

# OPPORTUNITY

making the most out of 2017



**Opportunity  
&  
Favor**



**Dream**



**When Opportunity  
looks like a  
Dead End**



## Acts 16: 23 - 24

23 After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. 24 When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.



# Acts 16: 25

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.



## Acts 16: 26 - 27

26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.



## Acts 16: 28 - 30

28 But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” 29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”



## Acts 16: 31 - 33

31 They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.



## Acts 16: 34 - 36

34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household. 35 When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: “Release those men.” 36 The jailer told Paul, “The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace.”



Prayed



**Prayer will get you out**



# Prayer

- Changes you



# Prayer

- Changes you
- Changes things



# Prayer

- Changes you
- Changes things
- Invite others into prayer for you



## Acts 12: 5 - 6

5 So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. 6 The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.



## Acts 12: 7 - 8

7 Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. 8 Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him.



## Acts 12: 9

9 Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.



**When the going gets  
tough, the wise seek  
cover (prayer cover!)**



# Prayer

- Changes you
- Changes things
- Invite others into prayer for you
- Take simple steps of obedience



**Worshipped**



**Worship will get you  
through**



# Worship

- Remember the past



# Worship

- Remember the past
- Atmosphere



# Worship

- Remember the past
- Atmosphere
- Perspective



# Worship

- Remember the past
- Atmosphere
- Perspective
- Focus on God not the problem



**When your desperation  
becomes greater than  
your embarrassment,  
you are ready for the  
grace of God**



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