"Prison Break" - LESSON 1 "Unstoppable"

Main Focus:

Nothing can stop God's plan!



Power Verse:

"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you."

- lob 42:2



"Nothing Can Stop The Work
Of God!"

LEADER'S INFO

As Christians, we have a very real enemy - the devil. The Bible says that the enemy has come to steal, kill, and destroy. The devil will try anything and everything in order to try to stop God's plan.

The early Church certainly learned this the hard way. The apostles found themselves thrown in prison simply for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The devil thought he could intimidate and stop them from preaching.

In this lesson, your children will learn that NOTHING can stop God's plan. Through the apostles' Prison Break, they will learn that God is more powerful than anything and everything in this world!



"The Spark" Intro Video Prison Break



"Watt's Up?" Teaching Video Skittles teaches "Watt's Up?"



Character Skit

"Vernon T Pompous"



Offering Time



Game On!

"Musical Hula Hoop"



Bible Story

"The Apostles' Prison Break"



Power Verse Video

"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you." - Job 42:2



Call To Action

"Unstoppable"



Brain Drain

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Nothing can stop God's plan!



Power Verse:

"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you."

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"Nothing Can Stop The Work Of God!"

"The Spark" Intro Video

Prison Break

"Watt's Up?" Teaching Video

Skittles teaches "Watt's Up?"

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"The Apostles' Prison Break"

Power Verse Video

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Call To Action

"Unstoppable"

Brain Drain

Review Game

Small Group Experience

Lesson 1 Materials Needed:

"The Spark" Intro Video

- "Prison Break" Video

"Watt's Up?" Teaching Video

- "Watt's Up?" Teaching Video
- "Watt's Up?" Trigger Video

Character Skit

- "Vernon T Pompous" Theme Graphic/Music
- Prison guard outfit

Offering Time

- "Offering Time" Bumper Video

Game On!

- "Game On!" Bumper Video
- "Musical Hula Hoop" Graphic
- One hula hoop
- Game music (your choice)

Bible Story

- "The Apostles' Prison Break" Graphics
- Bible

Power Verse Video

- "Power Verse" Video

Call To Action

- "Unstoppable" Graphics
- Mouse Trap

Brain **D**rain

- "Brain Drain" Bumper Video
- "Brain Drain" Lesson I Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Signs Print Piece
- Power Verse Signs Print Piece
- Scissors
- Nothing Can Stop God Print Piece
- Pencils, crayons, or markers



Character: "Vernon T Pompous" (an over-zealous prison guard)

VERNON: (dressed in a cheap prison guard outfit - stomps his way out on stage) HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! That's enough out of you! Get back in your cell this instant!

Leader: My cell? (to the kids) Did he just say my "cell?"

VERNON: That's RIGHT! You thought you could ESCAPE, huh? Well, NOBODY escapes me, or my name isn't Vernon T. Pompous!

Leader: Your name is Vernon T. Pompous?

VERNON: No - it's Vernon T. Pompous!

Leader: That's what I just said!!

VERNON: Don't get smart with me! I'm the best prison guard there is! You can't just bust out of jail like that and think you'll get away with it! You're coming with ME, prisoner!

Leader: WHOAH - hold on a second. I am not a prisoner and THIS is not a prison! We're in church!

VERNON: (looks around the room) Oh. Oh dear. I do believe you're right. I'm sorry - this is indeed NOT a prison. (looks at the leader) But you ARE going to jail!

Leader: WHAT? Why?

VERNON: I've been in charge of my prison for over 40 years and I know a criminal when I see one, and YOU are a criminal!

Leader: I am so NOT a criminal! What is your evidence?

VERNON: Ummmm...uhhh...(walks around the leader, looking them over) AH-HA! YOU'REWEARING SOCKS! Just like the notorious socks thief "Two-Feet McGee!"

Leader: Socks thief? That's silly! Who would steal socks?

