

WRITTEN BY:
RAYMOND SPENCE

ILLUSTRATED BY:
GEORGIA AUCKRAM

OUT OF THIS WORLD

WITH CHAINEY AND MARTY



ABOUT THIS BOOK

This is the first book in the Chainey series which seeks to explore biblical passages in an imaginative way and make them accessible to children. The “other world” characters of Marty and Linkin allow the amazing love of Jesus to be seen from a different perspective (another face of a beautiful diamond). The introduction of the forest animals begins a discussion about our responsibility to God’s creation. We also meet James and Ralph and through these characters start to address the problem of bullying, which unfortunately so many children experience.

Chapter one: Chains are Broken

Chapter two: Moon Rock

Chapter three: Chainey to the Rescue

Chapter four: Back on Mars

Wherever you see this symbol ✨ teacher notes and suggested activities are included at the back of the book.

This book is dedicated to the amazing Spence girls who inspired the writing of the stories – my daughter Kirsten and granddaughters Meile and Hazel.

Author note: Raymond Spence is a high school teacher and first introduced these stories to the children of Equippers Church, Dunedin.

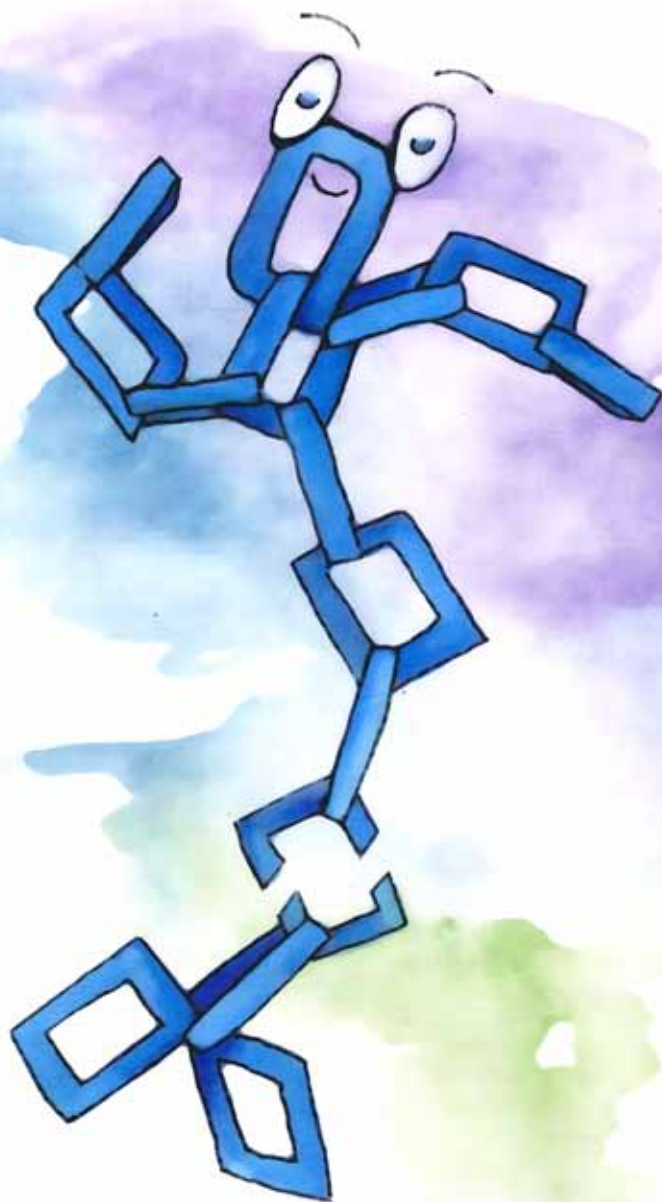
Illustrator note: Georgia Auckram is a very talented artist and is currently a student at Bayfield High School, Dunedin.

Chapter one: CHAINS ARE BROKEN

What would it be like to get blamed for something you didn't do? That's what happened to Paul and Silas who were followers of Jesus. The reason they got into trouble was because Paul and Silas stopped some greedy people from cheating others out of their money. The greedy people were so angry that they told a whole lot of lies to the town police and Paul and Silas were put in prison.

