

Saved by Grace

Small group questions

Imprisoned but free – Acts 16

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact

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1. What was the command and the promise Jesus gave his disciples before his ascension? Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:8
2. You may enjoy reading Acts 16 again. Did anything stand out for you from the passage? Or is there anything about which you need clarification?

FLEXIBILITY

3. Why did Paul circumcise Timothy when he had just been arguing that circumcision was not necessary and ought not be required? (16:1-5)
4. Read 1 Corinthians 9:19ff to see Paul spell out his approach.
5. In what ways ought such flexibility in approach help us think through *SHARING JESUS FOR LIFE* in central and western NSW?

GUIDANCE

6. In 16:6-10, how is Paul guided as to where he should be ministering?
7. How does God guide today? Share some opening and closing of doors you've experienced.

OPPOSITION

8. Although in 16:20-21 those opposed to Paul and Silas said that they were advocating unlawful customs, what was the **real** reason behind their opposition? (v19)
9. Often people today will put up all sorts of arguments, but there are other factors behind their opposition. What might some of these be?
10. Discovering the real cause for opposition might be helpful in leading people to the Lord Jesus. How can we go about finding the reason behind the stated reason?
11. What rights did Paul and Silas claim as Roman citizens (vv37-40). What rights of ours as Christians, are under threat today, on which we ought to take a stand?

JOY

12. We see the joy of Paul and Silas in prison – why could they sing hymns to God in those circumstances? (See Philippians 4:11-13)
13. We see the joy of the jailor because he had come to believe in God. Why do you think that was the cause of so much joy for him?
14. Was Mark correct in his observation – that some church people seem quite joy-less? What robs us of our joy in the Lord and how can we recapture it?

Praise God for flexibility in approach, his guidance in life and ministry; for contentment found even when opposed and for the joy of believing in him!