

Unstoppable Power! -Part 2

Text: Acts 16:19-40

March 1, 2025

Big Idea: No opposition can stop Jesus, so witness by faith in His power.

Context is key!

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Trusting in Jesus' power means you trust in His...

Point 1: **POSITION: He's over it and in it! (vv. 19-25)**

Question: Jesus is sovereign over every part of every situation. Will you trust Him and seek Him?

Question #3

- a) **Rd. vv. 19-25:** Describe in detail the unjust situation and the physical suffering that Paul & Silas face here before the leaders of Philippi.
- b) What is their response to this treatment? What/Who was their faith anchored in? How do you know?
- c) Spend time as a group sharing Scriptures that emphasize the unchanging character and position of God. Keep these on hand to use in prayer and praise as you go through suffering and trials.
- d) What are some of your favourite worship songs that help in the trial? What do those songs say about the Lord that helps you? (Feel free to have an extended time of worship together with these!)

Question #4

- a) **Rd v. 25:** What impact did the missionaries' response have on the other prisoners? Why would the prisoners listen to them?
- d) Why is our suffering such a powerful platform for our witness for the gospel?
- b) Think of a recent trial/suffering that you had or are going through. How did you respond in that?
- c) Based on your response, what did it reveal your faith/hope was truly anchored in?
- d) What is it essential that our faith be anchored in the Lord when we go through suffering?
- e) Spend time repenting of your unbelief in that trial/circumstance, and ask the Lord for faith to trust in Him through prayer and praise in it next time.

Trusting in Jesus' power means you trust in His...

Point 2: PURPOSE: He's using it! (vv. 26-40)

Question: Jesus will use it all to advance His kingdom. Will you trust His story is bigger?

Question #5

- a) **Rd. vv. 26-40:** What were the 3 purposes that God had for allowing Paul & Silas to go through this trial, that they didn't know when they first went through it?
- b) Discuss each one and how God used this situation to accomplish them.
- c) How did Jesus ultimately fulfill each of these things in His life and ministry?
- d) How should knowing God has a bigger story, and that Jesus is over us and with us, encourage & strengthen our faith in our witness?

Question #6

- a) What are some fruits that come out when we are making our story the biggest story (Individually and as a church)?
- b) What are some means that Jesus has given us to realign our hearts to Him and remember that we are part of a much bigger story?

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group or in accountability praying out of **Acts 16:19-40...**

- a) **ADORATION:** Lord Jesus, You are Sovereign over_____
- b) **CONFESSION:** Lord Jesus, I repent of my unbelief in_____
- c) **THANKSGIVING:** Lord Jesus, I thank you for_____
- d) **SUPPLICATION:** Lord Jesus, I pray for faith to trust in Your power in/when_____

Memory Verse:

"For the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, and who will turn it back?"-Isaiah 14:27