

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: A Bigger Story
Message: Armed and Ready
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: October 6, 2024

The Combatant has the courage to address important things but can do a lot of harm in the process without humility. We need people who are courageous to lead the way, and when they are truly humble, the positive impact has a wide-ranging impact. Dr. Martin Luther King's strong but nonviolent pursuit of racial justice is a good example.

An excellent example of God-honoring combatants is found in the Bible in Acts 16:16-40. Read this passage and see how Paul and Silas handled the unjust treatment they were given. Here are a few questions to consider:

What made it possible for Paul and Silas to sing and worship after such brutal and unjust treatment?

What other attitude options did they have?

What do you think the other prisoners were thinking as they watched and heard Paul and Silas?

If they had seen the earthquake as God's rescue for them and run, what would have happened to the jailer?

When the officials tried to quietly get rid of Paul and Silas, why do you think they insisted on a public acknowledgment of their wrongful arrest and treatment?

How did Paul and Silas show they were part of a Bigger Story than merely advocating for justice for themselves?

With this context, read the passage from Paul's letter to the church that he and Silas founded in Philippi:

"Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Philippians 2:3–8 (NLT)

What is one thing that you will take away from this to apply in your life?

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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Followers of Jesus should be known less for their political views and more for their humility, hope, and love.

"No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 (NLT)

In the book, *The After Party*, the authors describe people who have hope but lack humility as combatants.

When humility is lacking, the strength of the combatant turns harmful.

Combatants become courageous advocates for good when they grab hold of true humility.

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