

FEARLESS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS | WEEK 6

FEARLESS: PAUL AND SILAS

Living Boldly. Trusting Completely.

Acts 16:16–40 (NLT)

SERMON FOCUS

Fear loses its grip when we focus on God's presence instead of our circumstances.

PURPOSE

This discussion is designed to help group members process how followers of Jesus respond to fear by focusing on God's presence instead of their circumstances. The goal is not simply to discuss fear, but to encourage one another toward greater trust, worship, and faithful obedience.

Leader Reminder: Before leading your group, please read the accompanying Community Group Leader's Guide. It provides biblical background, helpful discussion notes, and pastoral guidance. Leaders should not feel pressure to cover every question. Choose the questions that best fit your group. Depth is more important than getting through every question.

OPENING CHECK-IN (5-10 MINUTES)

- What is one situation in life that required you to trust God more than you expected?
- Have you ever experienced a time when you later realized God was working in ways you couldn't see at the moment?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

- **Acts 16:16–18**
- **Acts 16:22–34**
- **Philippians 4:6–9**
- **Romans 8:28**
- **John 16:33**

QUESTION 1 - REMEMBER JESUS IS GREATER THAN WHAT YOU FEAR

What stood out to you most from Paul's encounter with the slave girl?

Why do you think Luke begins with Jesus' authority before the prison scene?

How does remembering Christ's authority change the way we face fear?

What fear are you currently tempted to focus on more than God's presence?

What does faith look like in that situation?

QUESTION 2 - CHOOSE GOD'S PRESENCE OVER YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

What surprises you most about Paul and Silas' response after being beaten?

Why is worship such a powerful way to redirect our hearts?

How have prayer, Scripture, worship, or thanksgiving helped you during difficult seasons?

Where does your attention naturally go when life becomes stressful?

What habit could help you become more aware of God's presence this week?

QUESTION 3 - EXPECT GOD TO WORK BEYOND WHAT YOU CAN SEE

Why do you think Paul stayed instead of escaping?

Have you ever looked back and realized God was doing more than you understood?

Why is it difficult to trust God's purposes while we are waiting?

How might God be using your current circumstances to encourage someone else?

QUESTION 4 - WORSHIP BECOMES OUR WITNESS

Why do you think Luke tells us the other prisoners were listening?

Who is watching how you respond to hardship?

How can our response to fear become a testimony?

What would confidence in God's presence look like this week?

APPLICATION & NEXT STEPS

Which sermon point challenged you most this week?

- Remember Jesus is greater than what you fear.
- Choose God's presence over your circumstances.
- Expect God to work beyond what you can see.

What is one practical step you could take this week?

- Spend intentional time in prayer.
- Memorize or meditate on a promise from Scripture.
- Listen to worship music that reminds you of God's character.
- Replace worry with thanksgiving.
- Share one fear with a trusted believer.
- Read Philippians 4:6–9 each day.

CLOSING PRAYER

Pray that God would replace fear with confidence in Christ, deepen awareness of His presence, strengthen faith during difficult circumstances, and use every trial as a witness for His glory.

LEADER NOTE

Remember: the goal of this discussion is not simply to identify fears, but to help one another redirect our attention toward Christ. Encourage honest conversation and practical obedience.