

Bible Study for May 23-29, 2022

Read: Acts 16:16-40

Notes:

The owners of an enslaved girl who used her powers to tell fortunes have Paul and Silas thrown into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

Questions to Ponder:

How would you feel if this servant-girl was following you around making this announcement? What might you do about it?

Imagine yourself as the owners of this girl: what do you feel about her? About your money? About these missionaries she constantly follows?

How might racism be a factor in the actions described in verses 19-24?

If you were falsely accused, beaten, and thrown in jail, would you still trust that God had called you to this place? Why or why not?

What does the response of Paul and Silas show about them?

If you were the jailer, afraid that the prisoners had escaped, then discover they were all still present, what would your first response be? Does it seem odd that he would ask what he must do to be saved? Why or why not?

Don't you just love how Paul made the magistrates come down to the prison themselves to escort them out? What do you think was the point of that?

The girl's owners rejected the gospel because it cost them financially. What financial concerns keep people from faith today? In light of the gospel message, are they valid concerns?