



Paul Escapes in a Basket

Acts 9:20-25

After Paul met Jesus, he didn't want to hurt the people in God's family anymore. He wanted to tell everyone that Jesus is God's Son. The people in the city where Paul was staying were very surprised that Paul was now one of Jesus' friends. The leaders who sent Paul to hurt Jesus' friends were surprised, too. And they were angry! They decided, "We must stop Paul!"

The leaders sent men to watch the gates of the city. They knew Paul would have to come out of the city gates. They told the men to catch Paul and hurt him. But Paul found out about the leaders' plan. Paul knew he could not leave the city by walking out in the usual way. And of course, God loved Paul and helped him.

One night, some of Paul's new friends met him on the wall of the city. The wall was very high and wide. Paul's friends brought a very big basket and a long, long rope.

Paul climbed into the basket. His friends tied ropes tightly around the basket; and they tied a long, long rope to the basket. Paul's friends held tightly to the rope and slowly pushed the basket over the wall. The basket began to drop down, down, down. Soon there was a THUMP! The basket was on the ground outside the city wall.

Paul was GLAD to climb out of that basket and glad to be out of the city! Paul was glad God loved him and was with him.

Basket on a Wall

Collect

Bible, construction paper, scissors, poster board, hole punch, rope material (yarn, string or twine), measuring stick, markers, transparent tape.

Prepare

Cut one 4-inch (10-cm) construction-paper basket shape for each child. Cut poster-board sheets in half widthwise. Use hole punch to make holes near the top and bottom of poster board, one half sheet for each child. Cut one 21-inch (53.5-cm) length of rope material for each child.

Do

1. Children draw lines on poster board to make stones of the wall. Help children thread rope material through holes, knotting in back to make a loop. Children decorate baskets with markers.
2. Pull knot in yarn to the bottom hole in the back. Help children tape basket to the top of the rope in front (this will allow basket to move all the way up and down the wall).

Enrichment Ideas

1. Provide construction paper circles. Children draw face on one circle and tape it to their basket to show a person riding in the basket.
2. Before class, cut squares from sandpaper. In class, children glue sandpaper squares to make stones of wall.

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When I'm afraid, God is with me and loves me.

Talk About

- ☀ In our Bible story today, Paul's friends helped him by lowering him over a wall in a basket. Let's make walls with baskets like Paul's.
- ☀ How do you think Paul felt when angry men wanted to hurt him? Even in this scary time, God was with Paul and loved him.
- ☀ One way God shows love to us when we're afraid is by giving us people who help us and care for us. Katrina, who helps and cares for you?



