

# Faith Adventures for Children Together

*Committed to URC Children Together:  
enabling everyone to grow more like Jesus  
together in the home, church and beyond.*

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link:  
<https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-how-to-sheet.pdf>

## Acts 12: 5, 7-16

**Theme: Don't be surprised when God answers your prayers!**

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# Together

How do I help my group to come together and get started with the theme?

## Gathering prayer

Jesus, our friend



Here are some ways to explore the story to enable you to catch the action, the surprise and all the emotions of the events.

#### Freeze frame action scenes

With everyone sitting in a circle, retell the story, pausing at key moments. As you pause invite the children into the circle to recreate the scene as a freeze frame. Encourage them to think about what emotions the different people may be showing. Try adding in a wondering question with each freeze frame eg 'I wonder what they were thinking/feeling...?' As an alternative you could make drawings to capture the freeze frame scenes using speech bubbles to capture the thoughts and emotions of the people in the story.

For younger children  
Small world play

You will need:

Small play figures.

A large felt circle to create a story space.

Items

## What's in the box (for under fives)

Use the special box or bag and sing "What's in the box/bag? What's in the box/bag? Let's see, let's see, what's in the box/bag" (to the tune of The Farmer's in the Dell). You could tap the top of the box twice after the word 'box'. Pull out the things one by one and then let the children play with them, talking about the theme or the story in simple terms.

This week's box could include:

Rope – Peter was in prison and his hands were tied in chains. Try tying knots, consider using lace up toys

Pillow – It was nighttime and Peter was sleeping next to two soldiers. Get children to pretend to sleep and make snoring noises

Toy Angel – An angel came to Peter while he was asleep in the prison

Torch – A bright light shone in the prison cell – turn on the torch and shine it around the room

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## Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

During the week, look out for times when God surprises you or when prayers are answered, remembering that the answer can be “no”, “yes”, or “not right now”. Some people around the world are still put in prison for being Christians. Say a prayer asking God to keep them safe and bring them freedom. Maybe you could find out about one of the charities that supports people in prison.

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We hope you enjoyed exploring **Acts 12** with us.

Please let us know what you liked or what you would find useful by emailing [lorrainewebb@urc.org.uk](mailto:lorrainewebb@urc.org.uk)

