



Welcome back Lockdown Lookouts...

Your help has been fantastic. It has helped me see just how fantastic Jesus is, and how much we need him. We don't need to trust anything else for full life with God.

But Paul hasn't stopped writing. He is seeking to help Christians all around the Roman Empire. So I need your help to understand a letter Paul has written to Christians in Philippi. Are you ready to look out for me, Lookouts?

Yours

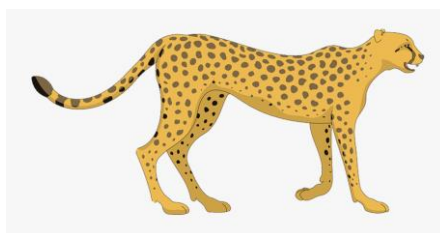
Jail Bird Joe

Opening Prayer

'Dear Heavenly Father, help us to know you better as we read from the Bible now, and to love Jesus more. Amen.'

Challenge

1) Have a thumbs up/ thumbs down vote - Which of these could you stop? Why or why not?



©DESIGNALIKE



- 2) Play 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' You can find out how to [here](#). Can Mr Wolf stop you before you get to him or not?

Today, we are going to see what can't be stopped...

Read Philippians 1:12-14

12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. 13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. 14 And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

Chat it through

- **Where is Paul (v14)**
 - Paul is in prison. That is what it means by being 'in chains' He was probably in prison in Roman about AD 62.

Paul's job from God was to tell everyone the good news about Jesus.

- **With Paul in prison, do you expect the good news to have stopped spreading?**
Thumbs up for yes, or down for no.
 - Yes. If the person who is meant to be spreading the good news about Jesus is chained up, you would think the good news would be too!
- **But what has happened? (v12)**
 - Actually Paul being locked up, has meant the good news of Jesus has spread even further! That is what 'served to advance the gospel' means.
- **How has it spread the good news of Jesus? (v13-14)**
 - The soldiers who are guarding Paul have heard about Jesus from Paul. He has a 'captive audience'! It seems the news about Jesus then spread to the whole of the palace! People who would never normally hear about Jesus, now are! (v13)
 - Other Christians have heard Paul is in prison for speaking of Jesus - and that has made them brave to speak about Jesus too! (v14)

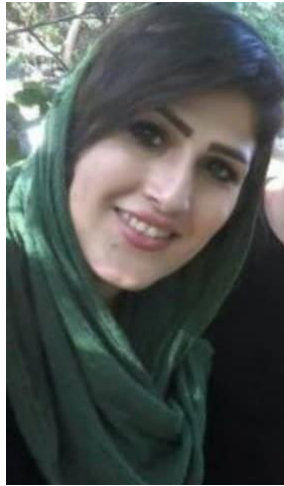
Read 2 Timothy 2:9

'for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained.'

- **Can God's word (his message about Jesus) be stopped?**
 - No! Even if his people are locked down, the good news is not!
- **How does that help you trust God's word and be brave to share it?**

Pray it through

Today we are going to pray for Christians who are locked down (in prison) because of their trust in Jesus...



This is Fatemah. She is in prison in Iran, for one year, because she would not stop being a Christian, and for telling others about Jesus.

Pray that:

- Jesus will strengthen and encourage Fatemeh with His presence and also be with her husband and encourage him.
- That the people in charge of Iran will stop persecuting Christians.



This is Pastor John. He is in China. He lived in America, but travelled to China where he helped set up schools for children there. He has been put in prison for 7 years.

Pray that:

- Pastor John and his family will experience God's presence and peace.
- For opportunities for Pastor John to show God's unconditional love to his fellow inmates and his prison guards.
- That the people in charge will free John.

NOW un pause the video on YouTube to continue...

Craft

- 1) Print out (or copy out) these two circles.
- 2) Get a straw, or old pencil and stick the two circles back to back with the pencil in the middle.
- 3) Rub the pencil back and forth in your hands to spin it.

You should have a STOP sign, but if you spin it fast enough - you should see 'Nothing can STOP God's word'

It looks like God's good news can be stopped - but nothing can stop it!

