

Peter's Escape

Lesson Objectives

- The children will list three friends to pray for.
- The children will answer, "Peter," when asked, "Who were the disciples praying for?"
- The children will pray for one another.

Bible Story Text

Acts 12:1-19

Bible Truth

Peter obeyed God.
(Acts 5:29)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Peter's Dilemma

Life Application: Share the Good News

Craft: Peter Mobile

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Peter's Escape

Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a preclass center. Have no more than six children at each center.

Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.

Preparation

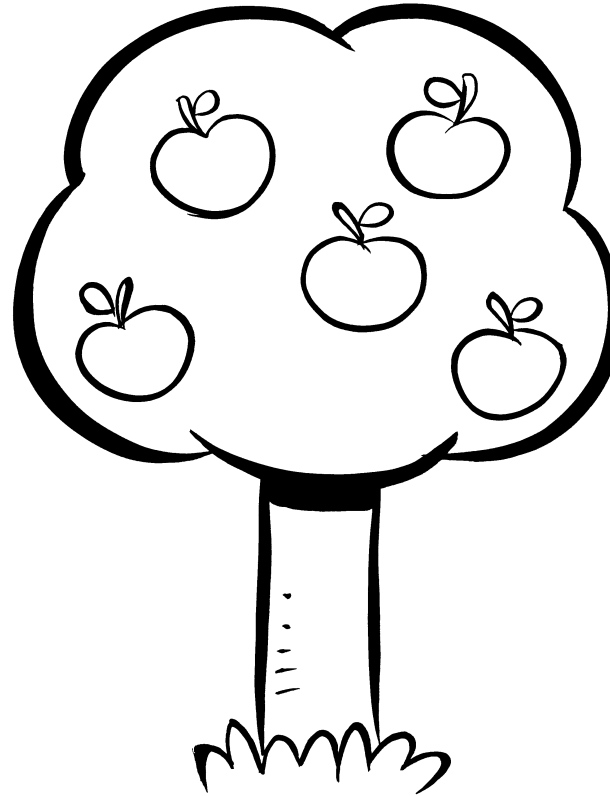
1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.



Peter's Escape

Peter's Dilemma

The children will learn that Peter obeyed God by telling others about Jesus. They will hear how God took care of Peter when he prayed.

Bible Story Text

Acts 12:1-19

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- Peter puppet from the Unit 23 Lesson 3, Bible Story
- Shoebox scenes from the Unit 23 Lesson 3, Bible Story

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story and practice telling it with the props.

Freedom

Have the children sit in a circle with you. Open the Bible and place the Peter puppet on your hand. *This is Peter. Can you say Peter?*

Peter was a very special man of God. The Bible says that Peter used to spend time with Jesus. He learned a lot from watching Jesus and being with him. He was very strong! Put up your arm and flex your muscles. Have the children imitate you. Peter loved God very much. When you love God, do you obey him? Yes! Peter obeyed God! Peter obeyed God and taught many people how to love Jesus and how to be a disciple.

Do the "Bible Fingerplay" from the Unit 23 Song Sheet.

Now I am going to have Peter tell you his amazing story, and remember, his story is true because it is from the Bible.

Have the Peter puppet tell his story. *One day I was out preaching as I always did, and some men came up and told me to stop preaching. "You cannot preach about Jesus anymore," they said. But do you think I stopped? No, I did not! I obeyed God, not these men. So the men put me in prison.*

Show the children the Shoebox Scene 1. *Can you see me? Where am I? Yes, I'm in prison. I was in the prison praying for God to help me to get out so that I could teach more people about God and Jesus. My friends were also praying for me to get out of prison.*

Show the children scene 2. *Can you see me now? Who else do you see? Yes, an angel! God sent an angel to get me out of prison! The angel told me to get up. So I did. But how would we get out?*

The prison had big doors that were locked. But God opened the doors, and the angel and I walked right out of the prison gates!

When I got out of the prison I went to my friends' house. Show them scene 3. My friends were all still there praying for me. While they were praying for God to get me out of prison, I was outside knocking at the door! Do you think they were happy to see me? Do you think I was happy to see them? Yes! We hugged each other, and we thanked God for answering our prayers!

