

ACTS: WITNESSES TO KING AND KINGDOM

God Stories [part 2]

GROUP DISCUSSION:

Read Acts 16:16-40.

The main point of the sermon was that, *"The power of the gospel frees those in spiritual bondage, upends human oppression, and disrupts social division."* Discuss how you see each of these truths in the story. How might some of these truths connect to our day?

Paul and Silas prayed and "hymned" their way through a difficult time. What can we learn from that?

Consider how Paul and Silas treated the jailer, how would you have responded?

What was the larger purpose of Paul appealing to his rights as a Roman citizen? Why did he wait until after he was beaten and jailed?

NEXT WEEK [5.15.22]

Liturgy Texts: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 // Psalm 145
Revelation 19:1-9 // John 13:31-35

Sermon Text: Acts 17:1-15

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[Seaside Church - Bremerton]



SUNDAY GATHERING // 5.8.22

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Happy Mother's Day! Women, go get some gelato on us this week from Sapling Gelato! One free item of your choice, find all the info @ seasidechurch.com/gelato.
- SeasideKids Reminder: During the 2nd gathering each week, we will host a Parent Play room where you can bring your kids [0-4 years old] to play at any time during the 2nd gathering.
- Next Saturday is our monthly Men's Group down here in the garage from 8-10a. We would love to have you join us to open our Bibles and gather together!
- On May 14th, SeasideYouth will be partnering with the Bremerton School District for BeBremerton. Together we will clean downtown and serve Bremerton. Find the details and what to bring @ seasidechurch.com/events.
- Last week we were able to offer space for a job fair for Olive Crest, who serve foster teens. Several youth walked away with interviews or jobs, others were inspired to pursue their passion. Seaside, thank you for helping to make this happen!

COLLECT:

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd of your people: Grant that, when we hear his voice, we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

READINGS:

Numbers 27:12-33 // Psalm 100
Revelation 7:9-17 // John 10:22-30

ACTS 16:16-40

[16] As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. [17] She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." [18] And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

[19] But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. [20] And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. [21] They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." [22] The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. [23] And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. [24] Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

[25] About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, [26] and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. [27] When the jailer woke and saw that the prison

doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. [28] But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." [29] And the jailer[a] called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. [30] Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" [31] And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." [32] And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. [33] And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. [34] Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

[35] But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." [36] And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace." [37] But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out." [38] The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens. [39] So they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. [40] So they went out of the prison and visited Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them and departed. [ESV]