

# HOW IT STARTED

# HOW IT'S GOING

## WEEK 7 - JAILED IN PHILIPPI

### OVERVIEW

After receiving a vision of a man from Macedonia inviting Paul to bring the gospel into Europe, the apostles cross the Aegean Sea and begin preaching in primarily Gentile communities. When staying in Philippi, Paul finds a rich, diverse community which demonstrates the love of Jesus by caring for one another with generosity. Even when jailed for healing a demon-possessed girl, it is clear the Holy Spirit is moving through Paul as God uses even these difficult events to reconcile the lost to himself. This story is a reminder that God is on the move through the Church regardless of our physical circumstances.

*[The jailer] brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.*

Acts 16:34

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read **Acts 16:6-10**. Barry said, "God's Spirit may speak to us in many different ways, but we hear his voice most clearly when we hear it in community". How was this true for Paul? How has this been true in your life?
2. Paul jumped in where the Spirit was moving. He didn't wait for the Spirit to bless what he was doing. Are you paying attention to the Spirit's voice? Discuss how listening to the Spirit is going for you. What fruit have you experienced as a result of "jumping in" where the Spirit was moving?
3. Read **Galatians 5:25**. The Spirit is leading in *every part* of our lives. Is there a part of your life where you find it harder to follow his lead?
4. Tell about a time when the Spirit did not work the way you expected.
5. To walk in step with the Holy Spirit, Barry suggests that we "pay attention, buckle up, and take comfort". Which of these is difficult for you? Why? Do any of them come easily?

### RESOURCES

[gracechurch.us](http://gracechurch.us)