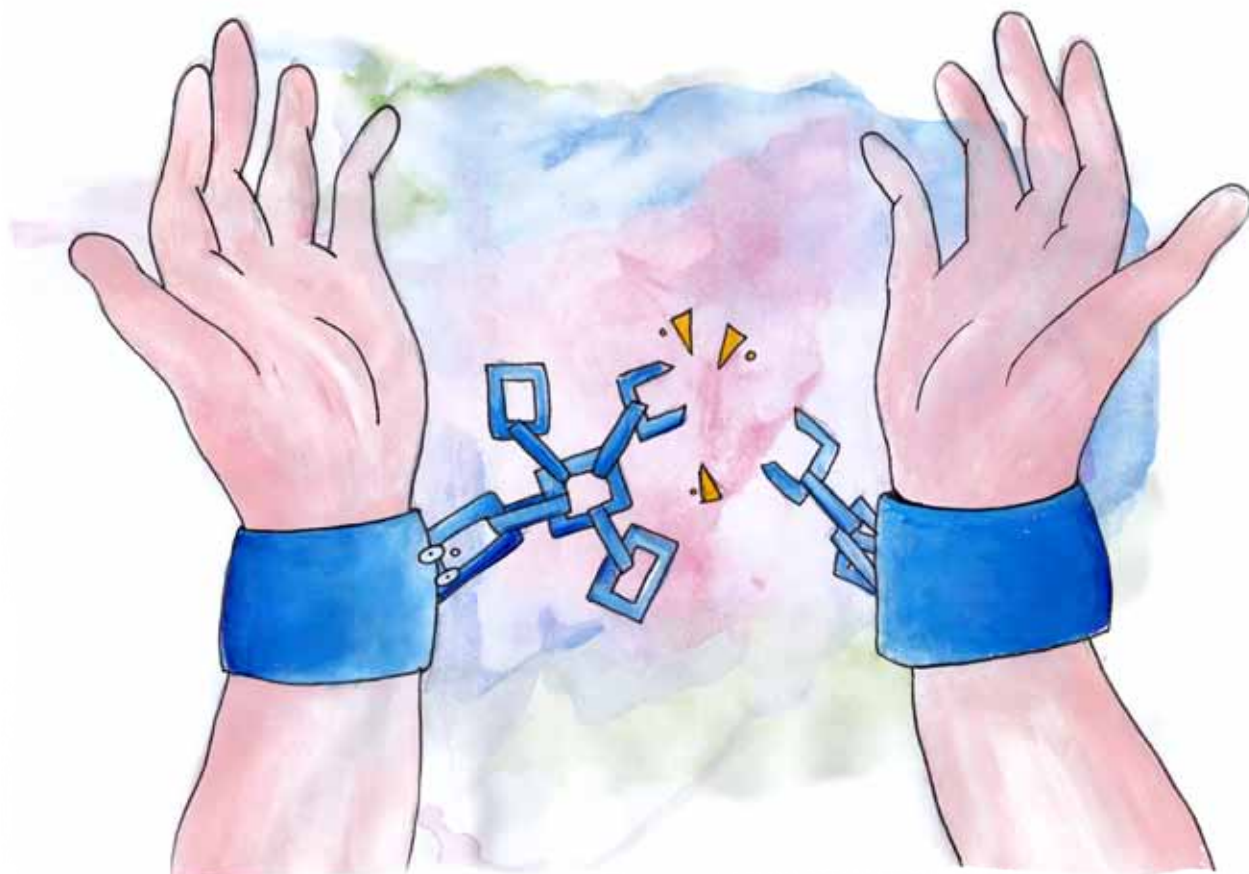
It would be horrible to be locked up in chains; they are so hard and cold and almost impossible to break by yourself 🌟 but Paul and Silas did get free of their chains and that's what this story is about.

The details are recorded in the Bible, Acts 16, but no one is around anymore who was present that day. Or is there? Chains can last nearly forever. What if chains could talk? This is Chainey and he's telling the story to his friend Linkin...



Suddenly the door was open and these two guys were thrown in. Paul and Silas were their names. The boss didn't seem to be too happy about what was happening and he sort of says sorry to them as he puts me around their arms and legs. They didn't look like bad people. No matter, no one has ever escaped from my tight grip; they could be here forever. I expected them to be sad and miserable because it was very cold and damp in that prison. But not them... they were singing and praying to Jesus at the top of their lungs; songs like "This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made..." It was kind of catchy and I found myself singing along but I guess all they could hear from me was the creaking of their chains. ✨

About midnight there was this terrible shaking. Every part of me was stretched; I could have wet myself if I wasn't so frightened of getting rust on me. Next thing I know Paul and Silas just step through their leg chains and I'm like... wow! How did that happen? Next thing I come off their arms as easy as. For some reason they're not running through the broken door, just quietly praying. The boss rushes in; it's pitch dark and he thinks he's going to lose his life because he's let his prisoners escape! Then he freaks out when they call him by name, "Bryan, Bryan, fear not. Jesus can set you and your family free from all that troubles you."



Soon the whole family is with Paul and Silas and they are so happy singing and praising God. And you know what, Linkin? It wasn't the earthquake that got them out of my grip that night, it was their prayers to Jesus. I was attached to the wall and it's like they walked through me, my hard metal sort of melted away for that moment.

Tell you what, something happened to my cold chain heart that night. Bryan may have broken the link that held me to the wall, but Jesus changed my heart, and now I travel all over the world to tell my story. ✨