

# Invest: In Prayer

## Film Discussion Questions

- 1 The title of the vignette you saw was *Invest: In Prayer*. What does it mean to invest in something? Do you see prayer as an investment?
- 2 Has anyone ever prayed for you? What was that experience like for you? Or, have you prayed for someone else and seen God respond in a specific way?
- 3 Did you notice that in this film each person had their own approach to prayer? Discuss the characters and their individual ways of talking to God in this hospital waiting room environment.
- 4 The Bible tells a story in the Book of Acts, chapter 16. Read the story now.

*22 A mob was quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the judges ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden whips. 23 Again and again the rods slashed down across their bared backs; and afterwards they were thrown into prison. The jailer was threatened with death if they escaped, 24 so he took no chances, but put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet into the stocks.*

*25 Around midnight, as Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to the Lord—and the other prisoners →*

*were listening— 26 suddenly there was a great earthquake; the prison was shaken to its foundations, all the doors flew open—and the chains of every prisoner fell off!*

*29 Trembling with fear, the jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down before Paul and Silas. 30 He brought them out and begged them, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”*

*31 They replied, “Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, and your entire household.”*

*32a Then they told him and all his household the Good News.*

**- Acts 16:22-26, 29-32a -**

- 5 Consider the two main characters in the Acts story, Paul and Silas. Discuss their circumstances (verses 22-24) and their response to them. Does their response challenge you?
- 6 In what circumstances are we encouraged to pray according to verse 18 in chapter six of Ephesians, the verse shown at the end of the film. Is this easy to do? Does praying for others include those we don't like, don't agree with or might be experiencing conflict with? How does praying for others affect the person who prays?

*Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with him, reminding him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.*

**- Ephesians 6:18 -**

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Our film does not give us the outcome of the hospital scene. Our encouragement to pray is not a guarantee that things will go the way that we want them to, but that God hears us as we act in faith. Are you willing to invest in prayer even when it is not a guarantee of your desired outcome?

## FILM COLLECTION

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