



The Chapel
March 30, 2025
Dave Gustavsen

Week 11: Redeem Crisis Moments
Scripture: Acts 16:22-34

1. OPEN IN PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Have a group member pray, invite the Holy Spirit to lead and fill your time together.

2. GETTING STARTED: (10 MINUTES)

- Question: During a difficult time in your life, has someone's unshakeable faith inspired you to turn to Christ? How did they help point you to Him?

3. READ ACTS 16:22-34 TOGETHER (5 MINUTES)

- Ask one or two group members to read the passage aloud.

4. DISCUSS (30 MINUTES)

Understanding the Passage:

- In Acts 16:22-25, Paul and Silas were unjustly stripped, severely flogged, and imprisoned as dangerous criminals. How do you think you would have felt physically, emotionally, and spiritually in their situation? Despite their suffering, Paul and Silas chose to sing hymns and pray. What spiritual traits did they demonstrate to those who were awake & listening that night?
- In Acts 16:26-29, a powerful earthquake broke open the prison doors, leaving the jailer terrified and hopeless, fearing punishment under the Code of the Justinian – so much that he considered ending his life. What kind of crises drive people in your life to worry, hopelessness, and/or a potential openness to their need to rely on and follow Christ?
- In Acts 16:30-32, the jailer is shocked to find that all the prisoners stayed, saving his life when they could have escaped. If you were in his place, what questions would you have had? What characteristics did Paul & Silas demonstrate when they chose to stay instead of fleeing?
- Acts 16:33-34 demonstrates how the Christ's followers love Christ and one another. What step did the jailer and believers in his household take to demonstrate faith in Christ? How did the jailer demonstrate care in return for the love of Christ demonstrated through Paul and Silas? Was the crisis or the God who worked through the crisis the focus?

Applying the Message:

- How are you living in a way that reflects Jesus, which makes others curious about Him and provides the platform of influence to be approachable and heard when they are in crisis? How might God be calling you to change, so that you can better reflect Him?
- How do you care about people: knowing when they are going through crisis? Showing up & listening? Speaking freely and openly about faith with sensitivity to their need and situation?
- If you are in a vulnerable position of crisis (or not), have you decided to follow Christ as your LORD? If you want to follow Him and experience the contentment that Paul & Silas had, ask your group leader to share the Gospel with you. If you are following Christ and are in a crisis, share with your group and pray together, knowing that our Sovereign LORD hears our prayers and provides strength as we walk through trials with the Holy Spirit to comfort and guide us.

5. LIVE IT OUT: (10 MINUTES)

- Identify some people in crisis to pray over.
 - **Commit to Pray daily:** Pray specifically for that person or situation, asking God to work in ways only He can.
 - **Act in Faith:** Be open to how God may want to use you — to demonstrate your faith, to share your faith, or to show love — be an open invitation to know and trust Christ.
 - **Watch and Wait Expectantly:** Trust that God is at work, even if you cannot see it in the crises. Be ready to celebrate deepening or new faith in Christ.

6. CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Thank God that no one and nothing is beyond His power to transform. Ask God for faith to trust His work and courage to be part of His plans.
- Pray for the specific people / situations, as shared above (refer to Live it Out).