

Welcome to St. Peter's Virtual Sunday School! Easter Sunday 7! Today is the Seventh Sunday of Easter; the last Sunday in Easter!

While we cannot meet together on Sunday morning, we can still meet virtually to learn about Jesus by reading the Bible, talking about what we've read and doing some activities. Get together with your family and do these lessons when it works for you or phone your friend or Grandma who you can't get together with right now to talk about these lessons. Last week we learned what the Trinity is. Do you remember that God is "3 in 1;" God the Creator, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit? How is an apple like the Trinity? How is water like the Trinity? What promises did you and your family make this week?

Easter Sunday 7 (This lesson comes from Whirl Lectionary Sunday School, Year C Spring.)

Look! Today is the last Sunday of the Easter season. We've been celebrating for the whole Easter season. What have we been celebrating? In the Easter season we celebrated the good news that Jesus rose from the dead and we are saved. Today we're going to read a story about two men who were saved from a scary jail. Two men who loved to tell people about Jesus once spent some time in jail. Their names were Paul and Silas.

If we looked out a window right now, what would we see? When I look out my kitchen window I see my back yard, a path beyond our fence and the forest. Out my living room window, I see my front yard garden, the street and my neighbours' houses. What if we looked out our window and saw something that was not supposed to be there, like a giraffe? What would it feel like? Would you feel surprised? Look at the picture of the window below. Draw a picture of a window on a piece of paper. Now draw some things that you have seen that have surprised you. Next to each picture rank your level of surprise from 1 to 10.



The Story: Unexpected (Attachments: Easter Sunday 7 - 1 and Easter Sunday 7 - 2)

Before you read the story, "Prison Songs for God" look for pictures of cracking walls and water.

Now, read the story, and Ada and Otto's questions and comments.

Questions to think about, answer and talk about after reading the story:

Why were Paul and Silas in jail?

How did Paul and Silas comfort themselves and the other prisoners? What do you do to comfort yourself?

What did Paul and Silas not do after the earthquake? Why did Paul and Silas do the unexpected?

How did the jailer feel when he thought he would get in trouble? How do you feel when you think you might get in trouble?

What songs help you feel close to God?

Activity: (also attached as Easter 7 Activity)

Print the activity sheet, if you are able to do that. Here are all the pictures from today's story. Use the pictures to tell the story again.

In each picture something unexpected happens. Now, it is your job to be a detective of the unexpected.

Try to figure out what unexpected event happened in each picture. When you have decided what part is unexpected, circle it and write one word under the picture that describes the surprising and unexpected event. If you cannot print the worksheet, share your ideas with another member of your family and then draw a picture of it and write one word that describes what you have drawn.



Paul and Silas healed a servant girl, went to prison, sang songs to feel better, experienced an earthquake, didn't escape prison, and baptized their jailer and the jailer's family! That's a lot of unexpected events in one story! Paul and Silas's story reminds us that God works in all our lives in unexpected ways.

Prayer:

Glory to you God! We are blessed by you! Even when we are alone and cold and hurting, God, you are with us. Amen.

Other Activities to do this Week:

Close Encounters – Walk through a park that is now open with a family member; Beaver Lodge Lands is a great place to walk. While you walk, think about the times you have seen, heard, or felt God around you. Share your ideas with each other about these times.

Unexpected email – Think about someone in your church family who volunteers to do different jobs. Send emails to them to thank them for showing the love of Jesus to others through their actions.

Earthquake Cake – Make this cake with your family's help. It's called "Earthquake Cake" because it looks like there's been an earthquake when you pull it out of the oven! Your cake will have lots of cracks and tunnels and pockets full of delicious flavor. If

the look of the craters bothers you, you can always sprinkle some more chocolate chips into the gaps after it comes out of the oven, they'll melt from the heat of the warm cake and be totally delicious.



