

“Midnight Crisis”

A Lord’s Flock General Assembly Topic
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The period around the middle of the night is the time of intense darkness and demonic activities. It represents a period when it is hard to see things that are around us. However, God chooses the same moment to set captives free from satanic bondage. God shows up and works at the eleventh hour. Let us not forget to pray and praise God during our “midnight”.

1. Significant midnight events in the Bible:

- 1.1. The Lord struck down all the firstborn in Egypt (Exo. 12:29).
- 1.2. The Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron to leave with their flock (Exo. 12: 31).
- 1.3. David knew the significance of midnight prayers (Ps. 119;62).
- 1.4. A friend knocked at midnight asking for 3 loaves of bread (Lk. 11:5-8).
- 1.5. Samson rested until midnight before seizing the doors of the city gate (Judges 16:3).
- 1.6. Paul spoke to the people until midnight before leaving the next day (Acts 20:7).

2. What should we do when we face an overwhelming “midnight crisis”? It could be a life-threatening diagnosis, losing a loved one, or facing persecution.

- 2.1. **Do not be afraid.** It is natural to be fearful but do not nurture the fear. Be strengthened by the community that is rejoicing or mourning with you.
- 2.2. **Assemble in prayer.** Trust in God. He will give us wisdom in fearful situations.
- 2.3. **Praise and worship God.** King Jehosaphat gathered his people and led them in prayer and worship (2Chron. 20:1-4).
- 2.4. **Acknowledge God all the time.** Paul and Silas were imprisoned but continued to praise and worship God. Jesus listened and created a jailbreak at midnight (Acts 16). Let us worship even at home. He wants to do the same jailbreak for us and free us from our problems.

2.5. **Listen to God’s instructions.** He allows crises to happen and He has a purpose: to make us stronger, develop our character or strengthen our faith. So, we should be still and listen.

3. How do we sing praises when our world is falling apart?

- 3.1. **Let us take our pains in prayer to God.** Paul and Silas did not pretend that they were not in pain; rather, they listened to encouragement through songs.
- 3.2. **Stop complaining.** “Be still and know that I am your God” (Ps. 46:11; Ps. 37:7).
- 3.3. **Let us turn to His Word to remind us that He has not abandoned us.**
- 3.4. **We should witness to glorify Him.** Let others see what the Lord has done for us. As believers, we should testify about the blessings and miracles we receive. God’s miracle rescue was not for Paul and Silas. It was meant to rescue the jailer and his family, who were surprised and consequently were converted.

Conclusion: The darkest hours are at midnight. Life has a way of getting us acquainted with many forms of midnight, e.g., our troubles in life come in many shapes and forms. But, midnight is not all bad. In fact, some good things happen at midnight. God shows us that He is not bound by time or distance. Midnight will only bring us to our knees if we have never prayed before.

REFLECTION:

1. Are you in midnight crisis? Do you complain and mumble? Do you still proclaim, praise and worship when you are outside the Heritage?
2. Think about the other side of midnight. What has the Lord done to you today?

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