



Series: Topical

Passage: Acts 16:16-34

Title: Baptism – A Believer’s Response to God’ Love

Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 7/10/2022

Discussion Starter – Why do you think people who attend church for many years put off being baptized? How would you go about speaking to someone who attends church regularly, but has not been baptized yet?

Demonic Interruptions to Prayer (Acts 16:16-24)

- Read Acts 16:11-15? What insights do you see revealed here about Paul’s purpose and his understanding of how to reach these people with the gospel?
- Why did they go out to the riverside and what do you think Paul was praying about with Timothy and Silas?
- In Acts 16:16 -18, we see Paul and the disciples praying again. What are some of the key differences you see here in these verses as compared to Paul’s interactions with Lydia?
- What is this spirit of divination that the slave girl possessed and why would people pay for this service? Why do you think fortune tellers still exist today? What can and can’t they do?
- Why do you think Paul got annoyed with this slave girl even though she was affirming these men as men from God and their gospel message?
- How do the owners of the slave girl react after Paul commands the evil spirit to come out of the girl in the name of Jesus? Why do you think that Paul and Silas are the only ones singled out?
- What was legally wrong with what happened to Paul and Silas and what does that tell us about persecutions that we may face in our walk as Christians today? Read Matthew 5:10-12. Discuss the insights gained from this passage.

God’s Plan for the Philippian Jailer - (Acts 16:25-34)

- What is unique about the prayer of Paul and Silas in verse 25? What do you think they were praying about and singing about in their current situation? What do you think you would be praying for in this situation?
- Read Ephesians 5:17-20. What does this passage teach us about the result of prayer and the singing Psalms to God? How do you think this applied to Paul and Silas in their current situation?
- Why do you think Paul did not seek to escape from the prison after the miraculous event of the earthquake and the opening of all of the chains and doors?
- What do you think prompted the Jailer’s response to Paul asking what he must do to be saved?
- What do we notice about the Jailer’s change in character that identifies his repentant heart?
- What is Baptism and what is Baptism not?
- Why do Christians get baptized?