VERNON: That's EXACTLY what someone who steals socks would say! Come on, Two-Feet McGee - you're going to jail right now! Your sock-stealing days are OVER!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(continued)

Leader: My name is NOT Two-Feet McGee, and I haven't stolen anyone's socks - we are in church trying to teach an important lesson to all of these kids! We're learning about obeying God.

VERNON: Ah, yes - obedience is very important. That's why you should obey ME - the prison guard - and go to jail RIGHT NOW!

Leader: Nope - I haven't done anything wrong - and that's not the kind of obedience we're talking about. We're talking about obeying God - even when it's hard!

VERNON: Oh yeah? What if God's plan is something CRAZY? Something that would NEVER work? Like...build a helicopter out of ice cream and gorilla snot?

Leader: That's...nasty. But, we don't have to worry at all - because NOTHING can stop God's plan! God is all-powerful, and we can be confident that He'll do whatever it takes to make His plan happen! So that just leaves us with one thing to do!

VERNON: Pick a gorilla's nose? Pretty sure that's illegal.

Leader: NO. We can BE BOLD! We don't have to be afraid to do what God tells us to do - we can just obey what He says, and He'll take care of the rest! NOTHING can stop God's plan!

VERNON: ALRIGHT, fine! I believe you now. You've PROVEN to me that you're not Two-Feet McGee!

Leader: Was it from me talking about today's lesson?

VERNON: Yep! Two-Feet McGee doesn't have a tongue. He can't talk at all! You're no sock thief. But I've got my eye on you - ALL OF YOU! I'll be watching you very closely from here on out. Nobody escapes from me - or my name isn't Vernon T. Pompous! (pauses) Which it is. As you were! (points off stage as he exits) HEY! You can't sit there! That's my chair! That's illegal! (stomps offstage as his theme music plays)



Items Needed For Game:

One hula hoop; some "high energy" music

Preparation:

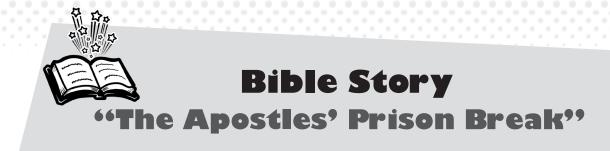
Choose ten children to participate in this game.

How To Play:

This game is played exactly like the classic game, "Musical Chairs," with a slight twist. Place the children in a circle facing inward holding hands. Place the arms of two children through the hula hoop (they need to hold hands AFTER the hula hoop has been placed between them).

As the music plays, the kids move the hula hoop over and under them without breaking hands. The hula hoop will move around the circle as they twist and turn, manipulating the hula hoop. When the music stops, the child that the hula hoop is on is called "out." Remove that child from the circle, and begin again.

The last child standing is declared the winner!



Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson I; begin with the slide that says "Bible Story"; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (as shown)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Acts 5:12-42; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today, our Bible Story comes from the book of Acts, chapter 5. It takes place just a short time after Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended up to Heaven. The apostles (Jesus' followers) went everywhere preaching about Jesus. They performed many miracles in Jesus' name. Many people became Christians as a result of the apostles' preaching.

Not everyone was happy about what the apostles were doing, however. The high priest and his officials were very angry because the apostles were teaching that Jesus was the only way to Heaven. They wanted people to continue to follow their religious rules. If they followed Jesus, then it could mean the end of their power. So, the high priest had the apostles arrested and thrown into prison. (show pic)

The apostles sat in prison, guarded by many soldiers. It was hard for them because they really wanted to be out preaching, but they were stuck in prison. But, that didn't last long. In the middle of the night, (show pic) an angel of the Lord appeared in their prison cell, opened the prison doors for them, and let them out. The guards did not even realize what had happened.

The angel of the Lord told the apostles, "Go stand in the temple courts and preach the good news!" So, that's exactly what the apostles did. They began preaching once again. The next day, when the high priest came to check on them, he saw that the apostles were no longer in prison. It was a prison break!

