



TOGETHER CHURCH

**GUARDRAILS
THAT HELP US
STAY THE COURSE AS A
DISCIPLE-MAKING CHURCH**

Week 8: April 25 – March 1

Welcome/ Introduce Guests/ Share Life (10 minutes)
Recall the Guidelines/ Open in Prayer

Vision Casting (2 minutes): Real life relationships are when you give me permission to know everything about you and I give you permission to know everything about me.

Hook Question (5 minutes): When was a time you wanted to do something, but were prevented from doing it?

Ask someone to read the background for the story (2 minutes):

When Paul surrendered his life to Jesus, he was given the incredible mission of taking the gospel to the Gentiles. He would spend the rest of his life taking three missionary journeys to accomplish the task he was given.

On his second journey he started with a disciple named Silas. As they traveled, they met a young man named Timothy. Timothy was a young man whose mom was a Jewish believer. His dad was Greek. He had a strong reputation and had learned from his mom to love God. Paul invited Timothy to join his team and he accepted. Together, these three men would lead many to Jesus and plant churches for these believers to gather in.

The first church planted in Europe was the church of Philippi. Philippi was a Roman colony where the people worshipped Roman gods. Because it was a Roman colony the people lived privileged lives. The location of Philippi was important to the empire, because many traveled through the city for goods. They also had less taxation and strong incentives to own land. Despite the popularity of the city, Paul did not originally intend to go there. So, what caused Paul to go there? And how did the church get started in Philippi? This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from Acts 16:6-15: (12 Minutes per section): Change the storyteller often.

Rebuild the Story: Group members retell the story as well as possible.

Read the story from: Ask the group to read these verses.

Discussion Questions Acts 16:6-15: Learn to talk about God's word with others. **(Take as much time as needed.)**

- What sticks out to you from this story?
- What does this story teach you about yourself or people?
- What does this story teach you about God?
- **Read Philippians 1:27** – How do the lives in this story reflect lives “worthy of the gospel?”
- What is God speaking to you about? How do you need to apply this story to your life?

Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week. Close in Prayer.