Have the Peter puppet give a hug to each of the children. Then pray. *Dear God, thank you for saving Peter. Thank you for always watching over us and taking care of us. Help us to love you and obey you like Peter did. Help us to pray for our friends.*

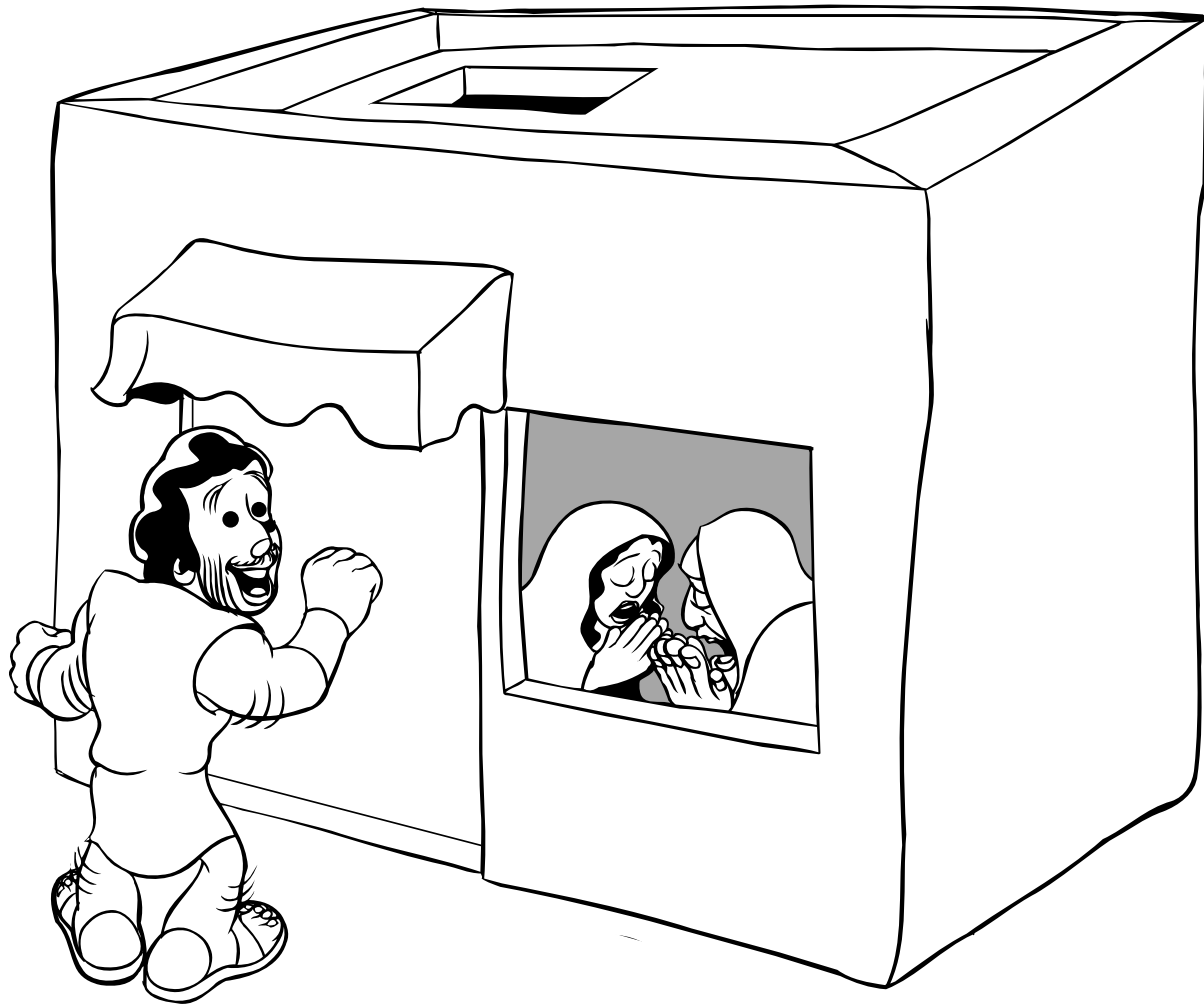
Conclusion

Ask the children the following questions as a review:

- Who obeyed God and preached about Jesus? (Peter)
- Where did the men put Peter? (in prison)
- What did Peter do in prison? (he prayed)
- What did Peter's friends do while he was in prison? (they prayed for him)
- Did God help Peter? (yes)
- What did God do to help Peter? (sent an angel to get him out of prison)
- What did Peter and his friends do? (they hugged and thanked God)



Peter's Escape



Peter's Escape

Share the Good News

The children will learn to be helpful to their parents when their parents are sharing their faith.

Bible Truth

Peter obeyed God.
(Acts 5:29)

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- felt board
- tape
- felt board figures from Unit 23, Lesson 3, Life Application

Preparation

Before the children arrive, place a rolled piece of tape on the back of each figure.

Instructions

Show the children each felt board figure, and remind the children of their names. *Do you remember this family? This is the mommy. This is the brother. Do you remember his name? David! This is his sister. Do you remember her name? Her name is Lesli. This is the baby. She is growing! Now she can walk and talk. Do you remember her name? Her name is Sara!*

Sing "My Own Loving Family" from the Unit 23 Song Sheet.

Place David, Lesli, Sara and Mommy on the felt board.

