

**2024**



**TO GET YOU TO YOUR NEXT  
IT HAD TO HAPPEN THIS WAY SERIES**

**SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE**

In life things happen that causes us to feel rejected, abandoned, and sometimes forgotten. As believers, we have to know that some things have to happen in order for us to get to our next. Your perspective and response to what happens will determine how you get to your next.

- When you get fired, receive the promotion that is coming behind it
- When someone walks away from you, receive your freedom
- Remember, God is always in it
- You will only have a water walking experience if a storm comes
- God is in the disturbance of your peace
- Storms have made you stronger

*Acts 16:16a NIV - Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future.*

- You have to disturb every spirit that goes against God
- Be careful of those who tell the truth, but have the wrong spirit
- Your discernment must be on point

*What spirit have you had to confront that was not in alignment with God? How did you handle it?*

*Acts 16:18b - Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.*

- Don't get comfortable with the wrong spirits being around you
- Stop addressing the person and address the spirit
- Every spirit must be tested
- Everyone is not going to celebrate you addressing deliverance
- You bring light into the room

*Recall a time when you had to confront a spirit of the enemy, what happened?*

*Acts 16:20 - They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar*

- Your assignment is to cause a disturbance
- When you walk in a room the atmosphere changes
- You must make every demon uncomfortable
- When you do what you do, you naturally cause a disturbance
- Doing God's will gets you to your next
- God will allow people to speak against you

*What spirit has you bound and has prevented you from doing what you do? How long do you plan to be bound up?*

## WHAT HAS TO HAPPEN TO GET TO YOUR NEXT THEY HAD TO BE MISHANDLED

*Acts 16:19b - they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.*

- You will undergo mistreatment
- The mishandling will build your character and faith
- Learn to discern
- Someone has been assigned to come against you to get you to your next

*Recall a devastating attack you endured, what did you learn from the attack?*

*Acts 16:22-23 - [22] The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. [23] After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.*

Seized – held up

Dragged – misplaced

Attacked – people worked against you forcefully

Stripped – lost some things

Beaten – felt defeated

Confined – limited

*Which of the above scenarios have you found yourself in? How did you get there and how do you plan to get out?*

## ALL BECAUSE YOU CAUSED AN UPROAR!!!

*1 Peter 4:12 NIV - Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.*

- Your very existence upsets them
- The enemy wants to shut down your assignment
- When they react in their flesh, you have to respond in the spirit
- You either can act churchy or walk in dominion and power
- With every assignment comes an assassin

- The weapon might have formed, but it will not prosper
- You had to be stripped to get you to your next
- The enemy only mess with moving targets

*How do you respond when strange things happen to you?*

## THEY HAD TO GET SPIRITUAL

*Acts 16:25-26 - About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. [26] Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.*

- You have to continue to do what you do
- Your song and prayer has to be loud enough to disrupt the atmosphere
- Be unapologetic when you praise and sing
- Your actions yield results
- Doing nothing is not an option
- If being you gets on other people's nerves that has nothing to do with you
- Your praise will shut the enemy down
- The enemy should not be able to take your praise
- Your praise is a weapon

*Foundations are shaken  
Doors are open  
Chains are broken*

*What is your song of worship when you're going through? What scripture do you pray into to come out of an impossible situation?*

## THEY HAD TO STAY FOR THE NEXT

*Acts 16:27-28 - The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. [28] But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"*

- You have influence
- Others will do what they see you do
- You have authority over the environment
- Stop trying to get out and want God to come in
- Staying takes a different level of spiritual maturity

*Who are you influencing? What does your influence look like?*

## YOUR NEXT!!!

### YOUR NEXT WILL LOOK FOR YOU

*Acts 16:29 - The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.*

- There are people looking for you
- When you show up you shine light on situations

*How will you respond when people bring their midnight situation to you?*

### YOUR NEXT WILL TALK TO YOU

*Acts 16:30 - He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"*

- Your next will tell you exactly what you're supposed to do
- You will no longer waste your words on people

*So many people are in a rough place right now, how will your testimony help them?*

### YOUR NEXT WILL ESCORT YOU!!!

*Acts 16:34 - The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God---he and his whole household*

- There is a new place for you
- A table has been prepared for you
- Your atmosphere will shift

*What are you waiting for God to do in your next season?*

### ASSIGNMENT COMPLETE

- You cannot see your next in sorrow
- You will not get to your next if you're still mad
- In this season it's not about your Exit but your Enter
- Stop asking "why" but "what?"  
    why = answer  
    what = instruction

### QUESTION

*What had to happen to get you to your next?*

### DECLARATION



*Every open door is not an exit door for me even if I pray the door opens, so I will follow God to get to my next..*

## PRAYER

*Father God, I am sitting in the seat of expectation believing You for my next. I now understand that though I may not like it, some things have to happen. I repent for complaining and the anger I allowed to consume me. I commit to the process of my next. I will not react as the world does, but I will respond in the spirit. I will praise You through it all. I invite You into every situation and area of my life. I trust You and I love You. I will move according to Your will, in Jesus' name, Amen!*