The high priest found the apostles standing in the temple courts, once again preaching about the power in the name of Jesus, God's Son. The high priest had the apostles arrested - AGAIN! (show pic) He brought the apostles before the high council. He said, "We gave you strict orders NOT to preach about Jesus again! Yet, you disobeyed our orders and began preaching anyway!"

(show pic) The apostles spoke up and said, "We must obey God rather than men." The high priest got very angry and decided to kill them. But, one of the wise council members said, "Let them go. If these men are doing all of this in their own power, it won't last long. But, if these men are doing the work of God - then NOTHING can stop it!" They let the apostles go back to preaching, and many people were saved!

In your lesson today, you are going to learn that God's plan is unstoppable. Not even prison can stop it!



Call To Action "Unstoppable"

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson I; a mouse trap

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled "Unstoppable"

The Message: (title slide)



How many of you have ever had a mouse in your house? (allow response) It can really be a difficult thing when a mouse gets inside your house. They hide in small, dark places. Then, when you're not looking they sneak out and get into your food. They eat your snacks. They leave little droppings everywhere. It's terrible!

If you want to stop a mouse, what do you need? (allow response) That's right! You need a mouse trap! (hold up the mouse trap) One piece of cheese on this little device and when the mouse gets close to eat the cheese - BOOM! It's stopped - right in its tracks! No more trouble from that mouse - ever again!

You know, our enemy the devil tries to put a stop to us like that. He tries to trap us just like he tried to trap the apostles in our Bible Story. He wants to stop us from accomplishing God's plan of sharing the love of Jesus with the world. But, just like with the apostles in our Bible Story...

Nothing Can Stop God's Plan (slide)



No trap, no prison, NOTHING can stop God's plan. Sometimes, the devil tries to stop us by attacking us with sickness. That's not going to stop God's plan - He is a healer! Sometimes, the devil tries to stop us with a prison of sadness and depression. That's not going to stop God's plan - He is our deliverer!

No matter what the devil tries to throw against us, God is more powerful than anything. God is more powerful than any prison. The devil can't keep us locked up! Nothing can stop God's plan! But, that doesn't change the fact that the devil still TRIES to hold us back. Sometimes, we find ourselves in a temporary prison where the devil is attempting to keep us from following God's plan for our lives. What should we do in those moments? Well, one thing we must do is...

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We Must Obey God - Even When It's Hard (slide)



The apostles had every reason in the world not to obey God. They were thrown in prison for preaching the gospel. When the angel staged their Prison Break, he said, "Go into the temple courts and preach the good news of Jesus." The apostles could have said, "Oh no! Not again! We are not going to get in trouble again! We are never talking about Jesus as long as we live!" But, they didn't do that. They obeyed God even though it was hard.

We must make the same decision. Sometimes God tells us to do things that are hard. Sometimes God tells us to tell others about Jesus at school, give our birthday money to missions, or befriend the new kid at school. No matter how hard it may be, we must obey God. Instead of being worried, scared, or intimidated by the devil, we must be more like the apostles. We must...

Be Bold (slide)



Follow the example of the apostles - be bold! Show the devil that God's plan can't be stopped! Just as the apostles stood up and said, "We must obey God rather than men!", we must be bold and stand up and say the same thing. "We must obey God! We will not stop obeying! The devil can't hold back the people of God!"

Why can you be bold? You can be bold because God is on your side! He is the ultimate PRISON BREAKER! He will take care of you even when the devil tries to stop you! God is in control! He is unstoppable!

Altar Response: (play soft music)

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving that God is unstoppable! His plan is unstoppable! Pray for those who are struggling to obey God because it's hard! Pray that God will help them be bold!



BRAIN DRAIN

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson I; "Brain Drain" Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the "Brain Drain" Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled "Brain Drain"; there is a slide for each question

- Watt's Up today?
 Answer: "Nothing Can Stop The Work Of God!"
 What happened to the apostles in today's Bible Story?
 Answer: They Were Thrown In Prison
 How did the apostles break out of prison?
 Answer: An Angel Broke Them Out
 What did the angel tell the apostles to do after they left prison?
 Answer: Go Preach The Good News
 Did the apostles continue to preach?
 Answer: Yes
- 6. True or False: God is unstoppable.
 Answer: True
- 7. According to our lesson today, "_____ Can Stop God's Plan."

