



**Using Your Suffering – Becoming All Things to All People**  
**March 5, 2023**

...I have become all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some. **1 Corinthians 9:22 NKJV**

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And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, “These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; **Acts 16:20 NKJV**

and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe.” **Acts 16:21 NKJV**

Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be beaten with rods. **Acts 16:22 NKJV**

And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. **Acts 16:23 NKJV**

Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. **Acts 16:24 NKJV**

**Suffering teaches us to find our peace in Jesus**

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” **John 16:33 NKJV**

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. **Acts 16:25 NKJV**

## **God grows us through three phases in suffering**

### **Escape**

### **Endure**

### **Rejoice**

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **James 1:2 NKJV**

knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **James 1:3 NKJV**

But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. **James 1:4 NKJV**

Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. **Acts 16:29 NKJV**

And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" **Acts 16:30 NKJV**

So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." **Acts 16:31 NKJV**

Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. **Acts 16:32 NKJV**

And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. **Acts 16:33 NKJV**

Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. **Acts 16:34 NKJV**

## **God can use our suffering to reach others for Christ**

### **This Week's New Testament+ reading plan:**

1. *Revelation 18*
2. *Revelation 19*
3. *Revelation 20*
4. *Revelation 21*
5. *Revelation 22*
6. *Isaiah 65*
7. *Prayer & Reflection*

March 5

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NURSERY

## THE BIBLE IS GOD'S BOOK

JOSIAH FINDS THE BOOK OF LAW



**Memory Verse:** The Bible is God's book. 2 Timothy 3:16 (adapted for toddlers)

**Heart of the Lesson:** God Gave Us the Bible.

**Parent Connect:** Today we made little Bible crafts. Help your toddler read the front and inside of the Bible craft. Remind your toddler that the Bible teaches us that "God loves us!" Hang the Bible craft somewhere where you can remind your toddler of this throughout the week.

GKJR

## MIRACLES AND MINISTRY

THE LIFE OF JESUS



This month we will continue to learn about Jesus' ministry and more of his miracles!

**Memory Verse:** Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 118:1

**Heart of the Lesson:** Jesus Cares – Lazarus Raised - John 11:1-44

**Parent Connect:** Ask your kid to tell you what we learned today using the interactive craft we made in class. Ask questions like:

- **Who got sick and died?** Lazarus
- **Who did the sisters ask to come and heal Lazarus?** Jesus
- **Did Jesus come right away?** No, but he did come at the right time.
- **How did Jesus show He cares in today's story?** He brought Lazarus back to life! Jesus cares!!

ELEMENTARY

## SKINS

SHARING THE GOSPEL IN A VARIETY OF WAYS



In games, you can change your character's skin to have different attributes or skills, but it doesn't change the fact that you are the one playing the game. The Gospel can be wrapped in different ways, or have different skins, but the message doesn't change. In this series we will look at 4 different skins the Gospel can be wrapped in to share Jesus with others.

**Memory Verse:** "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

**Heart of the Lesson:** Using your Hardships – Acts 16:25-34

**Parent Connect:** We can share Jesus while we go through difficult things. Ask your kids how we can keep our eyes and lives focused on Jesus while we go through hard things. Then read Isaiah 40:10. How can God's promises help us through hard times? How can it help you share Jesus with others?

Did you think you'd be doing math at church? Forgiveness can be tough sometimes! Jesus taught us that we should forgive not once, twice, or even 7 times, but an infinite number of times, just as He has forgiven us.

**Memory Verse:** You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. Colossians 2:13

**Heart of the Lesson:** Do we have to be friends again? - Proverbs 17:9; 22-24, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Galatians 6:1-2

**Parent Connect:** Share a time when God helped you restore a friendship. Write "70x7" with an expo marker on your bathroom mirror to remind you to forgive others just as Jesus forgave you.

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

## BECOMING ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE

What tools can you use to share the Good News?



Sharing the Good News of Jesus can look different depending on who we are sharing Jesus with! This series, we are looking at 4 stories in the Book of Acts to see different ways we can share Jesus with others!

**Memory Verse:** 1 Corinthians 9:22b (NIRV) *I have become all things to all people. I have done this so that in all possible ways I might save some.*

**Heart of the Lesson:** I can use MY SUFFERING to share Jesus with others! (Acts 16)

**Parent Connect:** Who can you share your story with?

- What happened to Paul and Silas after they were accused of making trouble?
- What did Paul and Silas do as they sat in jail?
- How did the jailer respond after the earthquake when he saw that Paul and Silas had not run away?
- How can our suffering show our friends and family the love of God?