At the grocery store, *David and Lesli helped Mommy push the grocery cart up to the cash register. It was full of groceries! They were excited because Mommy had let them each pick out one thing. David chose his favorite cookies. He couldn't wait to get home so he could eat one of those cookies! Lesli chose her favorite cereal. She could not wait to get home and eat some cereal! They both hoped Mommy would hurry in the grocery line.*

Place the woman on the felt board. *A lady was standing with them in the line. She and Mommy started talking.*

"Hurry, Mommy!" thought David.

"Hurry, Mommy!" thought Lesli.

But Mommy didn't hurry.

"Mommy, let's go," David said, in a whining voice. "Baby Sara is tired, and so am I."

"Mommy, I am hungry," Lesli said, pulling on Mommy's arm. "Let's go now."

Baby Sara's crying got louder and louder. Mommy quickly gave the lady an invitation to church and they left the store.

When they got home David and Lesli sat down to eat their cookies and cereal.

"We need to talk first," Mommy said. "You were both very selfish at the grocery store. What was on your hearts?"

David said, "I wanted to get home and eat my cookies."

Lesli said, "I wanted to get home and eat my cereal."

"Do you know why I was talking to the lady at the grocery store?" Mommy asked.

"I saw you invite her to church," said Lesli.

"Yes, I was trying to invite her to church," said Mommy, "but you both interrupted me. Remember in your Bible Story that Jesus told the disciples to teach others about Jesus and help them to become Christians? If Jesus were a little boy, what do you think he would do while waiting for his mommy in the grocery store?"

"I think he would be happy while his mommy invited someone to church," David said. "Maybe he would even give her the invitation himself."

"I think he would play with his baby sister, so she would be happy while their mommy was talking to her friend," Lesli said, "because he would want to help his mommy's new friend to go to heaven."

"Would he whine?" asked Mommy.

"No," they said. "Would he complain about being hungry?" asked Mommy. "No," they said.

"Let's say a prayer together," said Mommy. "David, you start, then Lesli, then me."

"Dear God, help me to be like Jesus and love people. Help me to be helpful when my mommy is inviting friends to church," David said.

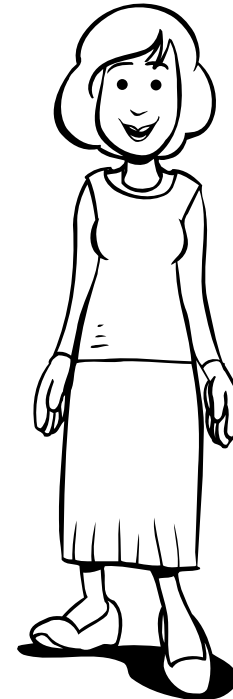
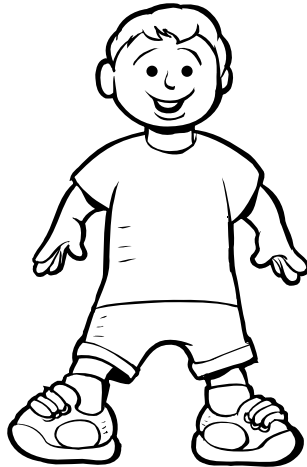
"Dear God, help me to be patient to wait to eat my treats, and help me to play with Baby Sara when Mommy is talking," Lesli said.

Peter's Escape

"Dear God, please help us to love people like Jesus and Peter did, so we can help more people to become Christians," said Mommy. Thank you for our food. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen." They all hugged. David and Lesli said, "We are sorry, Mommy!" Mommy gave them a big smile and said, "I forgive you. Now, let's have a snack!"

Bible Truth Activity

What are David and Lesli going to do the next time they are out with their mommy or daddy? What are you going to do the next time you are out with your mommy or daddy? Our Bible Truth is "Peter obeyed God." Can you say that? Peter obeyed God. Peter loved other people, and he told them about Jesus so that they could become Christians. That's what God wants us to do. He wants us to obey him and tell others about Jesus just like David and Lesli's mommy did.



Conclusion

Let's talk to God. Dear God, please help us to be like Jesus and Peter and to tell other people about you. Please help us to be happy and helpful when our parents are talking to other grown-ups or inviting them to church.

Who are you going to tell about Bible class today? What are you going to tell them?

Teacher Tips

- Shorten the story as needed for 2's.
- Read through the story before class and collect any props that you think would be helpful.

