

Paul and Silas in Prison - Acts 16:16-40

Topics: Authority, Caring, Church, Demons, Encouragement, God, Good News, Healing, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Justice, Praise, Prayer, Prejudice, Salvation

Open It

- * 1. How would you respond if your neighbor told you she had psychic powers and could tell you about your future?
- 2. If you were caring for someone with a mental disorder, what would you find most difficult about your work?

Explore It

- 3. Where were Paul and his companions going when they met the slave girl? (16:16)
- * 4. What was distinctive about the slave girl that Paul and his companions met? (16:16)
- 5. How did Luke describe the slave girl? (16:16)
- 6. How was the girl exploited? (16:16)
- * 7. How did the demon-possessed girl damage Paul's ministry? (16:17-18)
- 8. How did Paul gain victory over the slave girl's demonic condition? (16:18)
- * 9. Why were the owners of the slave girl angry with Paul and Silas? (16:19)
- 10. What did the girl's owners do with Paul and Silas? Why? (16:19-20)
- 11. What happened to Paul and Silas after several accusations were made against them? (16:20-24)
- 12. What happened while Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns? (16:25-26)
- 13. Why did the jailer turn to God? (16:27-30)
- 14. What were the results of the talk Paul and Silas had with the jailer? (16:31-34)
- 15. Why did the magistrates change their minds about Paul and Silas? (16:35-36)
- 16. Why did Paul respond the way he did to the officers? (16:37)
- 17. What did Paul and Silas do after their release from prison? (16:40)

Get It

- 18. Why were Paul and Silas so poorly treated?
- 19. How might Paul have been helping the cause of the Philippian church when he asserted his rights as a Roman citizen?
- * 20. Why is it often difficult for a Christian leader to deal with someone involved in occult practices?
- * 21. In our society, what are some ways people are in bondage to evil?
- 22. In what ways are some Christians victims of racism?
- 23. Although severely tested and persecuted, Paul and Silas held on to their faith and their joy; how do you think you would hold up under such extraordinary pressure? Why?
- 24. What can a Christian do to be prepared for persecution?
- 25. When in your experience has the Lord provided a happy ending to a bad turn of events?
- 26. When should Christians stand up for justice?
- 27. When should Christians give up their legal rights for the sake of Christ?
- 28. What can we learn from Paul and Silas to help us cope with difficult times ahead?

Apply It

- * 29. What can you pray about this week to put a check on evil in your place of work, neighborhood, or community?
- 30. What songs and prayers of praise can you offer God today?
- 31. How can you encourage someone else in his or her Christian walk this week?