 Answer: Nothing
- 8. According to our lesson today, "We Must Obey God Even When It's _____."

 Answer: Hard
- 9. According to our lesson today, "Be _____!"
 Answer: Bold
- 10. Where was our Power Verse found?

 Answer: |ob 42:2

Small Group Experience LESSON 1 - "Unstoppable"





- Watt's Up:
"Nothing Can Stop The Work Of God!"



Power Verse:

"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you."

-lob 42:2

SUPPLY LIST:

* Signs Print Piece (provided; print two sets)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print and cut the Signs Print Pieces, mix them up, and place them in piles around the room. To review the Bible Story, read the provided lesson excerpt. Tell the kids to listen for the words "Prison Break". When they hear "Prison Break", they should stand and collect one sign and then be seated. Continue on this way until the story is complete. Remind the kids to hold onto the signs to use in the next activity.

Say - I hope you guys are ready for a break! I'm not talking about the kind of break you take from school, or the kind of break you take from hard work. Today we are going to talk about a PRISON BREAK. I have placed some piles of signs around the room. I am going to read the story. When you hear me say the words "Prison Break", you should stand and collect ONE sign. Be seated once you have a sign, and we will continue. Hold onto the signs you collect, you will need them for our next activity.

-Read the provided lesson excerpt pausing when you say "Prison Break" to allow time for the kids to collect a sign-

Say - Our Bible Story comes from the book of Acts, chapter 5. It takes place just a short time after Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended up to Heaven. The apostles (Jesus' followers) went everywhere preaching about Jesus. They performed many miracles in Jesus' name. Many people became Christians as a result of the apostles' preaching.

Not everyone was happy about what the apostles were doing, however. The high priest and his officials were very angry that the apostles were teaching that Jesus was the only way to Heaven.

They wanted people to continue to follow their religious rules. If they followed Jesus, then it could mean the end of their power. So, the high priest had the apostles arrested and thrown into prison. **PRISON BREAK!**

The apostles sat in prison, guarded by many soldiers. It was hard for them because they really wanted to be out preaching, but they were stuck in prison. But, that didn't last long. In the middle of the night, an angel of the Lord appeared in their prison cell, opened the prison doors for them, and let them out. The guards did not even realize what had happened.

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Say - The angel of the Lord told the apostles, "Go stand in the temple courts and preach the good news!" So, that's exactly what the apostles did. They began preaching once again. The next day, when the high priest came to check on them, he saw that the apostles were no longer in prison. It was a **PRISON BREAK!**

The high priest found the apostles standing in the temple courts, once again preaching about the power in the name of Jesus, God's Son. The high priest had the apostles arrested - AGAIN! He brought the apostles before the high council. He said, "We gave you strict orders NOT to preach about Jesus again! Yet, you disobeyed our orders and began preaching anyway!" **PRISON BREAK!**

The apostles spoke up and said, "We must obey God rather than men." The high priest got very angry and decided to kill them. But, one of the wise council members said, "Let them go. If these men are doing all of this in their own power, it won't last long. But, if these men are doing the work of God – then NOTHING can stop it!" They let the apostles go back to preaching, and many people were saved!

