



PRAISE GOD
Anyway

Acts 16

Acts 16:16-18

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling.

She 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.”

She kept this up for many days.

Finally Paul became so annoyed 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.

Acts 16:19-24

When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.

When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

Acts 16:25

About midnight Paul
and Silas were praying
and singing hymns to
God, and the other
prisoners were
listening to them.

Matthew 12:34

Out of the abundance
of the heart, the
mouth speaks.

Acts 16:26-36

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.

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 escaped.

But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We’re all here!”

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved- you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God- he and his whole household.

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

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

1. Our Reactions to our circumstances are a window into our hearts and the way we trust God.

Where do we need to grow?

2. Praise Changes Everything

Praise shifts our
perspective and our
focus.

The mountains melt
like wax in the
presence of the Lord.

Praise acts as a weapon
in spiritual warfare.

Psalm 149:6
Let the high praises of
God be in their mouth,
and a two edged sword
in their hand.

Praise invites God's
presence closer.

Psalm 22:3
God inhabits the
praises of His people.

Praise has a scientific and
mental benefit

7 minutes of praise every day

=

more gamma waves and
neurotransmitters in your brain

3. Praise God Anyway

Psalm 27:6

I will offer sacrifices with shouts of
joy, singing and praising the Lord
with music.

Psalm 116:17

I will offer to You a sacrifice of praise
and call on the name of the Lord.

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