

## **RISING UP WHEN WE'RE BEING PULLED DOWN**

<sup>NLT</sup> Acts 16:11 *We boarded a boat at Troas and sailed straight across to the island of Samothrace, and the next day we landed at Neapolis. <sup>12</sup> From there we reached Philippi, a major city of that district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. And we stayed there several days.*

<sup>NLT</sup> Acts 16:13 *On the Sabbath we went a little way outside the city to a riverbank, where we thought people would be meeting for prayer, and we sat down to speak with some women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying. <sup>15</sup> She was baptized along with other members of her household, and she asked us to be her guests. "If you agree that I am a true believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my home." And she urged us until we agreed.*

<sup>NLT</sup> Acts 16:24 *So the jailer put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks.*

### **How do we Rise Up when life is pulling us down?**

#### **1). Look at God, instead of our circumstances.**

<sup>25</sup> *Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off! <sup>27</sup> The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself.*

<sup>28</sup> *But Paul shouted to him, "Stop! Don't kill yourself! We are all here!" <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.*

#### **2). Look at others, instead of yourself.**

<sup>30</sup> *Then he brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household." <sup>32</sup> And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household.*

<sup>33</sup> *Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. <sup>34</sup> He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.*