

In our text today, we journey with two men who made a difference. They would later be called those "who had turned the world upside down." They made a difference because they were different. In the next few moments, we will see how we can become more like them — how we can become people who make a difference.

*"Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint."* Isaiah 40:27-31

They Found Themselves in an Awful Situation

"The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks." Acts 16:23-24

They Had Decided to Maintain a Thankful Saint

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them." Acts 16:25

*"Consider what God has done: Who can straighten what he has made crooked?
When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider:
God has made the one as well as the other.*

Therefore, a man cannot discover anything about his future." Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

"I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:10-13

*"Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

The Sovereign LORD is my strength;

he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights." Habakkuk 3:16-19

***"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!** Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:4-7

As A Result of Their Choice, They Had a Profound Impact

"Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, 'Don't harm yourself! We are all here!'

*The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, '**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**'*

They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.' Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds. Then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family." Acts 16:26-34