Lesson

Engaging Introduction

Good morning, boys and girls! Today, we're going to learn about something amazing from the Bible in the book of Acts, chapter 5, verses 12-42. Have you ever been in a big crowd where everyone is gathered for something special? Maybe at a school assembly or a big celebration? Imagine if you were there and something truly incredible happened—something that would make everyone remember that day forever! Well, this Bible story is kind of like that. It tells us about the apostles, who were Jesus' friends and followers, and how they kept on telling everyone about Jesus, no matter what. They showed great faith and courage even when they faced tough times.

So, grab your imaginary travel caps, and let's journey back in time to see what adventures the apostles went through and how we might learn to be just as brave and faithful in our own lives. Are you ready? Let's dive into the story!

Main Teaching Points

Point 1: Miracles and Wonder

Our story begins with the apostles performing many miracles. A miracle is something amazing that doesn't seem possible. Imagine if you saw someone who was very sick suddenly leap up and start dancing because they were healed, or someone who couldn't walk taking a big run around the playground. That's what was happening because of the apostles. The Bible tells us that lots of people were coming to see these miracles. This happened because Jesus was working through them.

People were bringing the sick and those who were troubled by bad spirits to the apostles. The people even lined the streets, hoping that Peter's shadow might touch them as he walked by. This wasn't because Peter's shadow was magic, but because they believed in the power of what Jesus could do through Peter and the apostles.

Point 2: Trouble with the Leaders

When the high priest and other leaders saw the apostles talking about Jesus, they got very upset. They didn't believe in Jesus and didn't want anyone else to hear about Him, either. So, they put the apostles in jail! But during the night, an angel from God came and opened the doors of the jail, letting them out! How amazing is that? The angel told them to go back to the temple and keep teaching about Jesus. It was like God was saying, "Keep going, don't give up!"

Point 3: Obeying God First

The next day, the leaders were shocked to find the apostles weren't in jail. They sent guards to fetch the apostles from the temple. When the apostles were brought before the leaders, the leaders scolded them and said, "We told you not to teach in Jesus' name!" But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than humans." Isn't that brave? They knew following God was the most important thing, even when it was hard.

Point 4: Wise Counsel

A wise man, named Gamaliel, told the worried leaders that they should be careful. He reminded them that if what the apostles were doing was from God, they couldn't stop it. And if it was not from God, it would simply fade away. The leaders decided not to kill the apostles but still punished them by beating them before letting them go. However, the apostles left rejoicing, happy to be counted worthy of suffering for Jesus. Then, they continued to teach others every day about Jesus. They were unstoppable!

Personal Application for Elementary Students

Now, let's think about how this amazing story can help us live our lives today. The apostles showed incredible courage and trust in God. Sometimes we might face situations at school or home where it feels hard to do the right thing—like standing up for what you believe or being kind to someone when others aren't.

Just like the apostles, we need to remember that God is always with us. He gives us the courage to say and do the right things when it's tough. Maybe you can think about a time you told a friend about Jesus or shared something important because it was right to do.

Remember that even when things feel difficult, God's message can't be stopped. You can be like the apostles and share love and kindness with everyone around you, showing them what Jesus has done in your life. When you do this, you're being brave just like the apostles.

Interactive Discussion Questions

Alright, let's talk about some questions to help us understand this story better. As we discuss, feel free to raise your hand if you want to share.

Question 1: What did the apostles do when they were let out of jail by the angel?

This question helps us remember the courage the apostles had. They didn't hide or run away but went straight back to teaching about Jesus. This reminds us to keep sharing good messages even when it’s tough.

Question 2: What does it mean to "obey God rather than humans"?

By discussing this question, we think about when we might need to choose God’s ways, which could sometimes be different from what everyone else is doing. Can you think of an example from your life?

Question 3: How do you think the apostles felt after being punished but continuing to preach every day?

Here, we can reflect on the joy and strength we get from doing right in God's eyes. It's not always easy, but it’s rewarding. Have you ever felt happy about doing something good even when it was hard?

Thank you, everyone, for participating! Remember, you can be a brave and faithful follower of Jesus, just like the apostles. Let's carry these lessons with us as we finish up our day.