



**Paul Sang Bass and Silas Sang Tenor**

May 29, 2022

*Acts 16:16-34*

### **Connect**

- What is your connection to Memorial Day? Do you have traditions? Share of your experiences.
- Are you a singer? One for the stage or a sing-in-the-shower-only kind of singer? Whether “good” at singing or not, most people sing at some point every day. What does singing do for your spirit?

### **Engage**

- Read *Acts 16:16-34*. This text picks up directly where we left off the week before. Paul and Silas are in foreign territory, sharing their testimonies of faith, but received with hostility. Talk through a few verses that stick out to you about their experience. How does this differ from your experience of walking in faith today?
- Paul heals the young girl out of annoyance more so than compassion and such sets off a whole other set of events for him and Silas. Is this the result of Paul doing the right thing (*healing*) for the wrong reason (*annoyance*)? Have you ever done the right thing for the wrong reason? Discuss.
- We never hear what happens to the young girl moving forward. Given her bondage (*free now of the demon but still “owned” by her captors*), do you think her life became better or worse? Discuss.
- Share of an experience when someone began singing unexpectedly and others around ultimately joined in. Whether a light-hearted fun moment or a from-the-depths-of despair moment, describe what impact that had on the spirits of those gathered.
- Paul and Silas’ public singing opened doors for change. What public expression of faith do you participate in (*or might in the future*) that has the power to change hearts and systems? Why is this important to you (*or not*)?

### **Next Steps**

- Proximity matters. Find yourself engaged in your faith community. Gather for worship. Join a small group. Volunteer for a service group. This proximity creates what are called supercharged friendships that not only benefit your health but are proven through research put out by Harvard and Notre Dame to strengthen communities more than other friendships/relationships. Make that investment of time and energy and see what transformation comes.

### **Pray**

*“There’s something special, God, about friendships solidified through purpose and service. Help us become better friends to others and create in us a supercharged example of what friends of faith can accomplish together in the world. Amen.”*