

21 Days Of Prayer And Fasting

So, the jailer put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks. Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off!

Acts 16: 24-26

You are tossing and turning, trying to get comfortable, you are cold, then hot, you have an early morning and can't sleep. Frustrated you look at the clock, what time is it... midnight. We've all been here! So many things are on your mind, worry and anxiety start to creep in.

In the story of Acts 16, we find Paul and Silas in a very similar situation. Chained slaves, and in the darkest point of their lives as they were following the Lord. "Around midnight" I love this! This statement reveals so much about this story for two reasons. One, there were no clocks in the dungeon, and two, it would be too dark to see the clock and know what time it was. So how did they know it was midnight? I would argue it had very little to do with time, but all to do with their situation. They were beaten, bruised, chained, and in one of the darkest times of their lives but yet this was their "midnight."

In 2024, there will be midnight moments in your life too! There will be moments when you will relate to the situation and circumstances of Paul and Silas. The one thing you look forward to is being asleep that night, but you find yourself tossing and turning, I want to encourage you today, to make up your mind to respond the way Paul and Silas did. They were "praying and singing hymns to God." There is something that is so powerful about in the darkest points of your life lifting up your hands and beginning to pray and sing songs of worship. The chains fell off and prison doors flung open. Let the testimony of Paul and Silas serve as a building block of faith in your life of what happens when you begin to respond to your "midnights" in the same way.

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