- **Say** Thank you for collecting signs and listening to the story! You can stop collecting signs when you hear the words **PRISON BREAK!**
- **Ask** Why do you think it made the High Priest and his officials so mad that the apostles were preaching about Jesus? Shouldn't they be happy for people to hear about Jesus?
- -Allow time for the kids to answer; discuss their answers with the group-
- Ask Why do you think God allowed the apostles to be arrested and put in prison?
- -Allow time for the kids to answer; discuss their answers with the group-

Game/Activity

SUPPLY LIST:

- * Power Verse Signs Print Piece (provided; print one per team)
- * Scissors (several pair for the group to share)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print the Power Verse Signs Print Pieces. Once activity time begins, divide the group into teams and give each team a copy of the Power Verse Print Pieces. Allow time for the teams to cut out the signs. Once this is complete, you are ready to begin the activity. Teams will race to correctly unscramble the words of the power verse and put them in order. However, there is a twist. They must scramble the signs, including all of the ones they drew in story review, and place them in a pile on the floor in front of them. They should stand across the room from their pile. One at a time team members can race to choose one sign, head back to their team, and place it in the correct order. There is one more twist. The red STOP signs and the blank cards! If a team member draws a blank card, they are out of luck, hopefully the next team member will draw a word. If a team member draws a red STOP sign, their team must freeze and stop playing for 5 seconds. They must count the seconds aloud. Once 5 seconds have passed, they may resume playing. The first team to correctly complete the power verse wins. This can be played multiple rounds as time allows.

- **Say** The enemy would like to stop God, but he can't! Nothing can stop God! Our power verse reminds us of this. I have divided you all into teams. Each team has a set of signs that need to be cut out. I will give you time to complete this task. Also, hold onto those signs you collected during story review, you will use them soon.
- -Allow time for the teams to complete the task-

(Continued on next page)

- **Say** We are almost ready to begin! Take you signs collected from the Bible Story review and add them to the signs you just cut out. Mix them up and place them all face down so you cannot see what is printed on the sign. Each team should place their team sign pile on the floor in front of me.
- -Allow time for the teams to complete the task-
- Say It is time to play! Each team should stand across the room from their sign pile. When I say go, one team member from each team should race to their pile, pick up one sign, and head back to their team. Turn the sign over and lay it on the ground to begin your power verse. The team who completely puts the power verse in correct order first, wins! Hold on, that sounds way too easy. There has to be a twist! Some of the signs are blank. If you draw a blank sign, it didn't help your team! Some of the signs are red STOP signs. If you draw a red STOP sign your whole team must freeze and count to 5 aloud. That will definitely make the game more interesting! The enemy always tries to stop the work of God, but he won't win! Are you ready? Let's play!
- -Allow the teams to play the game; this can be played multiple rounds as time allows-

Group Sharing

SUPPLY LIST:

- * Nothing Can Stop God Print Piece (provided; print one per kid)
- * Pencils, crayons, or markers

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins, print and cut the Nothing Can Stop God Print Pieces. Once group sharing begins, give each kid a print piece and something to write with.

- **Say** The enemy tried to stop the apostles, and they ended up being the stars of a major prison break. There may not be a prison cell waiting for you and me, but the enemy still wants to stop anyone who tries to work for God.
- Ask Who is this enemy we are talking about?
- -Allow time for the kids to respond-
- **Ask** Why does the enemy want to stop us from doing God's work? Write your answers in some of the blank space on your page.
- -Allow time for the kids to write their answers-
- Ask Would anyone like to share what they wrote?
- -Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-
- **Ask** What are some ways that the enemy might try and stop us? What are his traps? Write your answers on some of the blank space on your page.
- -Allow time for the kids to write their answers-
- Ask Would anyone like to share what they wrote?

