

**ACTS 16:25-34**  
**FREED FROM LIFE'S CHAINS**  
**BELIEVE Series - HeartShaping #2**  
April 15, 2018

1. Expect the fruit of a changing life (Galatians 5:22-26).

2. Joy keeps us free! (Acts 16:25-34).

**Doug's working definition of joy:**

Joy is the experience of hope and A holy optimism@ rising from our confident trust in God=s love, mercy, grace and sovereign care for us at all times, in all situations.

3. Knowing God's love and redemptive power sets us free to live in joy (Exodus 15:1-3; 1 Samuel 2:1-2; Psalm 30:1-5; Psalm 65:1-5; Romans 4:1-5; Philippians 4:4).
  
4. Seeing life from God's perspective keeps joy alive day-in and day-out (Hebrews 13:5-8; Psalm 16:9-11; Psalm 92:1-4).
  
5. Knowing God never abandons us keeps joy alive in the darkest times (Hebrews 12:1-2; Habakkuk 3:16-19).
  
6. Application: (BELIEVE material): Despite my circumstances, I feel inner contentment and understand my purpose in this life.