



GROUP ACTIVITY

Peter Escapes Prison

BIG IDEA: God hears us when we pray to Him, so we can pray big and bold prayers.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 12:1-19

KEY VERSE: "Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us." 1 John 5:14 (NIV)

BOLD Prayer Wall

Supplies: Art supplies (markers, stickers, crayons), sticky notes and a large piece of poster board

Say: Today we learned that it's not always easy to understand why God says "yes" to some prayers and "no" to others, but God ALWAYS hears our prayers. And if we love Him and we are patient, He makes everything work out for our good. In today's story, Peter's friends prayed big and bold prayers. What do you think it means to pray "big and bold" prayers? (*Take answers*) God wants for us to pray BIG AND BOLD prayers. In fact, I think we should do some BIG and BOLD praying right now.

Directions: We are going to create a BOLD "Prayer Wall." Place the poster board in the middle of the circle and have sticky notes and makers/crayons nearby.

Have everyone think about something big and bold they'd like to pray for. It could be for themselves, their family, their friends, or the world. Ask them to write or draw their prayer request on a sticky note. They can be as creative as they like and use any art supplies to decorate their request.

Once they have written down their prayer request, have them place it on the "Prayer Wall." As they do so, ask if anyone who would like to share a sentence or two about their prayer request. Once all the children have shared their prayer requests, gather around the "Prayer Wall" and pray together, asking God to hear and answer these BIG and BOLD prayers.

Say: Remember that "God hears us when we pray to Him, so we can pray big and bold prayers." This week, I encourage you to pray for your request and the other requests from the group. (It would be great to follow up the next week and see if anyone has an update on their prayer request.)

Question: Why do you think it's important to pray to God when we face difficult situations or problems in our lives?

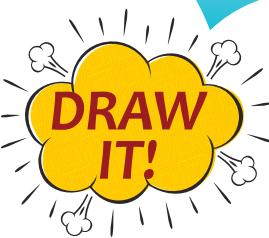
Question: Can you share a time when you felt like God answered one of your prayers? How did it make you feel?



HOMEGUIDE

Name
Date

LESSON 9.4



How could you give to, help, or encourage someone you know? Draw a picture of it.

STRIKE A POSE



Who do you know that could use some encouragement? How could you be like Barnabas to that person? Write about it.



THIS WEEK WE LEARNED

BARNABAS THE ENCOURAGER

BIG IDEA: God wants us to build His church by encouraging others.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 4:32-37; 9:20-31; 11:19-26

KEY VERSE: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." 1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NIV)



**READ
IT!**

Acts 4:32-37. Draw a picture of the story or write to God about your favorite part of the story. Tell Him why you liked it.



**PRAY
IT!**

Do you feel discouraged? Are you having trouble with something? Write a prayer to God and tell Him about it.

NEXT WEEK'S LESSON

PETER ESCAPES PRISON

BIG IDEA: God hears us when we pray to Him, so we can pray big and bold prayers.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 12:1-19

KEY VERSE: “Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us.” 1 John 5:14 (NIV)





"Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us." 1 John 5:14 (NIV)