

SUNDAY RECAP | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look ahead. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week long. Enjoy!

RECAP FOR: Sunday, May 20, 2018

Take me directly to:

1. [PREPARE for this Sunday](#)
2. [REFLECT on last Sunday](#)
3. [Further Reflection and Study](#) (resources, questions, etc.)
4. [Resources for Kids \(and Parents\)](#)
5. [Sermon Review](#)

PREPARE FOR THIS SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

Listen to all the songs for this week on our [Weekly Spotify Playlist](#)

// Call to Worship //

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.
—Psalm 100

// Prayer of Confession //

L: God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you.
We have made idols of possessions and people
and used your name for causes that are not consistent with you and your purposes.
We have permitted our schedules to come first and have not taken the time to worship you.
We have not always honored those who guided us in life.
We have participated in systems that take life instead of give it.
We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships.
We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,
and we have misrepresented others' intentions.

C: Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory.
Help us to learn to live together according to your ways through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

// Assurance of Pardon //

L: I will sprinkle clean water upon you,
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.
A new heart I will give you,
and a new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.
—Ezekiel 36:25-26

Church, hear this good news- All your sins, past, present and future are forgiven by the God of the universe. Jesus has died for you.

C: Hallelujah! We have been made clean by the blood of the lamb!

// Passing of the Peace //

The power of God that sustains us and gives us hope in this life is the same power that unites his church as family. As we greet each other today, let's do so remembering that the peace we can share with one another is possible because of the peace we have with God through Christ. Take a moment to welcome those around you.

// Benediction //

L: May the God who brought us here and spoke to us here, be with you as you go from here to spread the good news of the gospel.
Peace be with you!

C: And Also with you!

REFLECT ON LAST SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

// Call to Worship //

L: Let us join our voices to praise the spotless Lamb, Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us from sin and death.

C: We, whom he has redeemed, will sing praises and shout for joy this hour:

L: because in Christ the Lamb we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins in accordance with the riches of his grace.

C: Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

L: Let us praise him by saying: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive honor and glory and praise!

C: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb we give worship this hour and forever and ever. Amen.

[Here I am to Worship](#)

[Hallelujah What a Savior](#)

// Prayer of Confession //

L: Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.

C: You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.

L: Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.

C: Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

L: Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world.

C: Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

// Assurance of Pardon //

I will sprinkle clean water upon you,

and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

A new heart I will give you,

and a new spirit I will put within you;

and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

—Ezekiel 36:25-26

L: Church, hear this good news- All your sins, past, present and future are forgiven by the God of the universe. Jesus has died for you.

C: Hallelujah! We have been made clean by the blood of the lamb!

[Rock of Ages](#)

// Passing of the Peace //

What a glorious truth that the God who created heaven and earth is also our friend

in the person of Jesus...and friends live in peace – a profound and "forever" peace made possible by Jesus.

Take as much time as need need to catch up with the brothers and sisters around you and make a point to welcome any who might be new to our community.

[Calvary](#)

// Benediction //

Whether you know it or not, you have received from God this morning. He has spoken to you and ministered to you. As we go from here, let's go living like those who have the promise of a life after death and who have the joy of sharing the gospel with many this week.

God be with you!

C: And Also with you!

FURTHER REFLECTION & STUDY ([back to table of contents](#))

Scripture to Meditate On:

Acts 16:14 - One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. *The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.*

Reflection Questions:

- In our Prayer of Confession we confessed how we don't live as the ones God made us to be - His representatives. How do you resist, ignore, or miss opportunities to be God's representative? Why do you avoid being His representative to your unbelieving neighbors and friends? How do you wish you would live like His representative?
- Ryan talked about 3 different types of people being converted to Christianity this week, did you identify with any of those? If so who and why?
- In Acts 16:4 Luke (the author) tells us that "God opened her [Lydia's] heart to pay attention to" the gospel presented by Paul. How does knowing that God is responsible for opening hearts to the gospel give you hope?
- What's your "conversion story"?
- Ryan talked about how people "in the margins" of society (like the slave girl) or in a place of desperation (like the jailor) are often those who are open to the message the gospel. Who do you know that would fit into either of those categories? Why might the gospel be "good news" to them?

Suggested Resources

Articles: [Genuine Conversion](#) by Ligonier Ministries

[The Most Reluctant Convert: Up Close and Personal with CS Lewis](#) by Le Ann Trees

[What is Conversion?](#) By Ray Ortlund

[The Beauty of Conversion](#) by Jared C. Wilson

[They Were No Fools: The Martyrdom of Jim Elliot and Four Other Missionaries](#) by Justin Taylor

Videos: [Missional Moms](#) by Soma Tacoma

Books: [The New Believers Guide to The Christian Life](#) by Alex Early

[The Cross of Christ](#) by John Stott

Random Resource of the week: **GO CAVS!!!**

[LeBron, Rest, and Execution and Will](#) by Nick Lannon

RESOURCES FOR KIDS (and Parents) [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

Video: [The Key To Understanding Why Parenting is so Hard](#) by Paul Tripp

Read together: [Acts 16:25-34](#)

