

Sermon Discussion Guide: Changes Hopeless Moments Acts 16:25–34

View sermon here:

“Most of us don’t struggle to believe that Jesus rose from the dead—we struggle to know what that actually changes when things fall apart.”

- Where does that feel true in your life right now?
- When life gets hard, what do you tend to rely on most?

“What do we do when doing the right thing leads to the wrong outcome?”

- Have you ever experienced a moment where doing the right thing made life harder instead of easier?

“They lift their voices in praise—not because their situation is good, but because the resurrection has redefined what ‘good’ even means.”

- What do you think it means for the resurrection to “redefine what good means”?
- How do you usually respond when you're in a “midnight” season?

“We assume the miracle was for Paul and Silas... but it’s not. They stay.”

- Why do you think Paul and Silas didn’t run?

“That’s what resurrection-shaped living looks like. It’s not driven by self-preservation; it’s marked by sacrificial love.”

- Where are you most tempted to choose self-preservation right now?
- What might sacrificial love look like in that situation?

“What must I do to be saved?”

- Why do you think the jailer asks *that* question?
- What kind of answer would you expect?

“The resurrection changes the answer... The ‘doing’ has been done.”

- How is that different from how people usually think about God?
- Where do you see people (or yourself) trying to “earn” acceptance?

“Faith is personal, but it’s never meant to stay private.”

- Why do you think the jailer’s whole household is impacted?
- Who in your life might be affected by your faith right now?

“It means our story isn’t stuck where it is right now.”

- Where does your story feel “stuck”?
- What would it look like to trust that God is still at work there?

Closing Questions

- How would your hardest situation change if you believed the resurrection means it’s not the end of your story?
- Are you trusting in what Jesus has done—or still trying to prove yourself?