

Marinating in God's Word: Acts 16:19-40

Sent! They were and we are. So we're learning from Acts about what it means to be sent by Jesus, with Jesus' people, to do Jesus' work, in the power of Jesus' Spirit!

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- You have to read up the page to see why Paul and Silas were suddenly unpopular. What did they do to arouse opposition, and how did their ethnicity factor in (v. 19-24)?
- Where are Christians most severely persecuted? In what ways are Christians persecuted here in America? In what ways have you experienced persecution, if any?
- Flogging was no small matter. Paul and Silas were certainly bruised and bleeding when they were chained in a dungeon. Yet their response was to sing praises to God (v. 25)! Why? What impact might that have had on the prisoners who heard them?
- We have no account of them asking God for release, and yet he intervened and provided a miraculous release. Years later Paul was not released from another prison, but martyred. Why one time and not another?
- Nothing quite like an earthquake and then having your life saved by your prisoners to get your attention (v. 27-31)! What miracle, or sudden turn in life has God used to get your attention?
- If someone asked you, "How can I be saved?" (v. 30), what would you say?

Next week our focus will be on Acts 17:1-9.