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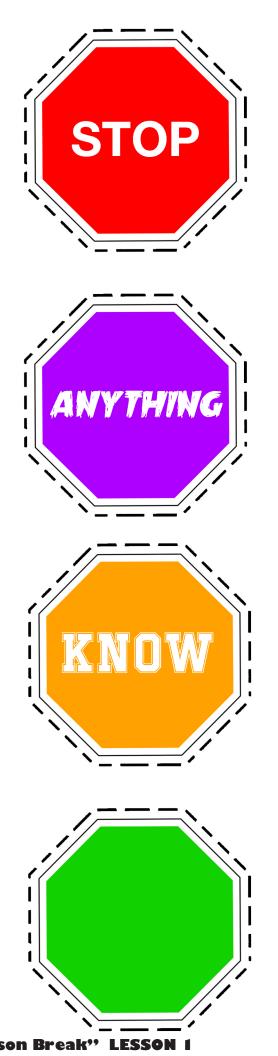
- -Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-
- **Ask** What should we do when the enemy tries to stop us from doing God's work? Write your answers on some of the blank space on your page.
- -Allow time for the kids to write their answers-
- **Ask** Would anyone like to share what they wrote?
- -Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-
- **Ask** I have one last question for you. Why will our enemy fail? Write your answers on the blank space you have left on your paper.
- -Allow time for the kids to write their answers-
- Ask Would anyone like to share what they wrote?
- -Allow time for the kids to respond; discuss their answers with the group-

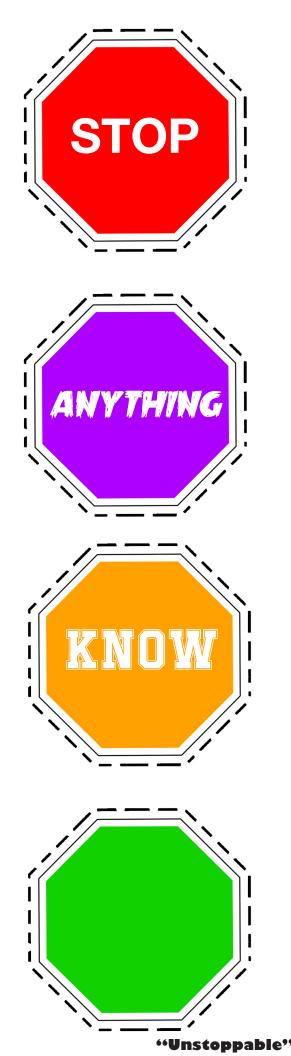
Prayer Time

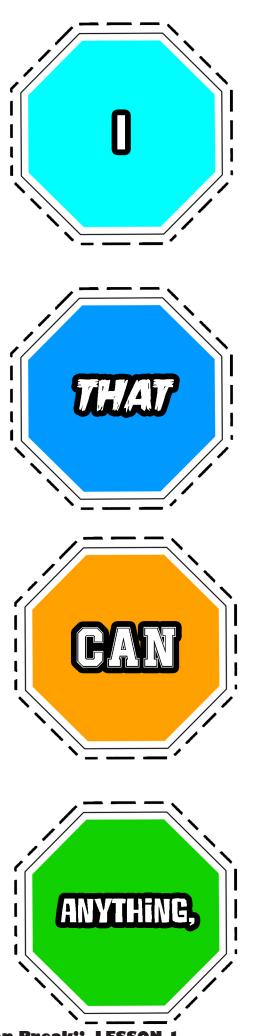
Say - I am so thankful that we serve a victorious God! Nothing can stop our God. Let's pray that God will keep us aware of the traps of the enemy, and that He will help us do His good work! (PRAY)

