

# Session 5

## Leader Devotional

Here in our last session at the Knights of North Castle, our goal is for our Knights to reach their Quest for the King's Armor. The last mission is to discover the Helmet of Salvation.

Paul and Silas traveled to Macedonia, where they are arrested for their faith in Jesus. They had been singing hymns of worship in their cell when an earthquake shook the entire jail. All the cell doors swung open and the prisoners inside were freed.

When the jailer discovered what had happened, he thought the prisoners had escaped. He was so terrified of the punishment to come that he was prepared to kill himself. But Paul called out loudly and assured him that no one had left. "The jailer ... rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He led them outside and asked, 'Honorable masters, what must I do to be rescued?'" (Acts 16:29-30).

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your entire household." (16:31) The jailer brought Paul and Silas to his home that night and cared for them, and then he and everyone in his house were baptized.

### Read and reflect.

Acts 16:16-40

Imagine you are the jailer in the midst of this earthquake. What are you thinking? How are you feeling? The jailer discovered a huge surprise when he found the prisoners still in jail. Think of a time when you were surprised by situation or a happening. How did it feel to know God was the

giver of this surprise? In Ephesians 6, Paul likens salvation to a helmet, one of the most important pieces of armor because it protects the brain, neck, eyes, and ears. This is fitting because the assurance of our salvation in Jesus protects our minds, our energy, our vision, and our equilibrium as we navigate the battles of life. When you are facing dangerous or scary times, you can choose to "be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power!"

Read aloud Acts 16:31. What words catch your attention? Why do you feel this verse is so powerful? Pray for ways that God can help you share the good news of Jesus with others.

During this last session of Knights of North Castle, we will discover another Castle Callout. Our Session 5 Castle Callout is "Armor Up with Salvation!" Because God gives us strength, we can remember that we have salvation through Jesus. As leaders, we will repeat this Castle Callout during teaching times of VBS.

### Let's pray.

Almighty God, thank you for allowing us to serve in VBS. Watching the joy of Jesus grow in the lives of these precious children has been a blessing. Help us to continue to use our strength in you as we share the good news of your son and our savior with others. In your name we pray. Amen.



**Bible Story**  
**Midnight Praise with Paul and Silas**  
Acts 16:16-40

**Castle Callout**  
Armor Up with Salvation!

**Banner Verse**  
Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10 (NRSV)