Questions for Kids

- What part of that story (Acts 16:25-34) is surprising to you? What questions do you have after you read that?
- Do you know what it means to be “converted”? (If not, explain in light of Acts 16:25-34. That it means to come to believe that Jesus is the messiah and saves us from our sin by dying on the cross and also gives us new life by giving us his righteousness.) Why do we need to be “converted”?
- Take a moment to tell your child about your conversion story. It may not be a moment in time when you were converted, but more over a long period of time, that's great! And be honest, if you aren't sure or may still be in the conversion process, share that with them as well.
- Share with them Romans 10:9 (and note how simple and clear it is regarding conversion) - “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Consider putting this verse on a note card and displaying it somewhere that can be seen (on the fridge, bulletin board, family calendar, behind the sink, etc.) so you can commit it to memory together.
- Take a few moments to pray for one another. Thank God that He provided Jesus to save you. Pray also for those who you know who are not converted and pray God would open their heart to hear and love the good news that Jesus saves us!
- Pray also for our church and that we would see many more people converted to Christ this summer.

Sermon Review [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

Title: Three Conversions

Text: [Acts 16](#)

Watch: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/three-conversions/>

Podcast: <https://cccplainfield.org/subscribe-to-podcast>

Sermon Overview:

Acts 16 finds us in Philippi with Paul and Timothy on the second missionary journey. They are forbidden by the HS to speak in Asia and forbidden to go to Bithynia. Paul then has a vision of a Macedonian man telling him to come and help them, so, off they go to Macedonia. Luke tells us of three individuals and three conversion stories. As you hear these stories note three important principles of the gospel: 1) The gospel is dynamic - like a diamond if you look at it from different angles you see different light (adoption, forgiveness, gifted righteousness, presence of holy spirit, a new heart, etc. are all parts of the gospel's work) 2) The gospel is effective- it does a work on people (Romans 1:16 calls the gospel the “power of God for salvation”) and 3) The gospel is both incomprehensible and understandable- it is “deep enough for an elephant to drowned in yet shallow enough for a child to splash around in.” We'll spend our lives diving the depths of the gospel's truths and yet also it's as simple as “Jesus saves sinners”.

LYDIA is a God-fearer and a successful business woman. God “opens her heart” to be able to hear the message of the gospel from Paul. Lydia is converted by hearing the message about how Jesus is the Messiah the Old Testament had been pointing towards (which she would have been familiar with as a “God

fearer” who was at a prayer meeting). She had an *intellectual* need to understand how the pieces fit together. But notice what the text says- The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul (v.16). She needed the information, but needed it to do more than just stay in her head, she needed it to pierce her heart. She needed to not only know Jesus was the messiah, but know that Jesus was *her* Messiah; that what Jesus did was done *for her* to save her. She had to not only know of it, but also desire it.

The SLAVE GIRL is the next person we hear about and she needs deliverance. If Lydia needed to hear from Jesus the Teacher, the slave girl needs to hear from Jesus the Healer or the Deliverer. She is controlled by her owners and controlled by a demon. Paul commands the demon “in the name of Jesus Christ” to come out of her. Now although we don't have specific comments here that she comes to faith in Christ, we may be able to assume it since Luke is telling conversion stories and telling us the makeup of the Philippian church (and remember how miracles and gospel proclamation/conversion are linked in Acts) Consider this girls response to being finally healed of her demon possession and given a new identity and by whom- by “Jesus Christ” as the text says. I imagine she would have been taken aback by who would do this to her. She’s been used and abused her whole life and now she has been given freedom by this Jesus. Like others who have been healed in Acts, I doubt you could keep her back from jumping, and leaping, and praising God.

We meet the JAILOR when he is in a really tough spot. He is an ex-soldier, a disciplined and principled man, probably a Roman. He finds himself in a place of desperation. Paul and his comrades are in jail, an earthquake hits, the lights go out, all the cell doors open and the Jailor knows if the prisoners have escaped he is done for. He will be killed by his superiors. Paul calls for the lights and tells the Jailor everyone is still there, no one escaped. The jailor responds with an interesting question- “How can I be saved?” (I wish all evangelism was this easy!) How did the jailor have that vocabulary, you might ask? Well, Luke tells us in Acts 16:25 that Paul and Silas were “praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them,” so no doubt the jailor would have heard them as well. He *heard* the good news of the gospel, but he didn't respond then (like Lydia did) instead he needs to see that love in action. Once he sees the sacrificial love directed right towards him, as Paul saves his life by keeping all the prisoners there, he is ready to know this Jesus. Paul and Silas continue speaking to him and his household the message of the gospel and all are baptized.

Two things to notice from these stories-

- 1) The pattern of belief and baptism- we see it with Lydia and with the Jailor. They come to believe and they are baptized, welcomed into the community of believers and washed clean of their sin by the work of Jesus. Notice also that in both cases their ‘whole household’ was baptized. They must have held the view that the promises of the covenant were for them and their household so all should be baptized (even though we don't know if all had faith yet or not, we aren't given that information).
- 2) The gospel fruit of HOSPITALITY- Lydia insists on having Paul and the missionaries in her home (and they even go back to her home again at the end of the chapter). The jailor, likewise, takes them in and they feast together. The gospel story is one where God has welcomed us in as family through Jesus, so it makes sense why when that story has pierced these people’s hearts they likewise open their home and use it as a place of ministry to welcome others in. There is something extremely “gospel-centered” about opening our homes and using them as a place of ministry and mission.