

KID ZONE

8

Go for Gold



OVERCOMING a Set-back

At first everything was strangely quiet, but many people were very worried.

As Paul travelled to Jerusalem, prophets warned him, "You will be arrested and put in prison".

"Please don't go on," his friends pleaded with tears.

At last Paul arrived. He had many enemies in Jerusalem who wanted to kill him. They hated him because he had helped many people who were Gentiles and not Jews to start the race with Jesus, but he did not make them obey the Jewish rules.

The Christians in Jerusalem were afraid and wondered: "What will happen now?"

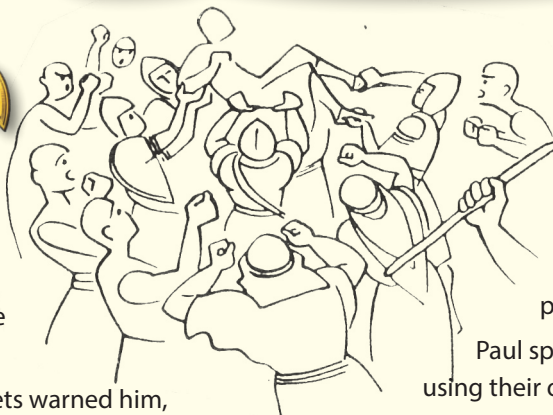
Paul met the church leaders, walked the streets and even went to the Temple and nothing happened.

But one day a man in the Temple pointed at Paul and shouted: "This is the man who causes trouble everywhere. He's broken our rules by bringing people who are not Jews into our Temple."

This was a lie, but it made the big crowd very excited. They grabbed Paul, dragged him out of the Temple and started to beat him to death.

This happened right below a big tower of the castle of the Roman army who ruled Jerusalem. The Commander looked down from a top window and saw the crowd trying to kill someone. He ordered his soldiers to run down the steps and rescue this man.

The soldiers pushed through the crowd and carried Paul, safely, high above their heads to the castle steps. The Commander didn't know who Paul was, but he came down, too.



Weren't the London Olympics great?

New Zealand won 13 medals including 6 golds. We had 26 medallists. Our athletes were welcomed back as heroes.

The Paralympics started on 29 August. These athletes have had serious set-backs and still achieve greatly. In our story this month Paul, too, overcame a big set-back in his race with Jesus.

As they marched Paul up the castle steps, he asked the Commander, "Can I please speak to the people?"

Paul used Greek, the Commander's language and this surprised him.

"He must be an educated man," the Commander thought and gave him permission.

Paul spoke to all the people from the steps using their own language and they all listened.

"I used to be like you," he said. "I hated Christians. I wanted to make them obey your rules. When I was going to Damascus to arrest the Christians there, I had a vision of Jesus in heaven that made me blind. I knew that Jesus was not dead but alive. In Damascus Jesus sent a man named Ananias to heal my blindness and help me start the race with Jesus. He said, 'God has chosen you to tell the good news about Jesus to both Jews and Gentiles.'"

As soon as they heard the word "Gentiles", the crowd became very angry again.

They yelled, "Kill him! Kill him!"

They waved their clothes and threw dust in the air to show how angry they were.

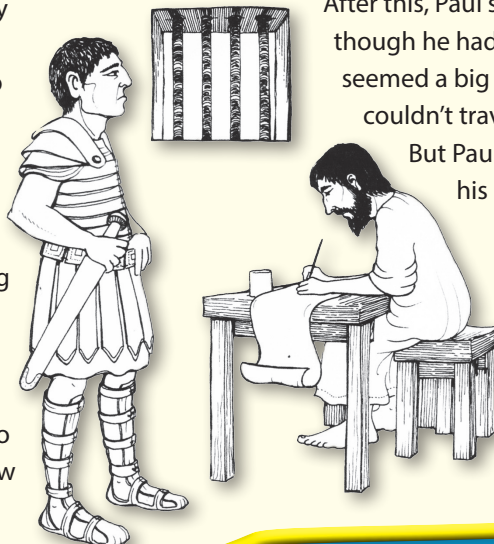
"Take him into the castle," the Commander ordered.

