Peter was in a city, telling others about Jesus, praying for them to be healed, and doing good. As usual, the religious leaders didn't like what he was doing, so they had him arrested and placed in prison simply for preaching about Jesus. They had Peter shackled and placed between two guards. Even if he wanted to try to get away, there was no way Peter could escape without dragging these two prison guards along. It seemed like a hopeless situation. He was in prison with no hope of escape.

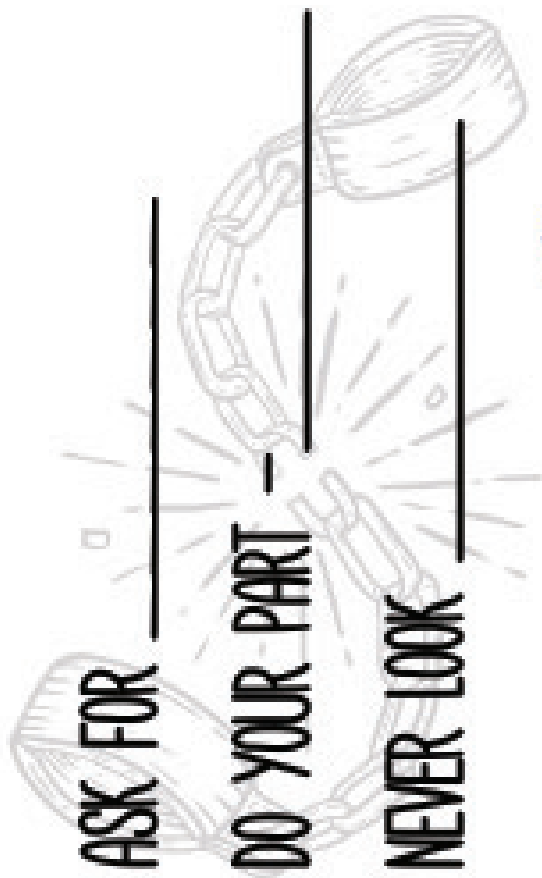
PART 2... However, on the other side of town, there was a group of Christians meeting together in a house. They were praying for God to deliver Peter. In the middle of the night, while Peter was sleeping in a prison cell chained to two prison guards, an angel suddenly appeared. The angel woke Peter up by tapping him on the side. Can you imagine how that went? We don't know exactly. The Bible doesn't tell us those details.

PART 3... What we do know is that the angel told Peter, "Quick, get up!" Peter had a choice to make. Would he argue with the angel? Would he say, "Listen, angel, I am sure you mean well, but can't you see that I am chained to two guards? How am I supposed to get up?" Peter didn't do that. He obeyed, did his part, and got up. The angel led Peter out of the prison and then suddenly disappeared. Peter walked away from the prison and walked straight to the house where the people were praying for him.

PART 4... When he arrived, he knocked on the door. The girl who answered the door couldn't believe it was Peter at the door. She actually closed the door in Peter's face and ran to tell the others, "Peter is at the door." The people didn't believe her at first, but she kept insisting that it was definitely Peter at the door. Finally, the people ran and opened the door. They welcomed Peter inside - safe from prison. It didn't happen exactly the way they imagined it or in the timing that they thought it would, but God came through and helped Peter stage a jailbreak!



IF YOU WANNA BE FREE...



ASK FOR _____

DO YOUR PART — _____

NEVER LOOK _____



“SO IF THE SON SETS

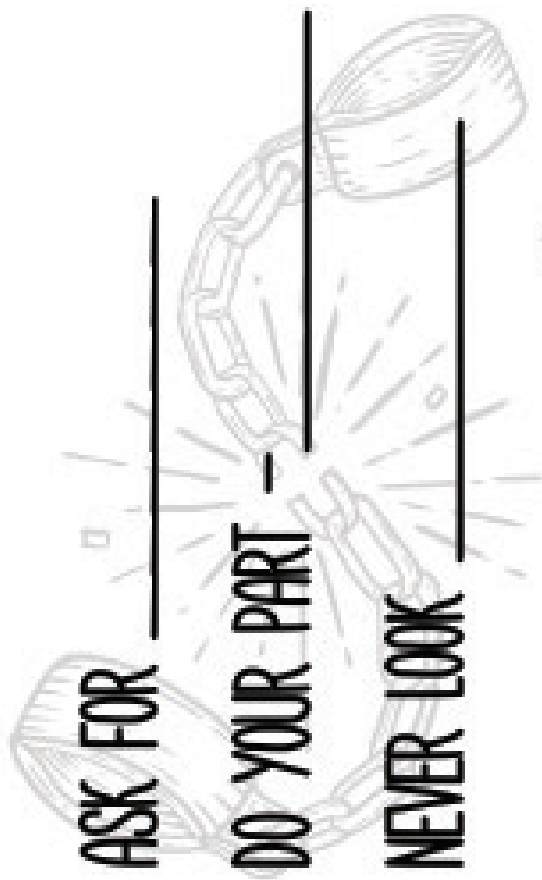
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