

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

LifeGroup Discussion

Date: January 6, 2019

Acts 16: 22-32

1. Our world today prioritizes comfort and convenience over most things, but Christians are called to live counter-culturally (Romans 12:2). Paul and Silas went to prison without complaint, an act that was neither comfortable nor convenient. Why is important for Christians to believe and act counter-culturally?
2. A conviction is "a truth from the word of God that you are willing to stand for regardless of the consequences." Why are convictions important? Why is it essential to prepare your heart for the hard times that lie ahead?
3. Paul and Silas were beaten, shackled, imprisoned, and yet they are seen praising God and praying. Why must you praise God and pray to him no matter how you feel or where you are?
4. A parent has the responsibility to seek the best care possible for their children and that that care may come at the cost of that parent's own comfort and convenience. Why is it important to be accountable to your children for the best care you can possibly give them? Why must you bear the pain on another's behalf?
5. Time is a necessary component of understanding. Paul and Silas did not view the freedom the earthquake provided as a means of escape instead it became an opportunity to witness. When is it important to devote more time to the things that are difficult instead of escaping at the first opportunity?
6. Read Matthew 16:24. Pastor Adam said that "maybe before you ever tell someone about Jesus you have to look like him first." What does it mean to "deny yourself?" What does it mean to "take up your cross?"
7. Read Acts 16:27-31. God worked through this incredible account to bring the gospel inside a prison. What would have happened had Paul and Silas not stayed? Why is important to remain instead of leave when life gets hard?