



UNSHAKEABLE

UNSHAKEABLE FREEDOM

Acts 16:19 – 40 (ESV)

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MESSAGE NOTES

GROWING INTO OUR FREEDOM IN CHRIST BRINGS LIFE

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. And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. – Acts 16:19 – 22 (ESV)

And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. – Acts 16:23 (ESV)

Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. – Acts 16:24 (ESV)

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ... – Acts 16:25 (ESV)

"Songs help truth travel down to the heart, and the use of music, the language of the heart, helps speed that process." – Ajith Fernando, The NIV Application Commentary

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. – Colossians 3:16 (NASB)

... 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. 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. – Acts 16:26 – 27 (ESV)

- **Let your spiritual freedom awaken faith**

And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; ... – Acts 16:33 (ESV)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ... – Colossians 3:12 (ESV)



- **Let your spiritual freedom awaken community**

... and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them ... – Acts 16:33 – 34 (ESV)

- **Let your spiritual freedom awaken joy**

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. –Acts 16:34 (ESV)

So they went out of the prison and visited Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them and departed. – Acts 16:40 (ESV)



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Have a few people share what Christ has been teaching them lately?
- Why is experiencing peace and joy possible even when we are facing difficult circumstances?
- Commentator Ajith Fernando says, "*Songs help truth travel down to the heart.*" Why is worship such a powerful weapon in the face of discouragement, doubt or difficulty?
- What is the main message of Colossians 3:16?
- Why are we continually growing in experiencing the fullness of our freedom through Christ?
- Read Acts 16:30. As a group answer the question the Philippian jailor asks Paul and Silas.
- What are some of the qualities that the Philippian jailer begins to display after embracing Christ as Savior? What are some qualities that God has recently been awakening in your life and how?
- Read Acts 16:40. It appears Paul and Silas bring the Philippian jailer to meet Lydia and others in the Philippian church family. Why was it so important for Paul and Silas to connect him to the local church?
- Pray for our students as they attend Camp Pondo this week. Ask God to move powerfully in their lives, pray for salvation, God encounters and for students to experience the fullness of freedom in Christ.