



# WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

## Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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JULY 22, 2018

**1. PRIMARY STATEMENT:** Knowing the Bible is a great thing - the more we read, study and memorize, the better! Knowing about God won't do us any good, though, if it's just knowledge. God wants us to know Him intimately - in a way that changes us fundamentally.

## 2. DISCUSSION:

Philippians 3:8-11 [ESV]

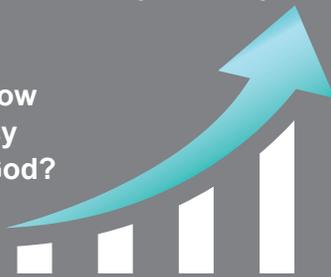
*"Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord."*

Paul knew the Old Testament a lot better than you do - he devoted his early life to studying it; but that head knowledge was nothing compared to the relationship he developed with Jesus.

Q . On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your biblical knowledge?

Q . On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate the intimacy of your relationship with God?

Q . How could raising one of those numbers help raise the other?



## 3. CHALLENGE:

Luke 7:39 [NLT] *"When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this (the woman washing Jesus' feet), he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!'"*

Simon the Pharisee knew the Scriptures like Paul did, yet he didn't recognize the Savior who was sitting at his table.

Q. What was the difference between these two? Which do you associate with more? What made the difference for you?

As you consider your role in teaching the next generation to know God, Bible knowledge is clearly important, but there's more needed than that.

Q. What else can you do to guide people to knowing God, not just knowing about Him?



## 4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for reaching out to know you personally, not just to enlist you as a servant. Ask the Holy Spirit to use the knowledge about God that you gain to help you get to know Him better.



# IN PRISON FOR GOOD

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JULY 22, 2018

### 1. POWER VERSE: Romans 8:28 “And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”

#### What’s Up: “God Can Use My Prison To Change Someone’s Life!”

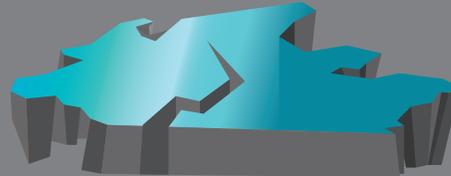
This week, we continue our series called, “Prison Break.” In this lesson, we will learn that God can use the bad for good. If we are faithful to God during the bad times, others may be blessed!

### 2. READ:

*Acts 16:25-34 “About midnight Paul and Silas were praying. They were also singing hymns to God. The other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a powerful earthquake. It shook the prison from top to bottom. All at once the prison doors flew open. Everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up. He saw that the prison doors were open. He pulled out his sword and was going to kill himself. He thought the prisoners had escaped. “Don’t harm yourself!” Paul shouted. “We are all here!” The jailer called out for some lights. He rushed in, shaking with fear. He fell down in front of Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out. He asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus. Then you and everyone living in your house will be saved.” They spoke the word of the Lord to him. They also spoke to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night, the jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their wounds. Right away he and everyone who lived with him were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house. He set a meal in front of them. He and everyone who lived with him were filled with joy. They had become believers in God.”*

### 3. CHALLENGE:

Q. What happened after the earthquake?  
Did Paul and Silas leave the jail?



Q. What happened to the jailer?

Q. Did Paul and Silas help him to become a Christian or not?

Q. Who else became a Christian after the earthquake?

Sometimes, bad things happen - even for Christians. Sometimes a bad situation can be really bad - and we feel like there is NOTHING good that can come from it. We feel like we’re in a prison and there is no hope for good to come out of it.



Q. Has there been a time that God has used your bad to help others?

Q. Has there been a time that God helped you because of someone else’s bad?

Q. Have you faced something that seemed too bad to ever be used for good?



### 4. PRAYER FOCUS

Pray that your children would see that God can use the bad for good. Pray that they would see the reason for their prison and stay faithful to God, no matter what. Pray that others would be blessed because of their faithfulness in the bad times.