Craft

Peter's Escape

Peter Mobile

The children will make a mobile to remind them that God took care of Peter.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper, 9" x 9"
- crayons or markers
- yarn, 10"
- sequins, stickers or other decorative materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- ruler
- marker
- hole punch
- glue

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Create three mobile triangles for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut a 9" x 9" piece of construction paper.
 - B. Draw an "x" on each square of construction paper as the cut lines. See Figure A.
 - C. Cut the square creating four triangles. Discard one of the triangles.
3. Glue one picture to the center of each of the three triangles.
4. After the triangles have dried, fold them in half. See Figure B.
5. Glue the triangles together making a mobile as shown in Figure C.
6. Punch a hole in the top of each mobile.
7. Cut a 10" piece of yarn for each child and tie it to the hole of each mobile.
8. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children the finished craft and explain to them that the pictures show the story of Peter getting out of prison.
2. Give each child a mobile and have them color and decorate the pictures.
3. Write the children's names on their crafts as they are working.

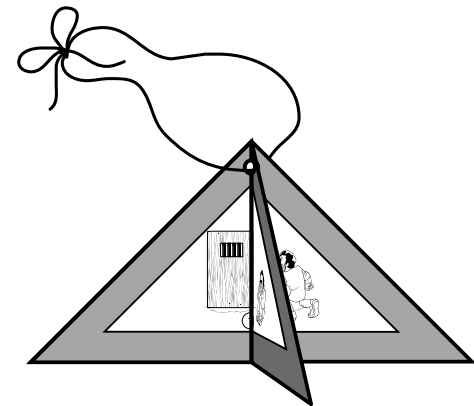
Conclusion

Using the mobile as a prop, ask the children questions about the story:

- Who can tell me who this is? (Peter)
- What are his friends doing? (praying for him)
- What is happening? (God sent an angel to get Peter out of jail)
- Is Peter happy now? (Yes!)
- Are his friends happy now? (Yes!)
- Does God take care of us? (Yes!)
- Who can touch the number 1?
- What is happening in that picture?
- Who can touch the number 2?
- What is happening in that picture?
- Who can touch the number 3?
- What is happening in that picture?

Teacher Tips

- Use multiple colors of construction paper to make a colorful mobile.



craft

Peter's Escape

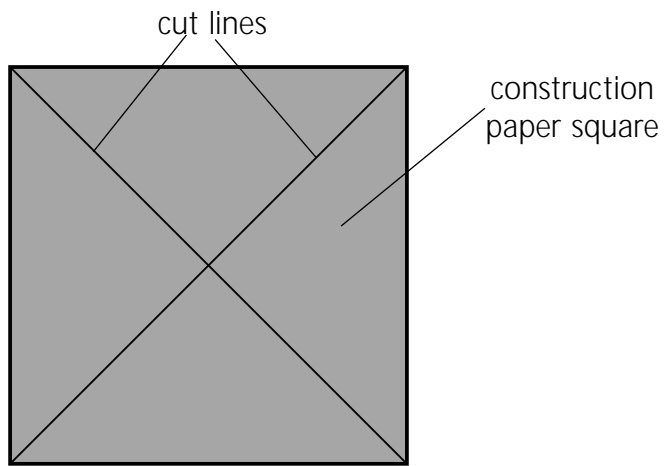


Figure A

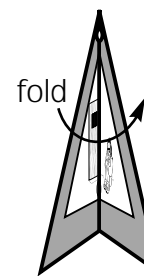


Figure B

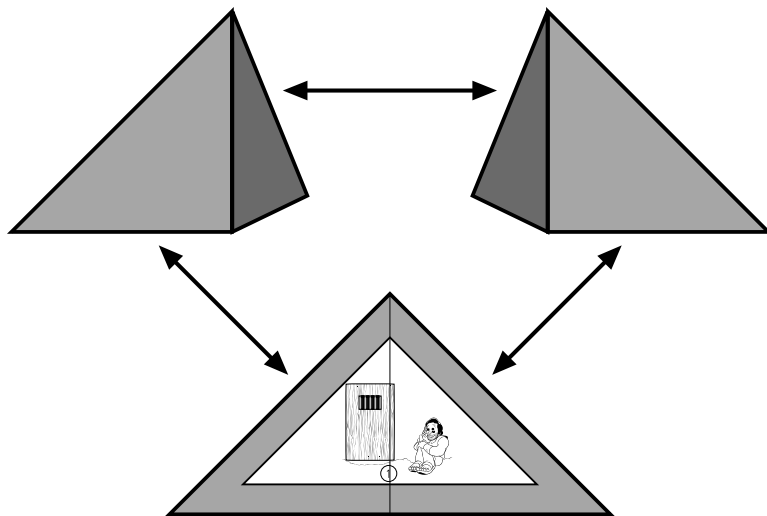
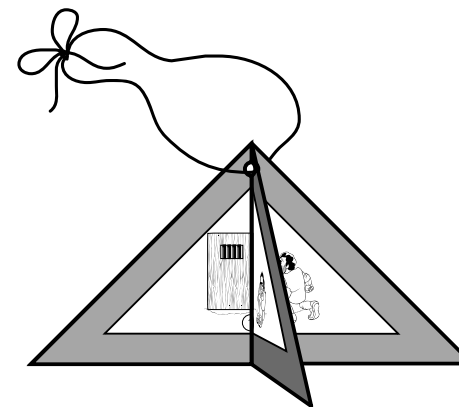


Figure C



Finished Craft





Lesson Objectives

- The children will list three friends to pray for.
- The children will answer, "Peter," when asked, "Who were the disciples praying for?"
- The children will pray for one another.