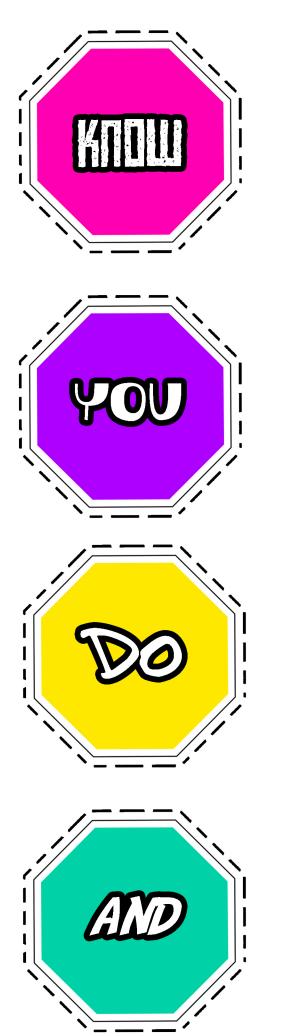
Closing

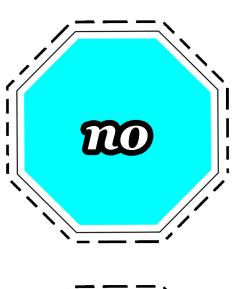
Say - Jesus had just left Earth and returned to Heaven. The apostles had witnessed His amazing life, miracles, and resurrection. They were excited to fulfill the Great Commission and share the good news with everyone on Earth. Jesus is the way to Heaven. Jesus is the way to Life. Jesus is Lord! They were doing the work of God and that made the enemy very angry. The apostles were locked in prison and things seemed pretty hopeless. However, the enemy didn't plan on God staging a PRISON BREAK! The apostles were free and the leaders who tried to stop them realized that nothing can stop God's plan. That is so awesome! The same is true for you and me. We have a mission - to spread the good news of Jesus to the world. When we do the work of God, it makes the enemy very angry. He will try and stop us, trap us, and make us feel hopeless about doing God's work. However, we serve an UNSTOPPABLE God. Nothing can stop His plan! Thank you for coming today! I will see you again soon.













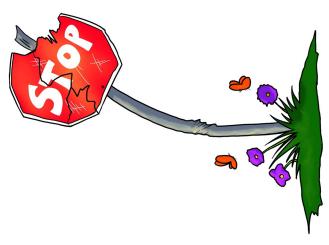












"I KNOW THAT YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, AND NO ONE CAN STOP YOU." JOB 42:2



FAMILY DEVOTION!

"Unstoppable"



"Nothing Can Stop The Work Of God!"



"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you." Job 42:2



week's lesson, we learn that NOTHING can stop God's plan. Through the apostles' Prison Break, we learn that God is more powerful than anything This week, we start a brand new series called, "Prison Break." In this and everything in this world!

Acts 5:12-42

- After Jesus went to Heaven, what did the apostles do? Was everyone happy about what they were doing?
- What happened to the apostles? Did they stay there?
- Were the apostle able to keep preaching and teaching?

the enemy has come to steal, kill, and destroy. The devil will try anything As Christians, we have a very real enemy - the devil. The Bible says that and everything in order to try to stop God's plan.

themselves thrown in prison simply for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The devil thought he could intimidate and stop them from The early Church learned this the hard way. The apostles found preaching.

Ask/Discuss:

- Has there ever been a time you felt that you couldn't do something for God?
- Has God told you to do something before that sounded too hard to do?
 - What can we do when it seems like the enemy is trying to stop God's plan?

His plan is unstoppable! Pray for them if they are struggling to obey God Lead your children in a prayer of thanksgiving that God is unstoppable! because it's hard! Pray that God will help them be bold!

FAMILY DEVOTION!

"Unstoppable"



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Read:

Acts 5:12-42

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- Has there ever been a time you felt that you couldn't do something for
- Has God told you to do something before that sounded too hard to do?
 - What can we do when it seems like the enemy is trying to stop God's plan?

Pray:

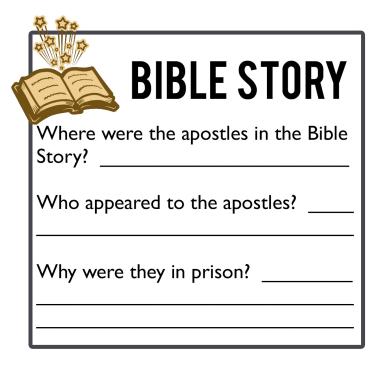
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PRISON BREAK

Nothing Can	WATT'S UP?
The	
Work Of	
!	

POWER VERSE

"I know that you can do	
, and no one can	
you.''	
lob :	



MAIN POINTS
According to our lesson today, "Nothing Can God's Plan."
According to our lesson today, "We Must Obey God - Even When It's"
According to our lesson today, "Be"

BREAK THE CODE

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 5

 14
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 24

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