



Topeka Bible Church
The Life of Paul, Episode 20:
“When the Jailhouse Rocked”
Community Group Study Questions
Acts 16:16-34

1. Is it strange that a spirit-possessed slave girl was testifying to Paul and Silas’ role as servants of God (*Acts 16:16-17*)? Why was she doing this? Why might an evil spirit or demon recognize those who serve God (*Mark 1:23-24; 5:7; cf. James 2:19*)?

2. If this slave girl was testifying to the truth, was it wrong for Paul to exercise the spirit from her simply because he was annoyed (*Acts 16:18*)? What was the result of this (*Acts 16:19*)?

3. This would not be the first or last time that Paul experienced severe physical harm on the mission field (*Acts 14:19; 2 Corinthians 11:-23-26*)? Have you ever suffered persecution unjustly resulting from your service to Jesus Christ and the lies of others?

4. How did Paul and Silas respond to their imprisonment in *Acts 16:25*? How was this remarkable and how did this impact those around them? How has your attitude in the midst of challenges served as a witness to others (*Matthew 5:16; James 1:2-3*)?

5. The earthquake in Acts 16:26 was clearly a miracle sent by God to deliver Paul and Silas from prison. Why did the Philippian jailer almost kill himself in verse 27? Why do you think he was so eager to find out about salvation in verse 30?

6. Have you ever experienced God's miraculous protection? Were you spared from death or from a dangerous situation? What are other examples from Scripture where God miraculously protected His people (see Exodus 14:21-22, 27; Daniel 6:20-22)?

7. Why did they promise that his "household" would be saved (Acts 16:31)? What does this say about the importance of spiritual leadership within the home? What was their first act of obedience, taken in Acts 16:33? Have you taken this step as well (Acts 8:36-38; 22:16)? If not, when is the next opportunity for you to take it?

Memory Verses:

**"He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
(31) They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved — you
and your household."
(Acts 16:30-31, NIV)**