

Acts 16:37 “But Paul said to the officers: “They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out.”

Acts 16:38 “The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were alarmed.”

Acts 16:39 “They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city.”

Acts 16:40 “After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia’s house, where they met with the brothers and encouraged them. Then they left.”

Lessons to remember!

A. We should give thanks in every situation.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

B. We should give thanks because God is in control.

Psalms 107:28-30 “Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress. He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and He brought them to their desired haven.”

C. We can give thanks because God’s plan is always in the works.

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”

Give Thanks Acts 16:16-47 11/23/25

Ephesians 5:20 “Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I. Paul and his team dealt with opposition.

A. They crossed paths with a slave girl.

Acts 16:16a “Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. ...”

Acts 16:16b “... She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling.”

B. The slave girl cried out and hindered God’s work.

Acts 16:17 “The girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.”

John 8:44b “... He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

2 Corinthians 11:15b “... his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness”

C. The demon was cast out of the slave girl.

Acts 16:18 “She kept this up for many days. Finally, Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.”

II. Paul and his team handled the persecution.

A. They seized Paul & Silas.

Acts 16:19 “When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.”

I Timothy 6:10 “For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

B. They slandered Paul & Silas.

Acts 16:20a “They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews”

Acts 16:20b “... and are throwing our city into an uproar. ^[21] “By advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

C. They were stripped and beaten.

Acts 16:22 “The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten.”

Acts 16:23a “After they had been severely flogged,”

D. They were sent to prison.

Acts 16:23b “... they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.”

Acts 16:24 “Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.”

III. Paul and Silas expressed adoration to the Lord.

A. They prayed and praised the Lord together.

Acts 16:25 “About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.”

B. They presented the right example to other prisoners.

Acts 16:25b “... and the other prisoners were listening to them.”

C. The prison foundation shook because of an earthquake.

Acts 16:26a “Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open and everyone’s chains came loose.”

D. The prison keeper was shaken to the core.

Acts 16:27 “The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.”

IV. Paul and Silas showed compassion.

Acts 16:28 “But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself!” We are all here!”

Acts 16:29 “The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.”

Acts 16:30 “He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

Acts 16:31 “They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

Acts 16:32 “Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.”

V. Paul and Silas witnessed transformation in the jailer.

A. The Jailer cleaned their wounds.

Acts 16:33a “At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds;”

B. The Jailer and his family came together to be baptized.

Acts 16:33b “... then immediately he and all his family were baptized.”

C. The Jailer cooked a meal for Paul & Silas.

Acts 16:34a “The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them;”

D. The Jailer was complete with joy.

Acts 16:34b “... he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.”

Acts 16:35 “When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: “Release those men.”

Acts 16:36 “The jailer told Paul, “The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace.”