CAMPUS
BIBLE CHURCH

November 15, 2026
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"Worship that Breaks Chains"

Acts 16:16-40

Acts: The Unstoppable Gospel

1. **Chains of Demonic Oppression (vv. 16-18)**
   - Why did Paul cast the demon out of the slave-girl?
   - Is it possible for demons to predict the future? (Deuteronomy 18:9-12)

2. **Chains of Physical Suffering (vv. 19-26)**
   - Why were the slave owners furious?
   - What were the charges against Paul & Silas?

   Paul and Silas were falsely accused, beaten with rods, and thrown in jail. But instead of sleeping, they were singing. Instead of whining, they were worshiping. Instead of cursing men, they were praising God.

   Lessons:
   - God chooses what we go through, but we choose how we go through it.
   - When we have joy in the midst of suffering, it's a witness to others.
   - Singing is one of the greatest signs of being Spirit-filled (Ephesians 5:18-20).
   - Worship helps us rise above our problems and circumstances.
   - God may not spare us from suffering, but he will be with us in the trial.

3. **Chains of Sin & Despair (vv. 27-34)**

   It's ironic that the jailer asked: "What must I do to be saved?" Even though Paul and Silas were in a cell, they were free. And the jailer realized he was the prisoner.

   Believing in Jesus means two things:
   1. We believe that Jeus is who he claimed to be.
   2. We believe what Jesus did for us (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

   Household – In context, it refers to those who were old enough to understand and believe the gospel.

   Baptism – The jailer washed their wounds, then he had his sins washed away. It's a beautiful picture of repentance. Have you been baptized?

4. **Chains of Fear & Intimidation (vv. 35-40)**

   Paul and Silas required the chief magistrates to escort them out of prison as a sign of their innocence. It would have protected the church from further harassment.

   The city officials tried to intimidate Paul and Silas. But in the end, they were the ones filled with fear.

   Conclusion: In all of these situations, we are reminded that the gospel cannot be stopped. Demons can't stop it; mobs can't stop it; prisons can't stop it; governments can stop it. Jesus is a chain-breaking, earth-shaking Savior, and when we worship him, we experience a joy and freedom that transcends all our circumstances.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION:

1. Can you think of a time when worship brought you out of deep despair or discouragement?
2. Why does worship help us transcend our problems and circumstances?
3. What chains has Jesus broken in your life? What chains still burden you?
4. If someone asked you, "What must I do to be saved?" how would you answer them?

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