Bible Story Text

Acts 12:1-19

Bible Truth

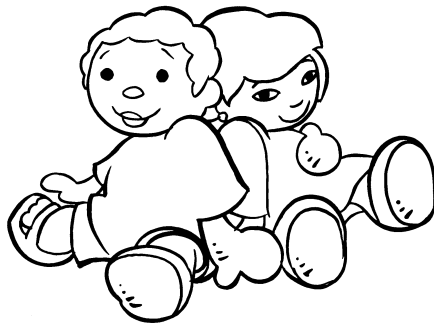
Peter obeyed God.
(Acts 5:29)

Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a pre-class center. Have no more than six children at each center.

Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.



Preparation

1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Prayer Circle

Bible Story: Peter's Dilemma

Craft: Praying Dolls

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.

Prayer Circle

The children will sing a song and play a game to remind them to always pray for one another.

Bible Truth

Peter obeyed God.
(Acts 5:29)

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- circles from the Unit 23 Lesson 3, Life Application

Preparation

Before the children arrive, tape each circle to the ground in the center area, forming a large circle.

Instructions

1. Welcome the children to the group and have each child choose a circle to stand on.
2. Ask each child to tell the group what color they are standing on.
3. Have each child sit or lie on top of their circle so that it is covered and you can not see what color it is. *Erica, are you sitting on the orange circle? No. How about Shannon? Are you sitting on the orange circle? Yes, Shannon is on the orange circle! Shannon, stand up on your circle. Shannon gets to say a friend's name and guess what color she is sitting on.* Help the child to choose another child and guess what color that child is sitting on.
4. Continue until all of the children are standing.
5. Have the children hold hands and walk slowly around the circle singing the "Prayer Circle Song" from the Unit 23 Song Sheet. At the end of the song have all of the children sit on a circle.
6. Choose a child to pray.

Peter's Escape

Peter Goes Lesson 4

7. *We are sitting down to pray. What are other ways we can pray? We can kneel down.* Show the children how to kneel on their circles. Say a short one-sentence prayer they can repeat. (*Dear God, we love you!*) *We can stand up and hold hands.* Have all of the children stand and hold hands. Say a short one-sentence prayer they can repeat. (*Thank you for our friends and our teachers.*) *Let's stand up and sing our song again.* Have the children hold hands and sing the "Prayer Circle Song" again.
8. Sit down at the end of the song.

Bible Truth Activity

Open the Bible. *The Bible is God's word. In the Bible, we read about Peter. The Bible says Peter obeyed God. Can you say that with me? "Peter obeyed God." Who wants to be like Peter and obey God?*

What did Peter's friends do for him when he was in jail? They prayed for him!

Conclusion

Let's pray to God. Dear God, help us to be like Peter and to obey you. Help us to pray for our friends.

Who are you going to tell about Bible class today? What are you going to tell them?

Teacher Tips

- Repeat the song and have other children pray if there is time.
- For younger two's, hold a small circle of each color you are using in your hand to help them guess the colors.



Peter's Dilemma

The children will learn that Peter obeyed God by telling others about Jesus. They will hear how God took care of Peter when he prayed.

Bible Story Text

Acts 12:1-19

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- Peter puppet from the Unit 23 Lesson 3, Bible Story
- Shoebox scenes from the Unit 23 Lesson 3, Bible Story

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story and practice telling it with the props.

Freedom

Have the children sit in a circle with you. Open the Bible and place the Peter puppet on your hand. *This is Peter. Can you say Peter?*

Peter was a very special man of God. The Bible says that Peter used to spend time with Jesus. He learned a lot from watching Jesus and being with him. He was very strong! Put up your arm and flex your muscles. Have the children imitate you. Peter loved God very much. When you love God, do you obey him? Yes! Peter obeyed God! Peter obeyed God and taught many people how to love Jesus and how to be a disciple.

Do the "Bible Fingerplay" from the Unit 23 Song Sheet.

Now I am going to have Peter tell you his amazing story, and remember, his story is true because it is from the Bible.

