



DATE(S)

June 18-19, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

All In – Week 3

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

Praise God in all situations!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Acts 16:25-34

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Marvel Mania

We're about to find out who the Marvel movie experts are! Each Marvel question is worth one point, except for a few questions where you can earn MULTIPLE points! This would be a really good group vs. group game. Award the winner(s) some candy!

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

What do you do on a normal day of summer vacation?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

"All In" – Week 3 (Paul & Silas)

June 18-19, 2022

What's up, everyone?! Let's get right into our next New Testament passage as we continue our series called "All In." It starts with a pretty familiar guy in the New Testament named Paul (who some of you may have heard about or read about). Paul was one of the most prolific authors of the New Testament and I want us to look at an event that deeply shaped Paul's life. However, it also involves a second guy that maybe you don't know that much about. His name was Silas and he was a friend of Paul's who traveled with him to preach about Jesus. They were in a pretty bad situation and instead of moping or complaining about it, they asked for God's help and something pretty incredible happened.

Speaking of moping and complaining, how many of you have ever overreacted and yelled at your parents when you got into trouble for something? Now...some of you may not want to admit this...but how many of you tend to pout when you get in trouble or pout when you get sent to your room? Sometimes our attitude only makes things worse!

(Teacher's Note: Tell a short story about a time when you got in trouble or were in a hard situation as a kid and you only made things worse because of your attitude!)

We will go through challenging situations (sometimes by our own doing) in this life – many of them. We need to learn, fail, re-learn, re-fail...how to praise God in all those situations. So here's our **THP (Take Home Point)** for the message today:

Praise God in all situations!

I know that's a big statement to make because it doesn't seem very fair, does it? Who wants to praise and worship God when life stinks? If God loves us, he wouldn't allow these bad situations to happen to us, right? Well, let's look at Paul and Silas's story in Acts 16 in the New Testament to see if we can learn anything from them!

THE MESSAGE

First of all, they get arrested and beaten severely because they were preaching about Jesus. In fact, the reason they get thrown in jail is because Paul drives out an evil spirit from a woman...I mean, it wasn't even anything bad. It was good! Who gets thrown into jail for something good?! They get thrown in jail and one prison guard is ordered to shackle their feet and watch them very closely so they wouldn't try and escape. Pretty terrible situation, right? I bet Paul and Silas complained, I bet they were plotting how they were going to get even, and I'm sure they were mad at God. Maybe...but maybe not. The writer of Acts, Luke, gives us our answer right here in Acts 16:25 in the New Testament –

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

They were doing the exact opposite! They were praising God! When was the last time any of us did that? That's a pretty big challenge for our life, isn't it? Even in really tough situations, we should praise God! The story doesn't end there; let's read on!

Acts 16:26-34 – “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. 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. But Paul shouted, “Don't harm yourself! We are all here!” The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. 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.”

Simply because Paul and Silas **CHOSE** to praise and worship God in spite of their bad situation, the guy who was in charge of them in the jail – he and his entire family became Christians! God blessed them for doing the right thing! I'm sure it wasn't easy, but it was totally worth it.

THE MESSAGE

I want this story to challenge us to think about two questions: what kind of attitude do I have and how do I usually react in bad situations (whether they happen to me or I caused them)? The second question is this: how can I learn to praise God in all situations?

(Teacher's Note: If you have a personal story where you praised God through some difficult circumstances, please share it here. Share the good AND the bad!)

The story of Paul and Silas should encourage us that even when life isn't going well, we should still trust God! It doesn't mean that you can't be angry or sad or feel betrayed by someone. Just express those emotions to God in prayer. Even though it might be easier to depend on our EMOTIONS, we need to learn the importance of depending on GOD in ALL situations. It takes time to learn how to praise and trust God in the midst of challenging circumstances.

As we go to our group discussions, let's be challenged to commit to our **THP (Take Home Point)** today: **Praise God in all situations!** Let's pray!



CLOSING GROUP TIME

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

***Leader's Note: Make sure to have some Bibles for the students to use.

What was the THP (Take Home Point) today and why was that important during the message?

Who can give us a short recap of what happened to Paul & Silas in jail?

Do you act differently when you're in good times vs. bad times? Why?

How does the idea of praising God in all situations – which is so important to Paul & Silas's situation – challenge you? What would be the biggest barrier preventing you from doing that?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Be specific.

How can this group pray for you this week?

ACTIVITIES

After your group is finished with your discussion, close in prayer together!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Stupid Video of the Week
Message script
Message slides

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

Pro Presenter or Playlister