Why not have a look at pn85041 r652000 mhdAW\*n08 Tf208 Tf



Jesus our friend,

with us today

as we share together

I will be your friend

Right middle finger touches centre of other palm, repeat

Alternate hands

OK

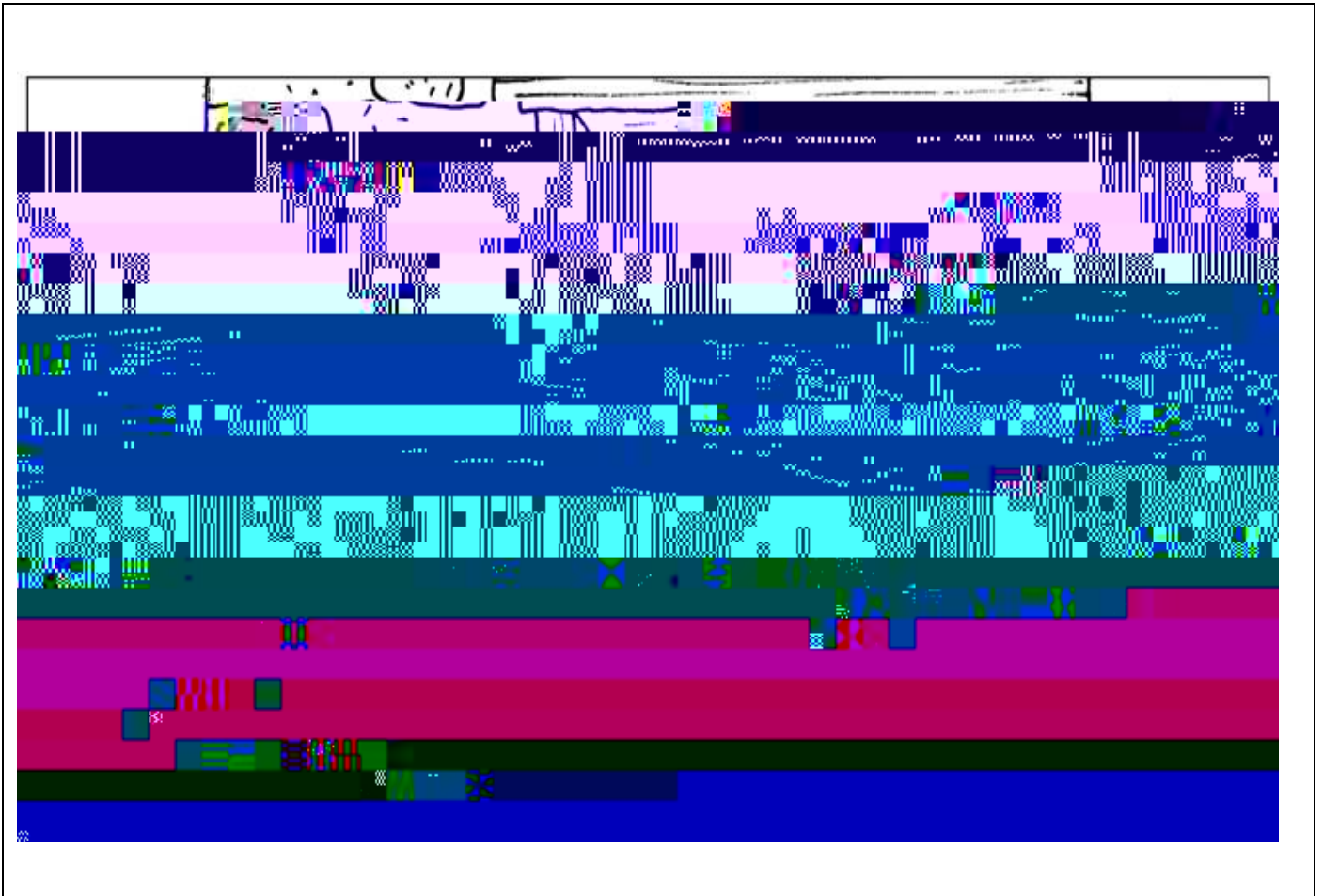


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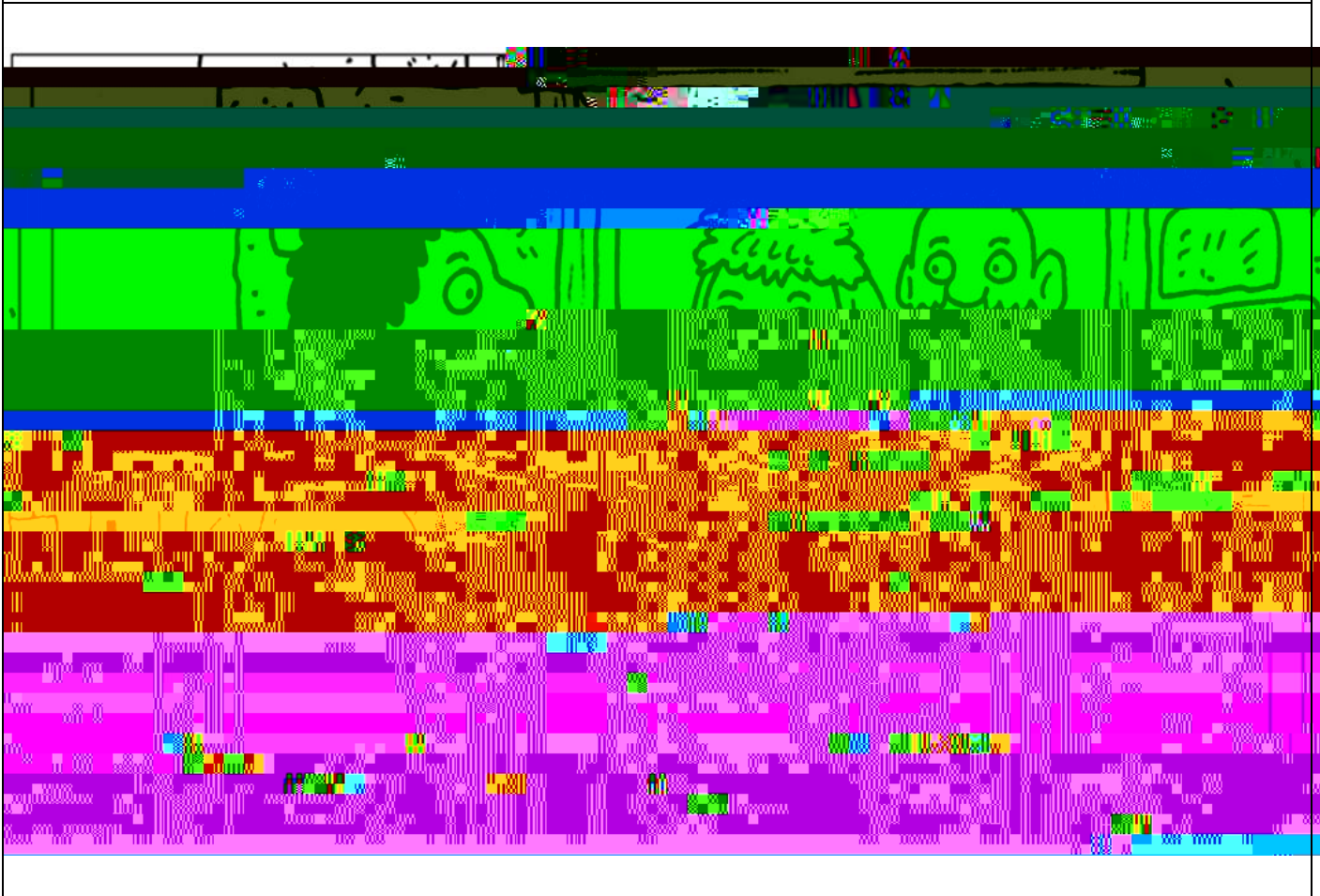


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