Have the Peter puppet tell his story. *One day I was out preaching as I always did, and some men came up and told me to stop preaching. "You cannot preach about Jesus anymore," they said. But do you think I stopped? No, I did not! I obeyed God, not these men. So the men put me in prison.*

Show the children the Shoebox Scene 1. *Can you see me? Where am I? Yes, I'm in prison. I was in the prison praying for God to help me to get out so that I could teach more people about God and Jesus. My friends were also praying for me to get out of prison.*

Show the children scene 2. *Can you see me now? Who else do you see? Yes, an angel! God sent an angel to get me out of prison! The angel told me to get up. So I did. But how would we get out?*

Peter's Escape

Peter Goes Lesson 4

The prison had big doors that were locked. But God opened the doors, and the angel and I walked right out of the prison gates!

When I got out of the prison I went to my friends' house. Show them scene 3. My friends were all still there praying for me. While they were praying for God to get me out of prison, I was outside knocking at the door! Do you think they were happy to see me? Do you think I was happy to see them? Yes! We hugged each other, and we thanked God for answering our prayers!

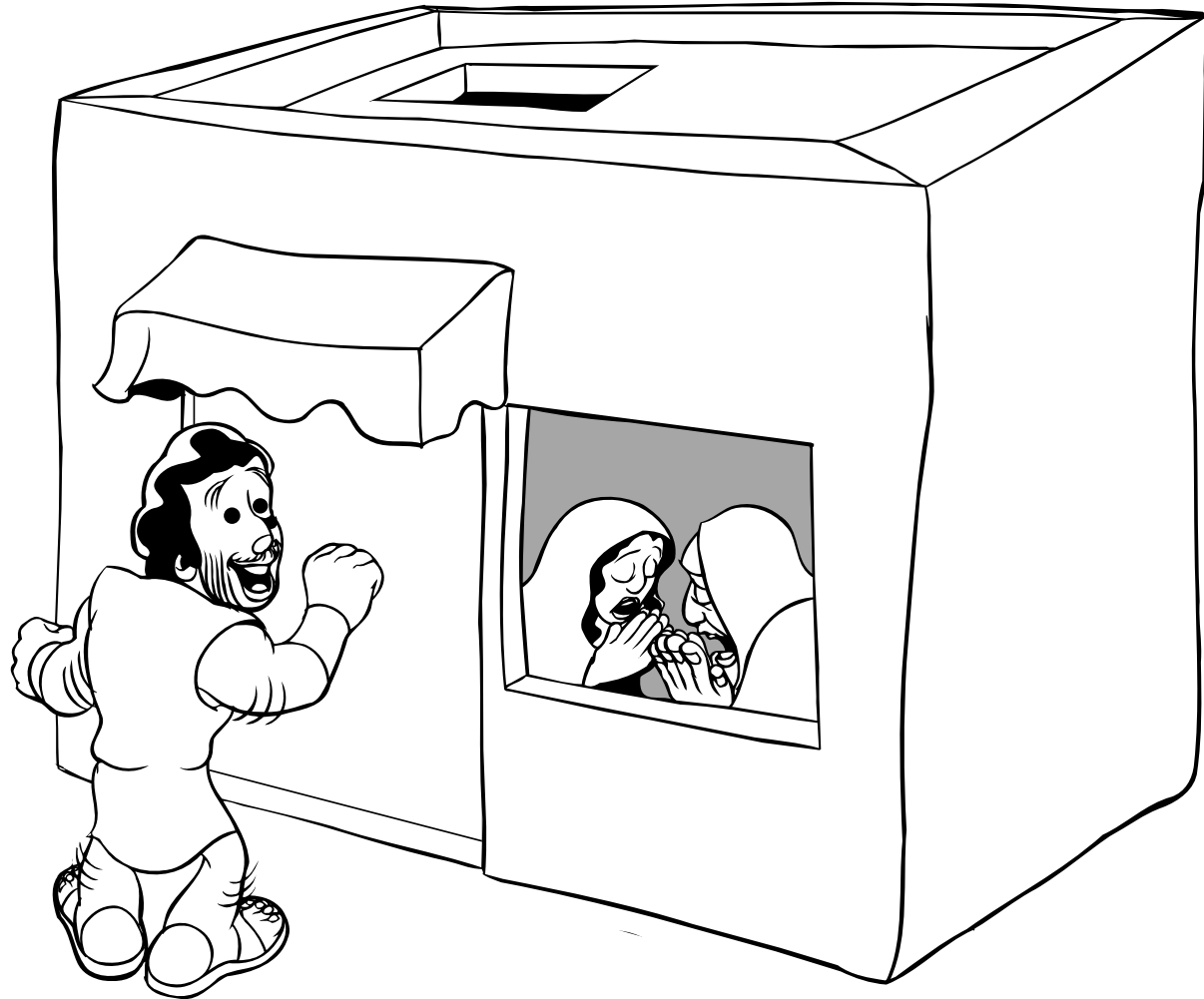
Have the Peter puppet give a hug to each of the children. Then pray. *Dear God, thank you for saving Peter. Thank you for always watching over us and taking care of us. Help us to love you and obey you like Peter did. Help us to pray for our friends.*

