



UNLIKELY HEROES – Pt. 14
The Jailer
Turn Your Test into Your Testimony

New Horizon Church 08-22-2021 Pastor John Raymond

1. Discipleship brings _____.

Acts 16:22-24 (NLT), “²² A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods. ²³ They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn’t escape. ²⁴ So the jailer put them into the **inner dungeon** and clamped their feet in the stocks.”

Nehemiah 8:10 (NLT), “Don’t be dejected and sad, for **the joy of the Lord is your strength!**”

2. Turn your test into your _____.

1 Peter 3:14-17 (NLT), “¹⁴ But even if you **suffer for doing what is right**, God will reward you for it. So don’t worry or be afraid of their threats. ¹⁵ Instead, **you must worship Christ** as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. ¹⁷ Remember, it is **better to suffer for doing good**, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!”

Acts 16:25-26 (NLT), “²⁵ Around midnight Paul and Silas were **praying and singing hymns** to God, and the **other prisoners were listening**. ²⁶ 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!”

3. Focus on winning _____.

Acts 16:27-34 (NLT), “²⁷ 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. ²⁸ But Paul shouted to him, “**Stop! Don’t kill yourself!** We are all here!” ²⁹ The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and asked, “**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**” ³¹ They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.” ³² And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. ³³ 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**. ³⁴ 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.”

Romans 10:9-10 (NLT), “⁹ If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.”

Acts 2:38 (NLT), “³⁸ Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

4. Use your _____ for God.

Acts 16:35-39 (NLT), “³⁵ The next morning the city officials sent the police to tell the jailer, “Let those men go!” ³⁶ So the jailer told Paul, “**The city officials have said you and Silas are free to leave. Go in peace.**” ³⁷ But Paul replied, “They have publicly beaten us without a trial and put us in prison—and we are Roman citizens. So now they want us to leave secretly? Certainly not! Let them come themselves to release us!” ³⁸ When the police reported this, the city officials were alarmed to learn that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens. ³⁹ So they came to the jail and apologized to them. Then they brought them out and begged them to leave the city.”
