

Wednesday

Read Acts 16:13 *Women of prayer*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Is there a place where you go to pray in nature?*
2. *Paul went to the river for Sabbath and found new believers. Do you think this is how he was supposed to help?*

Prayer Focus As we step out the door into summer, we give thanks for the many blessings we share in this season. No one else could have created such a world, Gracious Giver. We celebrate the gift of your world and the chance to gather in your name.

Thursday

Read Acts 16:14 *Lydia hears the good news*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Lydia was likely rich and successful. What do you think opened her heart?*
2. *Have there been times when your heart felt closed to God's voice? When it felt open?*

Prayer Focus Refresh our delight in your word, God of All. Let us sit at your feet as we pray today, feeling the joy of communion with all believers, with all your people.

Friday

Read Acts 16:15 *An invitation*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Lydia made sure salvation was available to everyone in her home. What does that look like for you?*
2. *What hospitality to others might you share this week?*

Prayer Focus This is our chance, this day, to offer ourselves to you in faith. We commit once again to the hope and work of extending your table, Holy God, and of making sure we keep pointing to the doors that lead to grace.

When A Door Is Shut

Pastor's message: Acts 16:9-15 When God changes your plan, don't be upset. God will open better doors for you.

Message Notes:

Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *What do you like most about traveling? What do you like least?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Acts 16:9-15**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)



WHEN A DOOR IS SHUT

May 22, 2022

Monday

Read Acts 16:9-10 *Paul's vision*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Where do you hear or see a call for your help today?*
2. *What could make you drop everything and immediately go to help someone you didn't even know?*

Prayer Focus *God, we know you are not done speaking to us. Use your voice to bring us around to focus on you and what we can do to live in faith. We are in awe of how you know us and how to reach and move our hearts.*

Tuesday

Read Acts 16:11-12 *Seeking someone in need*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Paul got up and went through the open door and into the world. Do you see a door that is opening for you?*
2. *How do you handle it when something changes your plans?*

Prayer Focus *Compassionate One, we recognize how we often choose not to risk following your path into the world. Forgive us for not trusting you enough to step outside our doors. Give us new faith to look for the doors you offer.*