Unit 34, Session 2: Paul Was Arrested

Dear Parents,

As Paul’s third missionary journey came to an end, a prophet named Agabus warned him that the Jews would seize him in Jerusalem and hand him over to the Gentiles. (See Acts 21:10-11.)

But Paul did not hesitate. He returned to Jerusalem and was seized by a group of Jews who wanted to kill him because he taught things contrary to their teaching.

The Roman soldiers nearby saw the commotion and stepped in, taking Paul into Roman custody. Now Paul was in Gentile hands. Paul remained under Roman protection and was staying in the barracks when the Lord gave him a message: “Have courage! For as you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so it is necessary for you to testify in Rome” (Acts 23:11).

What a comforting message for Paul! The sovereign Lord told Paul his future: You’re going to Rome. Paul wasn’t exactly sure how he was going to get to Rome, but he could trust that God was working all things together for that purpose.

The next morning, Paul’s nephew uncovered a plot to kill Paul and reported it to the Roman army commander. The commander arranged for Paul to go to Caesarea, where he would be safe.

In this Bible story, we see God using human means to bring about His end. **Even when others threatened his life, Paul continued to obey Jesus. He believed that God, who showed His love for the world by sending His Son to die on the cross and rise again, would help him through hard times. We too can risk everything to share the gospel with courage because we know that God loves us and will care for us.**

We too can risk everything to share the gospel with courage because we know that God loves us and will care for us. God calls us to be obedient and faithful as we take part in His greater plan to show His glory to us and through us for the fame of His name.

Check this session’s Activity Page and Big Picture Card as well as the Gospel Project for Kids Family App for ways to interact with the Bible content this week.

FAMILY STARTING POINTS

* **Babies and Toddlers**
  + We obey God because He loves us and takes care of us.
  + God chose Paul to tell people about Jesus.
  + Some people wanted to stop Paul’s preaching.
  + God kept Paul safe so he could do God’s plan.
  + God makes us more like Jesus.
* **Preschool**
  + God protected Paul.
  + What is sanctification? Sanctification is how God makes us more like Jesus.
* **Kids**
  + God protected Paul so he could preach about Jesus.
  + What is sanctification? Sanctification is the process of becoming more like Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

UNIT KEY PASSAGE

* **1 Timothy 6:12**

NEXT WEEK

* **“Together in Jesus”** (Ephesians 2–3)