

SENT series  
Week 4 outline  
6.12.22  
Acts 16:6-34

## HOW A MESSAGE BECAME A MOVEMENT

Three Encounters with the Gospel

### I. The Only Message for ALL People

A. What was Paul's message?

Vs 14: *"the Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message"*

vs 10: *"that God had called us to preach the gospel to them..."*

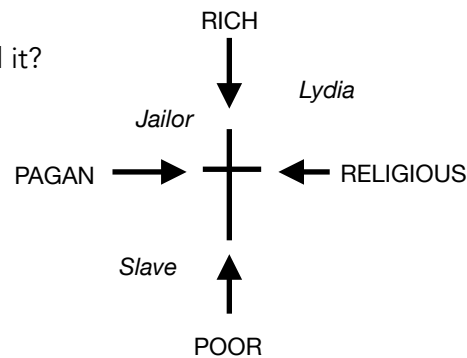
B. Who do we write off as lost causes not worthy of the Gospel?

-the rich who don't need it?

-the poor who don't deserve it?

-the religious who don't understand it?

-the pagans who don't want it?



WHEN WE BELIEVE THERE ARE SOME LESS WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL,  
WE BECOME A FORCE FOR DOMINATION RATHER THAN TRANSFORMATION

### II. The Only Message For ALL Circumstances

*"Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ,  
the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love." 2 John 1:3*

#### A. Jesus' grace wins

-Like Lydia on the bank of a river; He allows us to respond to the gospel

#### B. Jesus' mercy works

-Like the slave girl in the streets of Philippi; He offers restoration to our lives

#### C. Jesus' peace lasts

-Like the jailor in the face of death; He gives us a reason to rejoice

JESUS BRINGS A GRACE THAT WINS,  
A MERCY THAT WORKS, AND A PEACE THAT LASTS.

### III. The Only Message with ALL Power

#### A. Whose Power is it?

1. Only Jesus has the power to transform hearts  
-*"The Lord opened her heart"*(vs 14)
2. Only Jesus has the power to heal souls  
-*"In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her"* (vs18)
3. Only Jesus has the power to free lives  
-*"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved"* (vs31)

#### B. What Prompted a Pagan Jailor to ask a salvation Question?

-*"He then brought them out and asked,  
Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"* (vs 30)

1. He had exposure to the basic contours of Christianity  
-vs 25: through the prayers and hymns overheard in great distress

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE HOW THE SMALL THINGS  
CAN INFLUENCE OTHERS FOR THE GOSPEL

2. He personally met a few respectable Christians  
-vs 28: who didn't even run when they had the chance

HOW WOULD PEOPLE VIEW YOUR INTEGRITY?

3. He experienced a moment of crisis  
-vs 30-34: and there was an immediate and outward demonstration of his  
inward transformation

HAVE YOU ASKED THE JAILOR'S QUESTION;  
AND RESPONDED TO JESUS' ANSWER?