

God Moves

The Gospel in Motion

[Acts 16:16-34](#)

Paul and Silas were doing God's work around the town of Philippi when their lives were suddenly disrupted. They were accused, beaten, and imprisoned for releasing a slave girl from her demons after the girl's owners united the crowd against them. As much as we try to plan out our days, we must remember that following Jesus does not guarantee easy, uninterrupted days,

Recall a time recently when your day turned upside down and felt out of your control.

How do you typically respond to interruptions?

Though attacked by the crowds, beaten, thrown into prison, and chained, Paul and Silas chose to pray and sing hymns to God middle of the night. Their worship was obviously rooted in their trust in God and not their circumstances. God responded powerfully through an earthquake, and all prisoners were set free.

Have you had the experience of responding joyfully during a difficult situation? Is there a situation where your faith expressed in hardship could impact those around you?

The jailer, devastated over the release of the prisoners, witnesses the power of God and the faith of Paul and Silas. When asked by the jailer what must he must do to be saved, Paul and Silas simply answer, "believe in the Lord Jesus." As a result, not only the jailer, but his whole household are saved and baptized "without delay."

Who might be an observant of the way you live your life, and could be influenced by your faith?

How prepared are you to share the message of Jesus when the opportunity presents itself? ([see 1 Peter 3:15](#))

