



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

“What Must I Do to Be Saved?”

January 28th, 2018

(Acts 16:25-34)

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, “Don't harm yourself! We are all here!”

²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

³¹ They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

1. This weekend was Festival of Friendship at Mount Olive. Tell the person next to you about who you consider to be your “best friend.” What is it about that person that makes them such a wonderful friend?

2. Paul and Silas were thrown into prison because Paul drove a demon out of a slave girl. The girl's owners were mad, because the demon allowed her to predict the future and make them money. The demon had been screaming from the girl, “*These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.*” She followed them for days shouting this, until Paul drove the demon out of her. Why would Paul drive out the demon that was telling a true message about them and their purpose?
3. **Explain:** Why is verse 25 such a marvelous picture of the faith and trust that Paul and Silas had? Do you think you could showcase the same kind of faith if you were in the same position?
4. What is the ironic shift we find taking place in vs.29-30? How does the fact that the jailer does this show that he understood the cause of what was taking place around him?
5. How does the jailer's question in verse 30 encapsulate the general thought of most of society, including almost every religion in the world? How does Paul and Silas's answer point to the absolute unique nature of the Christian religion compared to every other?
6. **Agree/Disagree:** Verse 34 can be used as a proof passage for the practice of infant baptism, or at least the practice of not waiting until adulthood to baptize.
7. List some of the major changes that took place in the jailer's life in this span of only a few hours. What is it that made such a major change in his life?