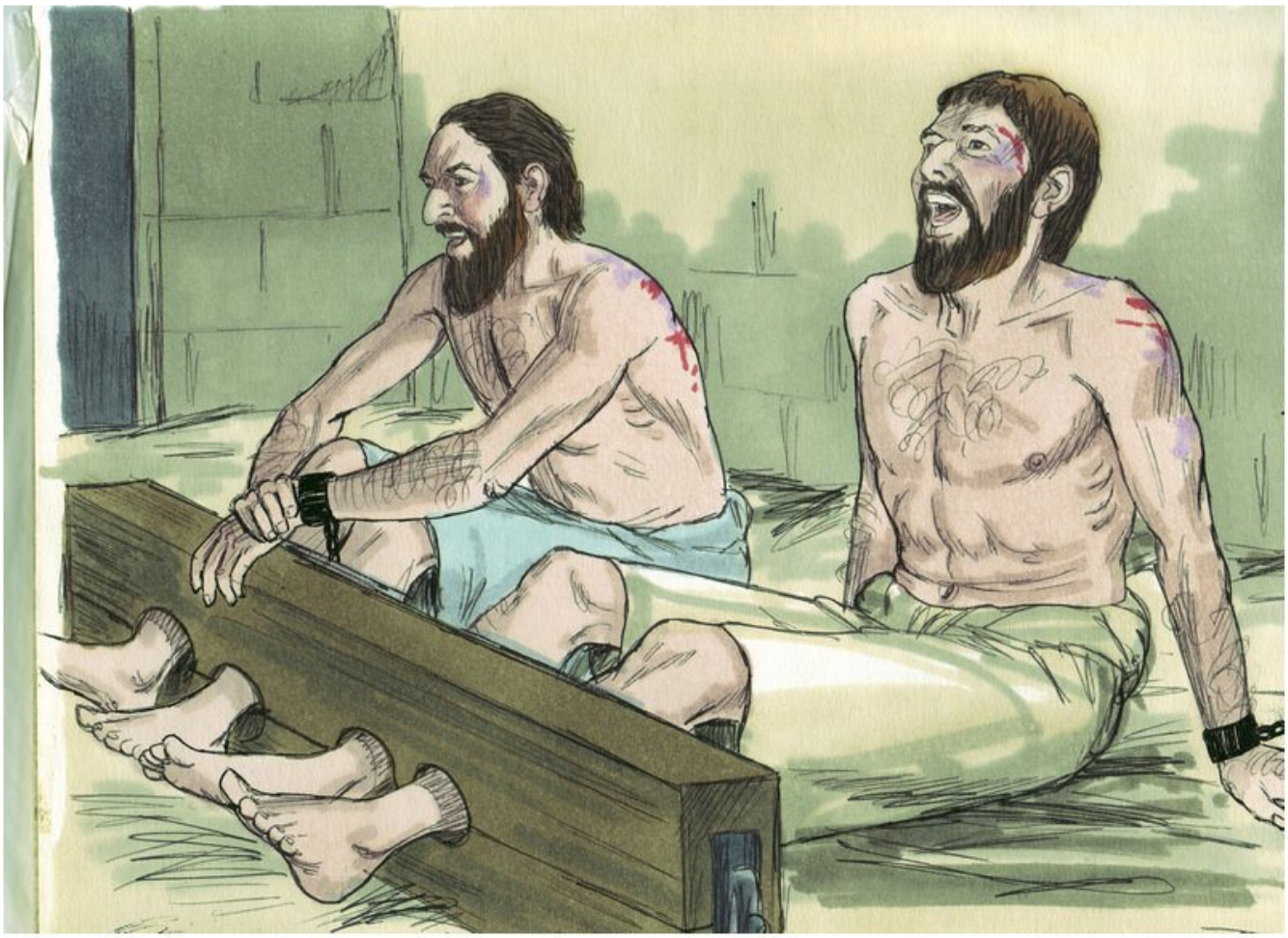
GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Paul and Silas Sing in Prison

Acts 16:16-34



YOUR BIBLE READING

Even in hardship, Paul and Silas prayed and cared about another person's safety.

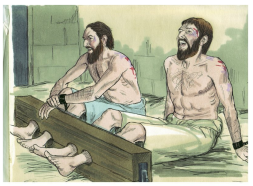
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Prayer in a Locked Prison

Acts 16:16-34



In Philippi, a girl who was enslaved had a spirit used for fortune-telling. Her owners made a great deal of money from her. She followed Paul and his companions, speaking about them for many days. Paul commanded the spirit in Jesus' name to leave her, and it did. The owners saw that their income had ended. Their anger concerned the profit they could no longer make through the girl's condition.

