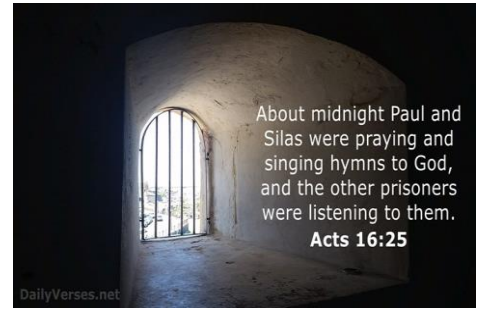


## DNA of a Growing Church

### Reading – Acts 16: 19 - 34

#### Introduction

Paul has had a vision calling him to travel to Macedonia and particularly to visit the important Roman town of Philippi. In a series of encounters, the foundations of a Church are established. Lydia and her household are baptised, a Slave girl making money for her owners through fortune telling is set free from an evil spirit and then the Philippian jailer and his household believe and are baptised.



Despite being flogged, put in chains and in prison Paul and Silas sing to the Lord at midnight. God demonstrates his presence and power through them and in them, as they are set free from prison. Salvation and the power of God at work becomes the DNA of a Growing Church.

#### Discussion Starters

- What especially speaks to you from this reading? What would you say is the relevance of it for today?
- What degree of confidence do you have in the power of God to transform people's lives as he did at Philippi?
- How could we find grace to praise God in the darkest of situations as Paul and Silas do?
- What do you think our level of expectation might be in seeing God's power at work in people's lives?

#### Prayer time

Please do pray for needs that are known or shared. Please also pray that the DNA of our Church might reflect the confidence in the transforming power of God

Rev Martyn Travers