

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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**Read Acts 16:6-40** Make 2-3 observations of what you see in the text and note any questions that you have. Try to answer your questions by using information you find in the passage. Then answer some or all of the questions below.

The book of Acts highlights the way the Holy Spirit leads and directs the spread of the Gospel and growth of the Kingdom.

Where do you see the Spirit at work in this passage?

Does anything surprise you about how the Spirit chooses to work? What?

Why is it important for us to remember the role of the Spirit in mission?

How can we consciously depend on the Spirit as we share the Gospel?

Why do you think the only people in Philippi willing to listen to the Apostles were a group of women? How might this have shaped the early church in Philippi?

Why is it significant that the demon was cast out merely with Jesus' name?

The men who attacked the Apostles accused them of being unpatriotic in order to shut down any conversation about who Paul was or what he was saying.

Where do you see similar actions and attitudes in our time?

Are you ever tempted to shut down conversations or write people off instead of engaging with what they're really saying? When?

How should we respond when this happens to us?

In our polarized world, how can we model a different way of being?

Paul and Silas respond to their torture and imprisonment by praying and singing songs to God. How does this provide a model for how Christians respond to suffering and injustice?

What is the role of baptism in people's response to the Gospel in Acts 16?

Do you typically think of baptism as an act of accepting the Gospel and entering the Kingdom? Why or why not?

How are baptism and belief connected in this passage?

What is the significance of whole families being baptized on the belief/conversion of one person? (vs 15 & 31-33)

If you have not been baptized what is keeping you from taking this step?

Why did Paul wait to reveal his citizen status until after he was free from prison?

Does he use his power to protect himself or others? Why?

What can we learn from when and how Paul uses his power and status?

What specific invitation might the Spirit have for you in this passage?

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