



*Study of Philippians*

*The house church at Philippi  
and beyond  
with the women who led there.*

*"Grace and peace to you from God our  
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."*

## Table 3

## Acts 16:16-40

Pray: Lord, open our hearts to respond to what you want to speak to us from this passage of Scripture. Teach us how to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God. Holy Spirit empower us to hear your still small voice over the enemies of the gospel shouting and spewing lies all around us. Rescue us from the hand of our enemies and enable us to serve Jesus without fear in holiness and righteousness all of our days. We belong to a Kingdom that cannot be shaken. Make us brave and fearless. We are more than conquerors in Christ who loves us. Amen.

To get the conversation started...Let's each share a bright spot from our week. Something that brightened your day?

In this chapter we face the evils of human trafficking and antisemitism. These are horrific crimes against people made in God's image. Let's be brave and discuss our reactions to these terms. What other crimes against image bearers have broken your heart? Do you feel led by the Spirit to enter into these uncomfortable places to be the hands of compassion to hurting people? Discuss what that might look like for you now.

We all get annoyed with other people. How do you move from the initial reaction of annoyance to empathy?

From verse 19 to verse 36, we see a shift from chaos to peace. This is an enormous shift. Talk through all the points of chaos and discuss when you see peace enter the narrative. What was the catalyst that activated the shift?

If you were in Paul and Silas's shackles, what would you be thinking and praying about? Are you feeling shackled in any area of your life? Is there anything you want to confess so that you can be set free?

What is your go to praise song you're singing? (or) Do you have an example of a time where there was a song that just empowered you to keep going?

Close your discussion reading verse 40. Go around the table and encourage one another. Speak life over one another. Let me get you started...You are very brave to discuss these polarizing topics. You are stronger than you know. You are dearly loved by God. He has your back and He will empower you to push back against the darkness.