



# JOURNEY GROUPS

FEB 22 LEADER GUIDE

## LEADERS NOTES

A few notes for you as a leader as you meet again this week:

- Our groups are based on Acts 2:42, where we are encouraged to be devoted to the Word, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. How do you feel like you are growing in each of those areas as a group? Does anything need to happen to make sure those are vital parts of your gatherings?
- Do the people in your group have a sense of belonging and even ownership of your group? What needs to happen to help make sure every person in your group is growing to feel like this is "their" group?
- Don't be afraid to mix things up by breaking your group into even smaller groups - like for a few questions, have them share with 3-4 people around them. Or for prayer time, take extra time to break into groups of 3 and have everyone pray for one another!
- We have many service opportunities here at the church and throughout Kingman if your group is looking to serve and get involved. Please reach out to us and we can give you ideas!
- Quick question to think about: what would it look like for you to intentionally reach out to one person in your group this week to encourage and/or pray for them? Pray about it and then go for it!

## SHARE - ICE BREAKERS

- If you were locked in a room for 24 hours with only one form of entertainment, what would you choose?
- When have you experienced someone pursuing you or caring for you when you didn't expect it?

# STUDY

## Digging Deeper into "Acts 16"

1. As you get started, get a whole view of the passage and have someone read Acts 16:11-34 (*maybe take turns reading because it is long*).
2. What differences do you see between Lydia, the slave girl, and the Philippian jailer? What does that tell us about the kinds of people God saves?
3. What role does God play in each person's salvation story in Acts 16? What role did Paul and Silas play?
4. What surprises you most about how God works in this chapter?
5. Lydia was religious and moral but still needed Jesus. Why is it dangerous to rely on morality or religious activity instead of Christ?
6. The jailer asks, "What must I do to be saved?" Why is the answer ("Believe in the Lord Jesus") so simple — and yet so profound?
7. How does this passage help us better understand that salvation is received, not earned?
8. Which of the three people best reflects your life before Christ? In what ways?
9. Lydia's mess was self-reliance and religious confidence. Where are you tempted to trust your own goodness instead of Jesus?
10. The slave girl's mess was brokenness, abuse, and bondage. How does Jesus' compassion toward her encourage people who feel trapped or ashamed?
11. The jailer's mess was hardness, anger, and control. What situations tend to harden your heart toward God or others?
12. Which "mess" do you most relate to right now — striving, brokenness, or hardness? Why?
13. What evidence of transformation do you see in each person after encountering Jesus?
14. The jailer goes from harming Paul to washing his wounds. What does that teach us about how the gospel changes relationships?
15. How has Jesus changed your desires, attitudes, or relationships since you began following Him?
16. Although not the main point of the passage, Paul and Silas worship while suffering. What does that reveal about their view of God?

- 17. Why do you think Paul and Silas stayed in the prison instead of escaping immediately? What might it look like for you to live with gospel intentionality in difficult circumstances right now?
- 18. This chapter shows God pursuing very different people. How does that encourage you in sharing your faith?
- 19. Who in your life might seem “least likely” to come to Jesus? How does this passage challenge that assumption?
- 20. What fears keep you from speaking about Jesus more openly?
- 21. In what ways can we support one another in living on mission this week?
- 22. Where do you sense God pursuing your heart right now?
- 23. What step of obedience might God be calling you to take after studying this passage?
- 24. Who can you pray for specifically this week who needs to encounter Jesus?

## PRAYER

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