

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do you think some people oppose the gospel?
- What are you willing to risk to tell people about Jesus? Why?
- Can anything stop God's plan? (See Job 42:2.) How does that encourage you to trust and obey Him?



The Plan to Stop Paul

Acts 23

MAIN POINT: WHEN PAUL WAS ARRESTED, GOD PROTECTED HIM SO HE COULD PREACH ABOUT JESUS.

The apostle Paul told people the good news about Jesus wherever he went. When he returned to Jerusalem, the believers were glad to see him. But many Jews did not like that Paul taught people they don't have to follow Jewish rules to be saved. So these Jews made a plan to stop Paul.

Paul was at the temple when a crowd of people dragged him away and tried to kill him. But a Roman official came and stopped them. This official arrested Paul and brought him to the Sanhedrin.

Paul stood in front of the Sanhedrin. "Friends," he said. "I do not believe I have done anything wrong." Paul explained that he had been arrested because he taught that Jesus was resurrected from the dead. The men in the Sanhedrin began arguing. The Roman soldiers took Paul away to keep him safe.

The next night, the Lord stood by Paul and gave him an incredible message: "Have courage!" He said. "You told about Me in Jerusalem. I want you to tell about Me in Rome, too."

In the morning, a group of Jews got together and made a plan to kill Paul. These men told the Jewish leaders about their plan.

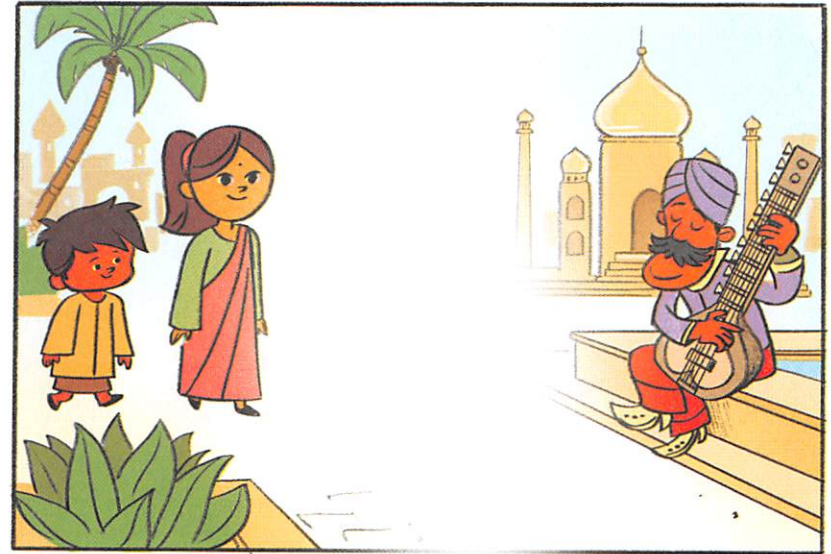
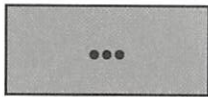
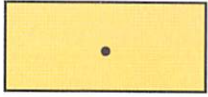
Paul's nephew overheard this evil plan. He hurried to tell Paul what was going on. Paul told his nephew to report it to the commander.

The army commander told two of his officers to get together a large group of soldiers and horses. They brought a horse for Paul to ride on, and that night, the soldiers took Paul to Caesarea to see the governor.

Christ Connection: 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.

Uncovered!

Use the key to color in the spaces and discover what a young boy uncovered in today's Bible story.



Sharing the Good News

Draw yourself into each scenario above. What would make it difficult to share the good news there? Could you do it? Why or why not?