



Messy Middle |  
05.28.23

**START TALKING | (Find a conversation starter for your group)**

What type of music lifts your spirits? What music reminds you of the "good ol' days"?

**START EXPLORING | (Read the Bible)**

Read Acts 16:16-25

- How do you think a shouting slave girl affected the apostles' mood and their goals?
- Retell verses 17-21 from the perspective of the owners of the girl.
  - What did they feel about her?
  - About their money?
  - About these missionaries?
- In light of what happened, how do you think Paul and Silas felt in verse 25?

**START SHARING | (Choose a question to create openness)**

- If you were falsely accused, severely beaten, and thrown into a dark jail, would you still trust in God's plan?
  - Why or why not?
- What does the response of Paul and Silas show about them?
- The girl's owners rejected the Gospel because it cost them financially. What financial concerns keep some people from faith today?
  - Are any of these a factor for you?
- What can you learn from their example about knowing peace and joy, even in hard times?

**Start Praying. (Be bold and pray with power)**

How can this group be praying for you this week?

**Start Doing. (Commit to a step, and live it out this week)**

If you have not publicly proclaimed your faith in Jesus by being baptized, prayerfully consider being baptized at one of our summer baptisms (June 4, July 30, or August 27). Sign up at [pathwayschurch.us/baptism](http://pathwayschurch.us/baptism).