



elev8

life on another level

Student Workbook

YEAR 2

**The Acts of
the Apostles**
Break Free from Prison

Bible Readings

Acts 15 – 21



Learning Outcomes

At the end of this week you will be able to:

- become aware that the spirit world is real.
- be able to see God at work in the toughest times.
- be aware of another conversion experience.

Notes from Bible Reading

Scripture A word or phrase that stood out to me:

Observation What is happening in this Bible reading?

Application Something that I learned about who I am or how I should live:

Prayer What I would like to say to God, ask of God, or what I think God is saying to me:

Key Question Do you praise God when things look bad?

Engage

Go around the group and share one thing for each heading that has happened since you last met:

- Plus – What has been good or enjoyable?
- Minus – What has been difficult or painful?
- Interesting – What has been unusual or thought provoking?

Have you read any stories of people found in difficult circumstances where God showed up (e.g. The Heavenly Man)

Explore – Locate

- *What stood out to you in the Bible readings this week?*
- *What did you find meaningful or significant?*
- *Is there anything that you didn't understand or found confusing?*
- *Any questions or comments you may have?*

Read together: Acts 16:16-33

In this era the spiritual world was regularly accepted as a way of life.

We read about the girl who was predicting the future and operating as a fortune teller for her owners. The fact that she was walking round 'announcing' who Paul and Silas were showed that her information came from the spiritual realm.

As you saw in the story the power of God is greater than the power of the enemy although the loss of her fortune telling ability caused Paul and Silas some trouble. They were arrested, beaten and imprisoned because of their actions.

In the middle of the night, beaten, bruised and locked in a jail Paul and Silas were praying and singing praise to God – quite remarkable. When many people would be complaining about their

status – complaining to the other prisoners, to the jailer, to God – to anyone who would listen. Yet these two took the opportunity to praise God.

The results were remarkable – God broke through and caused every prisoner to be released from their chains and every prison door to be opened. Everyone gained freedom because of the faith and praises for just two people.

The jailor was about to commit suicide as he thought the prisoners had escaped and the authorities would kill him anyway. However the outcome was totally different.

Recognising God's power and authority the jailor asked for God to change his life – the conversion story.

Explore – Express

Write the lyrics to a song that would be suitable for Paul and Silas to sing.

What could they find that's positive in their situation, how would they express that?

Explore – Integrate

- What difficult situations have you or people you know faced that looked to have no way out – yet God made it work out well in the end?
- What music do you regularly listen to and what effect do the words and music have on your life?
- In what ways do you think your life has affected other people?
- Have you done positive things that have impacted different friends or relatives? Or have you been affected by other people in a positive way?

Extend

Discuss with your group the challenges you are tackling. Use the time to ask for any help you might need.

Questions that may be helpful include:

- What challenges are you working on at the moment?
- Do you need any support or assistance?
- Are there any challenges that you have completed that we need to recognise and celebrate?
- Are there any new challenges that you want to work on?

Encourage

Tell another student in your group something you value or appreciate about them.

Share one thing you would like to pray for and pray for one another.

Help me Lord to stay focussed on you even when things are tough; to praise you when life's problems don't seem to have a solution.

Help me to be a positive influence on those around me.

Amen.