

The Kingdom of Prayer, Praise, and Power Acts 16:16-40

Keywords and Phrases*

Baptized (v. 33)	God (v. 25)
Household (v. 31, 34)	Jesus Christ (v. 18)
Magistrate (vv. 20, 22, 35, 36, 38)	Most High God (v. 17)
Prison (vv. 23, 24, 27, 37, 40)	Roman citizens (vv. 37, 38)
Saved (vv. 30, 31)	Spirit of divination (v. 16)
Word of the Lord (v. 32)	

*Keywords may vary depending on Bible translation

Critical Thinking Questions

1. When the missionary team met Lydia in Acts 16:13-15, they were going to a place of prayer, just like when they met the slave girl in Acts 16:16-18. What are the notable differences between these two accounts?
2. At first glance, the message the slave girl was crying out appears to be true. Why did her actions irritate Paul (compare Matthew 7:21-23; 1 John 4:1-3)?
3. What is the most plausible interpretation of the statement made by Paul and Silas, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household"? Is the jailor's belief in the Lord Jesus enough to save himself and his household?
4. What is the significance of Paul and Silas telling the magistrates they were Roman citizens (compare Acts 22:2-29; 23:27)?

"And they said, believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

(Acts 16:31 ESV)

Analyzing the Scripture

Missionary Team

- went to the place of prayer (v. 16).
- followed by a slave girl (v. 17).

Slave girl

- had a spirit of divination (v. 16).
- brought her owners much profit (vv. 16, 19).

Paul

- cast the spirit out of the girl (v. 18).
- stopped the jailer from committing suicide (vv. 27-28).

Paul and Silas

- were brought before the rulers (vv. 19, 20).
- were beaten with rods (v. 22).
- were thrown into the inner prison (vv. 23, 24).
- prayed and sang hymns to God at midnight (v. 25).
- spoke the word of the Lord to the jailer (v. 32).
- visited Lydia (v. 40).
- encouraged the brothers (v. 40).

God

- caused a great earthquake and opened all the prison doors (v. 26).

Jailer

- washed Paul and Silas' wounds (v. 33).
- was baptized with his family (v. 33).
- fed Paul and Silas (v. 34).
- rejoiced with his family that they believed in God (v. 34).

Reflection Question

How can you apply the attitudes or behaviors discussed in today's sermon to positively impact the Kingdom of God?