

A LETTER FROM PRISON

Each week the drama gets a little more. As the kids become more engaged feel free to ask them to be part of the drama.

With Kids Jr. you could ask the youth helpers to get involved or double up roles to be one role instead of multiple.

PROPS



- Cloak
- Envelope with letter
- Slides

Week 1

A messenger wearing a cloak bursts into the room with enthusiasm, holding a large envelope. They pull out this week's letter, revealing a chapter from Philippians.

MESSENGER: [waving the letter] Look what we've got! A letter! A letter from Paul!

The messenger opens the letter and starts to read...

Oh no! it looks like he's been arrested, and he's in prison! in Philippi!

LEADER: WHAT! Where's Philippi? Kids, any idea where that is?

MESSENGER: It's a major Greek City where the Romans were in charge. Here's a map...[show the map of Europe with Philippi on it]



But Rome doesn't like Christians. Lots of Jesus' followers are being arrested. It looks like they've now got Paul. Oh I hope he's ok. I'm so worried...

The leader comforts the messenger

LEADER: It's ok. We know that God is in control. Lets all just take a moment, maybe there's something encouraging in the letter. I think we better read it together to find out.

The Leader should instruct the kids to find a spot to lie down. Explain that the letter will be read to them so close their eyes and imagine Paul in prison writing these letters to them. Play the video with the candle and the chapter for this week and try and keep the room as peaceful as possible. As they're listening be praying silently that God's word would impact them deeply.

Once the passage is finished, encourage the kids for listening so well and ask them to sit in a circle to discuss what they heard.

Week 2

A messenger wearing a cloak bursts into the room with enthusiasm, holding a large envelope. They pull out this week's letter, revealing a chapter from Philippians.



Title: “A Letter from Paul!”

Setting: A small gathering place in Philippi.

Characters:

- **Messenger – Energetic and a little out of breath**
- **Lydia – Kind and thoughtful (a believer from Philippi)**
- **Group of Believers – Kids in the audience or acting as background**



Script:

(Messenger runs in holding a rolled-up scroll, panting)

Messenger: *(breathing hard)*

People of Philippi! I’ve come a long way — over mountains, across rivers — but I bring great news!

Lydia: *(standing up excitedly)*

You made it! Do you bring word from Paul?

Messenger:

Yes! A letter — straight from prison in Rome. Paul wrote this to you, his dear friends in Philippi.

(Holds up scroll carefully, everyone leans in)

Messenger (reading):

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit...”

Lydia (softly, to the others):

That sounds like Paul.

Messenger (smiles, keeps reading):

“...Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves...”

He also says: “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...”

(Pauses dramatically)

“...Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage — but made Himself nothing...”

Lydia:

Paul wants us to remember how Jesus gave everything for us.



Messenger (finishing):

“And because of this, God exalted Him to the highest place — and gave Him the name above every name!”

All (together):

JESUS!

Messenger:

That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow — in heaven, on earth, and under the earth!

Lydia (smiling):

What a Saviour! What a letter!

Let’s read it from the start.

The Leader should instruct the kids to find a spot to lie down. Explain that the letter will be read to them so close their eyes and imagine Paul in prison writing these letters to them. Play the video with the candle and the chapter for this week and try and keep the room as peaceful as possible. As they’re listening be praying silently that God’s word would impact them deeply.

Once the passage is finished, encourage the kids for listening so well and ask them to sit in a circle to discuss what they heard.

Week 3

A messenger wearing a cloak bursts into the room with enthusiasm, holding a large envelope. They pull out this week's letter, revealing a chapter from Philippians.



Title: “The Messenger from Paul”

Setting: The Philippian church gathered in a home. Elder Lydia, Chloe, and Timon are seated.

Characters:

- **Leader - Introduces scenes and provides transitions**
- **Messenger** – Delivers Paul’s letter
- **Lydia** – A wise leader of the Philippian church
- **Timon** – A young believer, eager but confused
- **Others** – Optional: crowd of believers



Script:

Narrator:

The church in Philippi eagerly awaited news from Paul, their beloved teacher, now imprisoned in Rome.

Timon (pacing):

Do you think Paul is okay? I heard the prison is cold and harsh.

Lydia (comforting):

He writes even from chains. His heart is always with us.

Let us pray—and wait with hope.

[Knock at the door. Messenger enters, travel-worn but joyful.]

Messenger (excitedly):

Peace to you! A letter—from Paul!

All (gasps and gather around):

From Paul! Read it to us!

[Messenger unrolls the scroll and reads passionately. Other characters listen with emotion.]

The Leader should instruct the kids to find a spot to lie down. Explain that the letter will be read to them so close their eyes and imagine Paul in prison writing these letters to them. Play the video with the candle and the chapter for this week and try and keep the room as peaceful as possible. As they’re listening be praying silently that God’s word would impact them deeply.

[Play the Video]



Messenger:

(Reading Philippians 3:1–9, in simplified, dramatized form)

“Rejoice in the Lord! Watch out for those who say you must earn God’s favor. I had every reason to boast—my birth, my training, my zeal... but I count it all as loss for the sake of Christ.”

Timon (whispers):

He gave up everything?

Messenger (continues):

“I consider it all garbage compared to knowing Christ. I want to be found in Him, not having my own righteousness from the law, but the one that comes through faith.”

Lydia (tearfully):

Such wisdom. He still teaches us... even now.

Messenger:

“I press on, forgetting what is behind, straining toward what is ahead—the prize of the upward call in Christ Jesus.”

Chloe:

He presses on... and so shall we.

Lydia:

We have heard Paul’s heart. Let us not cling to what we’ve done, but to whom we know—Jesus Christ.

Timon (earnestly):

I used to think obeying every rule was what mattered... but now I want to truly know Him.

Messenger (closing the scroll):

Paul is in prison—but he is more free than ever.

Chloe:

Then we shall live in that freedom too.

Narrator (stepping forward):

And so the church in Philippi rejoiced—not in their works, but in their Savior. Like Paul, they pressed on toward the goal—the prize that is found in Christ alone.

Once the passage is finished, encourage the kids for listening so well and ask them to sit in a circle to discuss what they heard.

Week 4

A messenger wearing a cloak bursts into the room with enthusiasm, holding a large envelope. They pull out this week's letter, revealing a chapter from Philippians.



Title: “The Messenger from Paul”

Setting: The Philippian church gathered in a home. Elder Lydia, Chloe, and Timon are seated.

Characters:

- **Leader - Introduces scenes and provides transitions**
- **Messenger** – Delivers Paul’s letter
- **Lydia** – A wise leader of the Philippian church
- **Marcus**
- **Eudia**
- **Syntyche**



Script:

(Messenger runs in, smiling and holding a scroll.)

Messenger:

I bring a final letter from Paul!

Lydia:

Another one! wonderful! How is he?

Messenger:

He’s still in prison, but he says, “Rejoice in the Lord always!”

He says not to worry. Instead, pray about everything!

Marcus:

Even when I’m worried and scared? I’m so worried about him.

Messenger:

Yes! Paul says when we pray, God gives us peace.

Messenger (to Eudia and Syntyche):

Paul says you two should get along and work together.

Eudia:

Okay, I’ll be kind.

Syntyche:

Me too. Let’s be friends again.



Messenger:

Paul also says: “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!”

Marcus:

Wow! I can’t believe he’s got so much peace even though he’s still in prison. Can we hear the whole letter?

Messenger:

Of course!

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