



ADVANCE CHURCH NETWORK N O R T H C A R O L I N A

Cohort Conversations

Week of April 22, 2026: Pastoral Encouragement – Holiness

Connect—Who is not here, and who will connect with them? What is a resource that has been helping you recently in your personal life, family, or church ministry?

Scripture Text—Acts 16:25-40 (Share reading the passage together)

Based upon this passage, pray together popcorn style, while being sensitive to how the Spirit leads. Here's a way to break it down:

Reverence Praise God for how He displays His Power in this passage. What are the various powers defeated in this story?

Response How might your life be different if it experienced such an overcoming worshipful spirit?

Request Pray for yourself or another brother who feels like they are imprisoned by others, or their circumstances. Ask God to give to the churches a spirit to be and do the unexpected. Let us be directed not by the opinion and thoughts of the environment but by the truths of the gospel.

Readiness All of these incidents occur to kickstart a new church in Phillipi. What do you need to pray for if God wants to kickstart a new church or growth in your church in such a way?

Discussion Questions: (Read through the passage together again)

- What would the “normal” church leader be doing or thinking in this scenario?
- For Paul and Silas to react they way they did in the moment of imprisonment, what type of habits and attitudes were in place?
- What do you imagine was happening in the Jailer’s mind to bring him to the point of suicide?
- When days are difficult, two starkly different reactions are portrayed in this story, rejoicing or radical avoidance. What are the variables in your life that leads you toward either one of these reactions?
- The Jailer moves from one reaction to the opposite reaction, what were the 2 essential ingredients to direct this change? How are these same ingredients fueling your holiness?

Application:

- We note that Paul and Silas were together in this work. Who is your partner to help you in holiness and worship?