

Paul – A Prisoner at Philippi

Acts 16:23-28.

²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon (Paul and Silas), they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."

- What on-the-spot decision does Paul make in v.28?

- Rate his decision:

UNFAITHFUL	NEUTRAL	FAITHFUL
0	1 2	3 4

- Why do you give his decision this rating?

- Read Acts 16:29-34. What is the outcome of Paul's decision?

- Rate the outcome of his decision:

BAD	NEUTRAL	GOOD
0	1 2	3 4

- Why do you give the outcome this rating?

- Imagine yourself in the Philippian jail. Would you have done what Paul did? Describe how you think you would have reacted when it became obvious that the jailer was going to kill himself and you could escape.