Conclusion

Ask the children the following questions as a review:

- Who obeyed God and preached about Jesus? (Peter)
- Where did the men put Peter? (in prison)
- What did Peter do in prison? (he prayed)
- What did Peter's friends do while he was in prison? (they prayed for him)
- Did God help Peter? (yes)
- What did God do to help Peter? (sent an angel to get him out of prison)
- What did Peter and his friends do? (they hugged and thanked God)





Praying Dolls

The children will make a doll that can kneel and fold its hands to remind the children to pray.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper, 9" x 12"
- 1 pipe cleaner
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- scissors
- pen or pencil
- ruler
- black marker
- tacky glue

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the stencils from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out four feet, four hands, two heads and two bodies for each child.
3. Cut the pipe cleaners as follows:
 - A. a 1½" piece for the neck
 - B. a 6" piece for the arms
 - C. a 6" piece for the legs
4. Construct a doll for each child as follows:
 - A. Place some glue onto a rectangle body.
 - B. Arrange the pipe cleaners as shown in Figure A.
 - C. Place glue on a second rectangle body and place it, glue facing down, on top of the first rectangle covering the pipe cleaners. See Figure B.
 - D. Write "I can pray." on each doll.
5. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

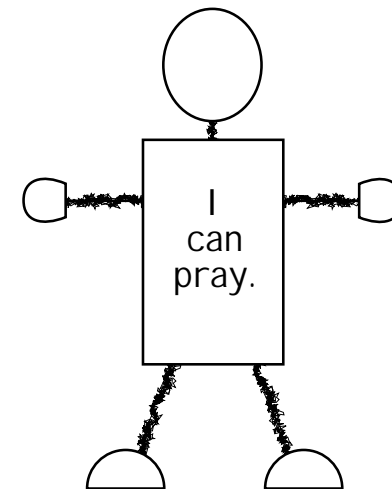
1. Show the children the model of the craft. *This is my praying doll. Let me show you how he can kneel to pray.* Gently bend the arms and legs of the doll so that it is kneeling and praying. *My doll says "I can pray." You can make your own praying doll to take home to remind you to pray for your friends and family.*
2. Give each child a doll and two circles. Help the children to glue a circle to each side of the neck making the head.
3. Repeat this step with each of the hands and feet.
4. Help the children to bend their dolls into a praying position.
5. Write the children's names on the backs of their dolls.

Conclusion

Sing the "Prayer Circle Song" from the Unit 23 Song Sheet using the dolls.

Teacher Tips

- When preparing the doll, be sure to allow enough time for drying before class.
- Be sure to do this activity one step at a time with the children.
- Assemble more of the doll prior to class if necessary.
- Have the children color their dolls while waiting for your help.



Craft

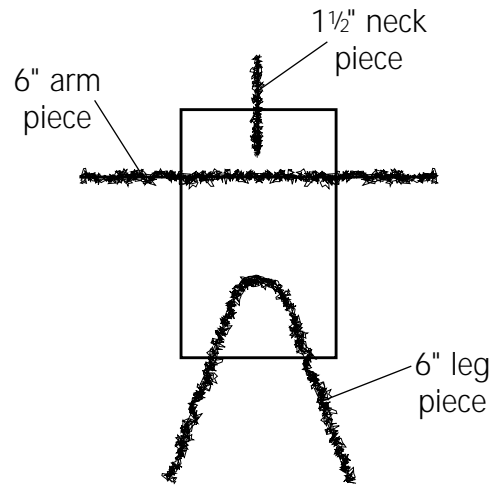


Figure A

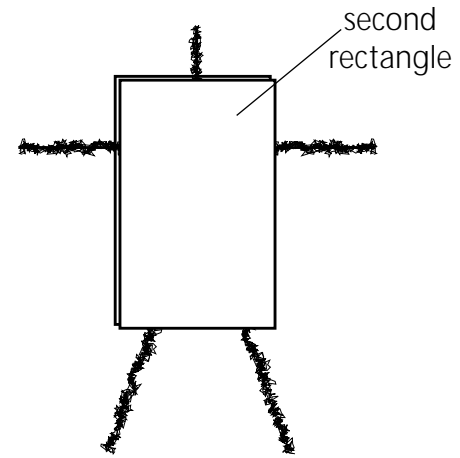
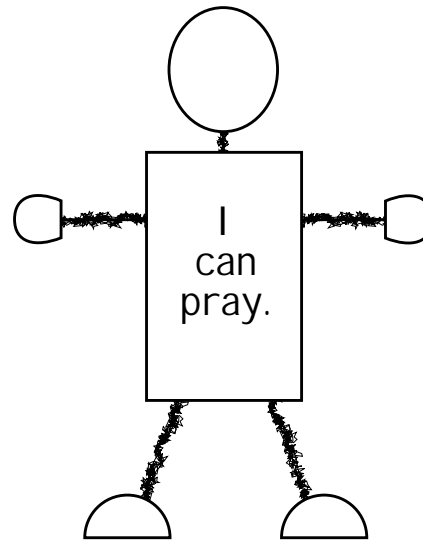