They seized Paul and Silas and brought them before the officials in the marketplace. They accused them of disturbing the city and teaching customs the Romans should not accept. A crowd joined against them, and the officials ordered them beaten and put in prison. The treatment was painful and unfair, and the prison brought more hardship. Serving Jesus had not prevented these men from being hurt or placed in a dangerous situation.

The jailer was instructed to keep them secure. He placed them in the inner prison and fastened their feet in wooden stocks. Around midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. Other prisoners listened. Acts does not give the words of the songs or tell us that the men no longer felt pain. It shows their prayer continuing inside the hardship rather than waiting until everything was easy.

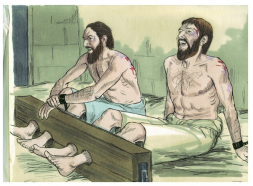
Suddenly a strong earthquake shook the prison's foundations. The doors opened, and the prisoners' fastenings came loose. The jailer woke and saw the open doors. He thought the prisoners had escaped and became terrified. A new danger now concerned the man who had been guarding them. Paul and Silas were no longer only people needing care themselves; Paul would speak to protect the frightened jailer as well.

Remember: In hard times, we can pray and help one another seek safety and hope.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Care and Good News in Another Home

Acts 16:16-34



Paul called out that the prisoners were all still there and urged the jailer not to harm himself. Paul's care stayed focused on keeping the jailer alive and helping him understand that the prisoners had not escaped. His loud reassurance told the man that his fearful assumption was wrong. The jailer called for lights, rushed in trembling, and fell before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked how to be saved.

They told him to believe in the Lord Jesus. They also spoke God's word to him and to everyone in his household. The promise about his home was followed by teaching shared with the people there. We should not turn the scene into a rule that one person's faith makes everyone else believe without hearing or responding. Acts takes time to tell us that the household received the message too.

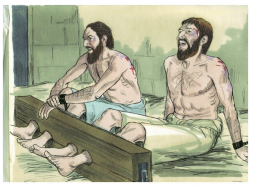
That same hour of the night, the jailer washed their wounds. He and his household were baptized. He brought Paul and Silas into his home and set food before them. The family rejoiced because they had come to believe in God. The person who had guarded the prisoners was now caring for their injuries and feeding them, while the good news of Jesus had reached the people under his roof.

This rescue was remarkable, but the earlier suffering remained part of the story. The men's songs did not mean that pain was unreal, and their faith had not stopped the unfair treatment. What the account shows is prayer in hardship, care for someone in crisis, and a household receiving a new hope. God had worked through this particular night without giving a promise that every prison door or difficult situation would open in the same way.

Pause and think: How can prayer, clear words, and suitable practical help work together when someone is frightened?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Prayer, Reassurance, and Practical Help



Paul and Silas prayed while they were still in trouble. You can bring difficult feelings to God before a problem is solved. You do not need to say that pain is good or pretend that you are cheerful. Talk with a trusted adult as well. Prayer and practical help can belong together while a situation is still hard and an answer remains unclear.

Paul's words helped the jailer understand that his fearful conclusion was mistaken. When someone is very distressed, calm facts and immediate support can matter. If anyone says they may hurt themselves or another person, tell a trusted adult at once and seek urgent help. You are not responsible for handling a serious crisis alone or keeping someone's danger secret.

The jailer later gave concrete care: he washed wounds and provided food. In a suitable way, you can also notice what help is needed after a frightening event. An adult might invite you to bring water, make space, or sit quietly nearby. The story joins words of hope with actions of care, rather than asking one to replace the other.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Paul and Silas prayed through hardship and shared both practical care and Jesus' good news with the jailer's household.

How can prayer, clear words, and suitable practical help work together when someone is frightened?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Paul and Silas do around midnight?

2. How did the jailer later care for them?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ The household hears about Jesus, receives baptism, and shares food.
- ☐ Paul and Silas are imprisoned and pray together.
- ☐ An earthquake opens the doors, and Paul reassures the jailer.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Paul and Silas singing, then a table of welcome in the jailer's home.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

In hard times, we can pray and help one another seek safety and hope.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Acts 16:25,28-34

A thoughtful conversation

Prayer did not prevent Paul and Silas from being hurt or imprisoned; this rescue is not a guarantee that every hardship ends quickly. The jailer's crisis is handled without describing a method of self-harm. Emphasize seeking immediate help when anyone is unsafe.

Activity answers

1. They prayed and sang hymns to God.
2. He washed their wounds and gave them food.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, be near people in hardship. Help us pray, seek help, and care for one another. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Acts 16:16-34. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 44_Ac_16_15_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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