Earthquake Cake <https://www.dinneratthezoo.com/earthquake-cake/>

- cooking spray
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans (If your don't like pecans, use almonds or walnuts)
- 1 1/2 cups sweetened flaked coconut
- 1 box chocolate fudge cake mix
- eggs, oil and water according to cake mix package
- 1/2 cup butter melted
- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Coat a 9"x13" pan with cooking spray. Make sure it is more than 2" deep.

Place the pecans and coconut in an even layer in the bottom of the pan.

Prepare the cake mix according to package directions and pour the cake batter over the coconut and pecans.

Place the cream cheese in a medium bowl and beat with a mixer until smooth. Add the butter and beat until combined.

Gradually add the powdered sugar to the cream cheese mixture and beat on low speed until smooth.

Place dollops of the cream cheese mixture on top of the cake batter. Sprinkle the chocolate chips over the cake.

Bake the cake for 40 minutes or until the cake has set.

Cool, cut into squares and serve.

Enjoy your week and remember to look for the unexpected ways God works in our lives.

Remember to stay safe, stay local but apart, stay calm and be kind.

And don't forget to keep washing your hands. 😊

Blessings,

Jane



Prison Songs for God

ACTS 16:16-34

Paul and Silas were cold and hungry inside the dark stone prison.

They had freed a servant girl from a powerful spirit inside her. The girl's masters were angry. They BEAT Paul and Silas and THREW them in jail.

Paul and Silas were covered with cuts and bruises. Their bodies ached. But they trusted God was with them.

"God is good," they told the other prisoners. "Even when we are alone and cold and hurting, God is not far away. God is here."

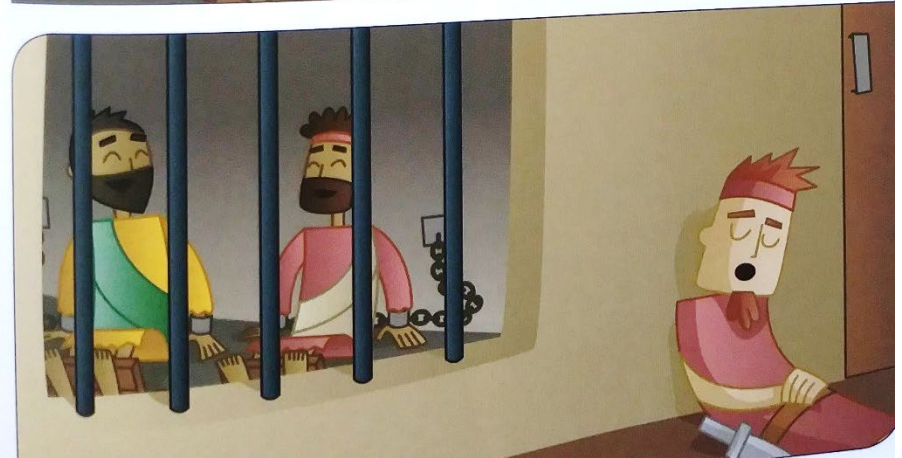
Paul and Silas prayed and sang. "Glory to God! We are blessed!" The other prisoners listened and were comforted.

??

What songs help you feel better?



It's like I always say: Anything can be made better with a sing-along!



At midnight, a rumble shook the whole building.
EARTHQUAKE!

The cell doors **FLEW** off their hinges!

The prison chains **FELL** from the prisoners' hands and feet!

"NO!" the jailer shouted. He was afraid. Had the prisoners run away? His masters would be furious!

"Hello?" whispered the jailer.

From inside the rubble, he heard Paul's voice.

"Don't be afraid!" Paul shouted. "We're all here!"

The jailer was **AMAZED!** Paul, Silas, and their friends trusted God to care for them. They didn't need to run.

That day, the jailer and his family were baptized. They were welcomed into God's family!

So the disciples sang so loud there was an earthquake? That rocks!



I think God had a lot to do with that earthquake, Otto. But it still rocks.