Figure B

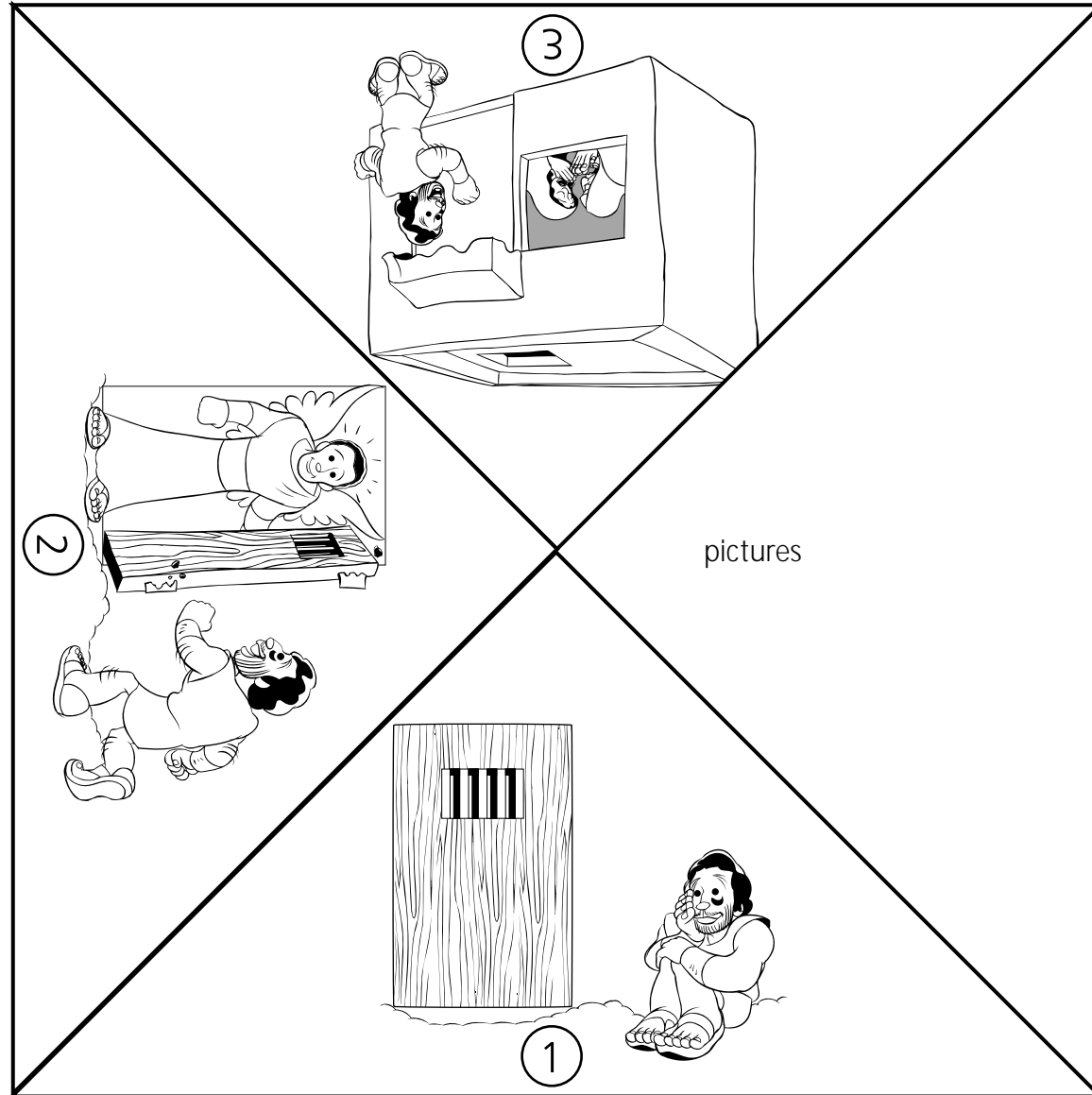


Finished Craft





R
e
p
r
o
d
u
c
i
o
n
e





R
e
p
r
o
d
u
c
t
i
o
n

