



Episode 8: Living for Others

Acts Chapters 15 & 16

Scott Merriner – July 16, 2023

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read out loud together: Acts Chapter 16 & 17

1. What were the required actions from the Council of Jerusalem for non-Jewish believers?
2. Who were the recorded converts in Philippi and how were they different?

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life.

3. Thinking about the outcome of the council of Jerusalem, what are ways in which we add “Christian” requirements to being a follower of Jesus that Jesus doesn’t require of His followers?
4. It’s a stark story point that immediately after the church council said that Christian men did NOT have to be circumcised Paul circumcises Timothy. Look at the text and discern why Paul would do that?
5. What are things that we as Christians have freedom to do that we can set aside for the sake of the Gospel’s impact into believers and unbelievers around us? Give a personal example if you have one.
6. When Paul and Silas are beaten and imprisoned, their attitude at midnight was one of prayer and singing. “And the other prisoners were listening to them” (Acts 16:15) How do you fight for an attitude like that in your own seasons of trial that encourages others to listen to the song that you’re singing?
7. The decisions that were made in these two chapters were focused on the spiritual health of others. In what ways do you intentionally make your life decisions in a way that is other centered, rather than self-focused?

Surrender: *Responding to God’s voice.*

8. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We’re here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changepointalaska.com

A primary resource in compiling these questions has been the *NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 1984) and the *Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998)