

Paul Frees a Slave Girl from a Demon, Inciting a Violent Mob
About 5 minutes, from Acts 16: 16-34

Participants (*No need to memorize lines; the aim is to relive sacred events, not to perform*)

Jailer
Silas
Paul
Sophie
Slave-owner
Prompter Shout a brief line and Echoes repeat it.
Echoes Children and all adults who want to take part. Echoes need no script.

Silas Paul, that crazy slave girl has been following us
ever since we arrived here in Thyatira.

Sophie (*Shout*)
These servants of the Most High God show us the way of salvation!

Prompter & Echoes She's mocking!

Paul She has an evil spirit, Silas. I will drive it off.

Sophie You won't dare mess with me! Here comes one of my owners.
He won't let you. I make him wealthy with my fortune telling.

Slave-owner Paul, you will not drive out that spirit of divination! Leave her alone!

Paul In the name of Jesus, leave her, you filthy demon!"

Prompter & Echoes Come out of her!

Silas The spirit has left her, Paul. Her face has brightened!

Sophie Oh, thank you, thank you! I am in my right mind.
This is wonderful!

Slave-owner What have you done to our servant girl?
You had no right! She brought us our income.
Citizens of Thyatira, seize these two troublemakers!

Paul They grab Silas and me, and drag us before the authorities.

Slave-owner Esteemed magistrates, these men are throwing our city into confusion.
They are Jews and proclaim customs that are unlawful for us Romans.

Sophie I'm so sorry! Because of me this furious mob has formed.
Oh no! The magistrates have arrested Paul and Silas.
The jailer has ripped off their robes, and is beating them with clubs!

Prompter & Echoes Cruel!

Jailer Gentlemen, enjoy the plush accommodations of my fine jail!
I shall guard you securely, as the magistrates ordered.
The penalty for me if you escape is torture and death.
Since you are my honored guests, you may have my innermost
and most miserable cell.

Silas How considerate!

Jailer Sit still while I lock your feet in these stocks.

Prompter & Echoes Painful!

Silas About midnight, Paul and I are praying and singing hymns.

Jailer What is that rumbling?

Prompter & Echoes Earthquake!

Jailer The prison's foundations are shaking! Help!
The walls are crumbling; they will no longer grip the prisoners' chains!
I hear doorframes break in the dark; the doors have swung wide open!
The prisoners have fled! I will fall on my sword and die.

Paul Wait! Do not harm yourself. We are here!

Jailer I call for lights and rush in, trembling so that I can barely speak.
I fall down before Paul and Silas. Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Paul Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your family.

Prompter & Echoes Your entire household!

Silas The jailer takes us that night to his home and washes our wounds.
We tell him and his family about the Lord Jesus Christ.
They believe, and we baptize his entire household.

Jailer Here is food, my brothers. Eat and rejoice with us.

Silas Day comes, and officers arrive from the magistrates
to release Paul and me.

Paul Oh, fine! Your magistrates beat us in public without a trial,
although we are Romans, and throw us in prison!
Now they want to send us away secretly!
No indeed! Go tell them to come themselves and bring us out.

Jailer The officers report Paul's words to the chief magistrates.
They are fearful when they hear that Paul and Silas are Romans.

Sophie Look! The magistrates themselves brought Paul and Silas out of jail.
Now the magistrates are begging them politely to leave the city.

Jailer Neither our authorities nor Satan will stop the work of Christ's servants.

Prompter & Echoes Salvation for all who believe!