



Luke 17:5 NLT The apostles said to the Lord,  
 "Show us HOW TO INCREASE OUR FAITH."

Enlarging our ability to confidently trust in God and in His power  
 IN Favor Resources video teaching series

## #21 HOLDING ON TO OUR FAITH: IN TROUBLES AND TRIALS

*Example: Paul and Silas in prison*

Acts 16:19 When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities ...<sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods.<sup>23</sup> After they had been severely flogged, *they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.*<sup>24</sup> When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.<sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that *the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.*<sup>27</sup> 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.<sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.<sup>30</sup> He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Their trial was \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 and without earthly \_\_\_\_\_. But *they were* \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 And as a result, they were \_\_\_\_\_ and the Jailer's family was \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Peter's deliverance from prison was just as unlikely (see Acts 12).

### **Pressing in:**

Chris Tiegreen: "When we encounter a difficulty, our natural response is to get discouraged. But if we know how God works, we should get excited. Something great is about to happen. A trial is not a hindrance to his work; it's the perfect platform for him to show who he is ... When your circumstances become oppressive, smile. The deliverer is doing something in them that will make them extremely worthwhile."<sup>4/1/18</sup>

What does God ask of us? "Is it not largely this—to keep cool and unfidgety when other folk are growing flustered about things; to look out upon this confusing life with steady eyes when those around them, badly scared, have taken to glancing back across their shoulders, and there is that ominous feeling of panic in the air; to trust him not only when that is easy and the sun is shining, but when there is the most need for faith." Arthur John Gossip, *A Message for Gray Days*

Psalm 119:169-170 May my cry come before you, O Lord; give me understanding according to your word. May my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise.

Psalm 34:6 This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.  
<sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in his holy word.  
 He's never failed us yet. Oh, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith. *Albert A. Goodson*



Website: [infavorresources.com](http://infavorresources.com) Facebook: [facebook.com/infavorresources](https://facebook.com/infavorresources)  
 YouTube channel: IN Favor Resources Email: [infavorresources@gmail.com](mailto:infavorresources@gmail.com)  
 Copyright Dr. Jim Taylor Jr. IN Favor Resources LLC  
 This material not to be used without permission