



LESSON 13

A Soldier Believes

A Philippian Jailer
Acts 16:16–40

AD 49

The Big Picture

Paul and Silas, along with their mission partners Timothy and Luke, were sent by the Jerusalem congregation on a mission trip. In the Roman colony of Philippi, the mission team was confronted by a demon-possessed slave girl. When God used Paul to cast the demon out, the slave girl's masters had Paul and Silas brutally beaten and thrown into prison. While in prison, God caused an earthquake that released their bonds, and when the jailer saw the doors open, he planned to kill himself. Paul stopped him and shared the Gospel with him. That night, the jailer and his family were baptized, and the next morning Paul and Silas were set free.

A Soldier Believes

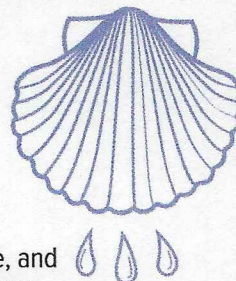
Think about this account in three parts. How do you picture each scene? Write your thoughts below before discussing each question.

PART 1: THINGS GET COMPLICATED (ACTS 16:16–24)

- Brainstorm and note down all the different ways here that Satan attacked God's missionaries Paul and Silas.

PART 2: IN PRISON (ACTS 16:25–34)

- Write down all the different ways God used Paul and Silas to do His work, even during their time in prison.



PART 3: SET FREE (ACTS 16:35–40)

- Why do you think Paul made such a big deal about his release, and what might that tell us about how we are to witness to our faith?



Paul and Silas suffered for their faith, but so did Christ. Because of Christ's suffering and death, we who have received God's gift of forgiveness can boldly proclaim the Gospel to the world.

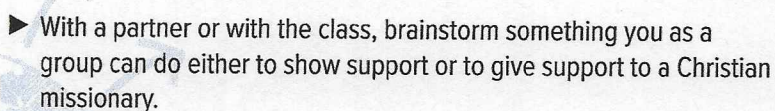


► Why does God allow people to suffer for their faith?

**THOUGHTS
AND QUESTIONS**



► Missionaries around the world often suffer so much, even death, for the sake of sharing the Gospel with others. In your own words, write down a prayer in the space below, thanking God for your salvation and praying for the work of missionaries.



BIBLE VERSE

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.

Acts 16:31