He kept Paul as a prisoner.

After this, Paul spent several years in prison, even though he had done nothing wrong. At first it seemed a big set-back in Paul's race with Jesus. He couldn't travel freely to tell people about Jesus.

But Paul wrote many letters to churches and his helpers. Some of these are in our Bibles. Ever since people have read them to find the truth about God and Jesus. So he overcame this set-back and has helped many people trust and follow Jesus.

Read the story yourself from the Bible in Acts 21:15 – 22:19.



BE AN ATHLETE!

Find out more about being a disabled athlete.

BLINDFOLD BOWLS

You will need a blindfold, 5 balls and a bell or shaker.

Each player takes a turn to be blindfolded at one end of the room and given one ball at a time. The bell is rung at the other end and put on the floor. Bowl the ball along the floor to hit the bell. Tell the athlete where the ball went and ring the bell again for another try. Award a gold (cardboard) medal to the athlete with the most hits.

DISABLED GUMBOOT SHOT PUT

You will need a gumboot.

Go outdoors. Use the hand you don't usually use. (Right-handed, use your left. Left-handed, use your right.) Throw the gumboot as far as you can. Award gold for the furthest distance.



YOUR OLYMPIC SCRAPBOOK

Don't stop finding stories to stick into your Scrapbook. Look in the newspapers, magazines and on the internet for stories about the Paralympic athletes. But first make sure all your stories about last month's Olympics are stuck in. Your book will be getting quite full.

A VERSE TO LEARN

Athletes train very hard for the Olympics and Paralympics. We need to train hard for our race with Jesus by praying, reading the Bible, doing what it tells us and what we know is right. Can you read this verse?

The Code:

1 = A; 2 = E; 3 = F; 4 = G; 5 = I; 6 = L; 7 = N; 8 = O; 9 = R

The other letters are not in code.

Look up the reference in a Good News Bible to check your answer.

The Verse:

K 2 2 P Y 8 U 9 S 2 6 3 5 7 T 9 1 5 7 5 7 4
3 8 9 1 4 8 D 6 Y 6 5 3 2

1 Timothy 4: 7



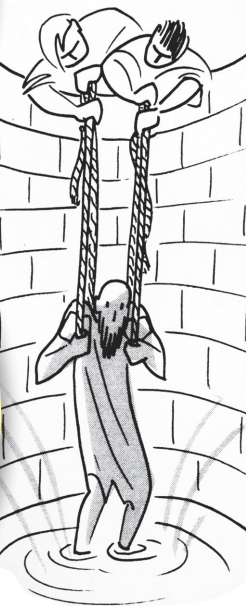
TALKING WITH THE COACH

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to keep on training for my race with you even when I have set-backs or feel discouraged.

Amen.

HELP THE BIBLE PRISONER ESCAPE

Draw lines to join each prisoner on the left with what happened to him on the right. Finish writing his name and look up the reference to check.



He was a slave in Egypt in prison because of a lie about him.

He told his girl-friend the secret of his hair. She cut it and he lost his strength. He was captured and blinded.

He was God's prophet but the King hated what he said. He was put in a well with deep mud on the bottom.

He was put in prison for criticising King Herod.

He was chained to soldiers beside him and they were all asleep.

He was put on the island of Patmos where one Sunday he had a wonderful vision.

An angel came. The chains fell off and the prison doors opened. No soldiers woke.

(P _ _ _ _ Acts 12:6 - 11)

An African man felt sorry for him and lowered ropes and rags to pull him out.

(J _ _ _ _ _ Book of the same name 38:1 - 13)

His head was cut off and taken on a plate to a dancing girl's mother

(J _ _ _ _ the B _ _ _ _ _ Matthew 14:1 - 11)

We don't know if he got off the island but he wrote the last book in the Bible.

(J _ _ _ _ Revelation 1:9 - 11)

His hair grew and his strength came back. He pulled down a temple and killed hundreds of Philistines.

(S _ _ _ _ _ Judges 16:4 - 30)

He told two prisoners what their dreams meant and at last one of them told Pharaoh and he was freed.

(J _ _ _ _ _ Genesis 40:1 - 41:16)