

TALK IT OVER

How is everyone doing right now? Do you have any needs? (Push a little here. Everyone is dealing with the virus and isolation so make sure you know how your people are doing. Prescriptions for antidepressants have risen 34% since early March. This is a hot button topic right now. Be gentle.)

Read Acts 16:16-34 and Philippians 4:4-7 (On 2nd page. It's in the NLT version but feel free to read from a different one.) Once you've read the passages ask these questions:

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Pastor Brad talked about Paul & Silas worshipping not b/c of what God can do but b/c of who he is. What does that mean to you? God didn't spare Paul & Silas from hardship but did rescue them. Why do you think he did it this way? Why do you think God often does this? What does that say to you about God's nature?)
- What did you learn about people? (Pastor Brad got very real about their time in the PICU with Wyatt. How can God working in their story help you know that God can move in yours? Pastor Brad said "How is God going to use this for His good? God, I know you are at work. Use me somehow." Share a time you've been able to do this [**Be prepared to share first**]. Is having a perspective of praise difficult for you? Why/why not?)
- What will you take away from this discussion?
- What will you do with what you have learned? (What do you need to do in your life to have a perspective of praise? How can we help you do that? **IF ANYONE NEEDS TO BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH A MENTAL HELP PROFESSIONAL CONTACT ONE OF THE STAFF IMMEDIATELY**)
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Acts 15:1-32, Philippians 4:4-7. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read.

Encourage your small group to do a watch party on Facebook with the LIVE Sunday service for our series **Anxious for Nothing** this Sunday. Ask them to invite coworkers and friends to watch with them at 10:10. Also, make sure to comment as you watch on the feed to encourage community and discussion.

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. We are all going through a lot. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

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Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Brad's sermon.

Acts 16:16-40

¹⁶ One day as we were going down to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit that enabled her to tell the future. She earned a lot of money for her masters by telling fortunes. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, and they have come to tell you how to be saved."

¹⁸ This went on day after day until Paul got so exasperated that he turned and said to the demon within her, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And instantly it left her.

¹⁹ Her masters' hopes of wealth were now shattered, so they grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the authorities at the marketplace. ²⁰ "The whole city is in an uproar because of these Jews!" they shouted to the city officials. ²¹ "They are teaching customs that are illegal for us Romans to practice."

²² A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods. ²³ They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn't escape. ²⁴ So the jailer put them

into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. ²⁶ Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off! ²⁷ The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. ²⁸ But Paul shouted to him, "Stop! Don't kill yourself! We are all here!"

²⁹ The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he 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, along with everyone in your household." ³² And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. ³³ Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. ³⁴ He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

Philippians 4:4-7 (NLT)

⁴ Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! ⁵ Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.^[a]

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus