

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



PRINCE  
OF PEACE  
Called to Connect



## Called and Sent

August 3-7, 2019

God calls and sends disciples in unexpected ways when we commit ourselves to the mission, leading us to unexpected encounters. For two months now we've been exploring the mission we, as the Church, have been given. This particular text provides some practical insight into living out the mission.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT: ACTS 16:6-15

Read the scripture text together as a group.

### BACKGROUND INFO

Paul and Silas had plans but for reasons that are not clear, they were prevented from fulfilling them, and Luke assumes that this was the work of the Spirit. Even the plans of the greatest of saints require divine adjustment occasionally. Paul and Silas kept moving, they kept knocking on doors until something opened. Verse 10 marks a critical transition in Acts. It's the first time the pronoun "we" is used, indicating that at this point in the journey Luke joined Paul and Silas. Notice that the decision to respond to Paul's vision was corporate. When discerning God's direction two or three heads are always better than one!

How did Paul choose who he connect with on mission? And how can we begin to discern who God is calling us to connect with as we seek to do God's mission? **Affinity** - Start with people with whom you have something in common. **Proximity** - Who are you around on a regular basis? **Pain** - Shared pain connects us. What pain have you experienced in life? Have you ever considered that perhaps God might redeem and use your pain to connect you with someone who is going through a similar experience?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- When have you experienced a time, like Paul and Silas, when things did not go as planned?
- What do you think motivated them to keep going and adjusting the plan?
- What has been your experience of the Spirit redirecting your life and/or mission?
- If you were to "start with what/who you know," where would your mission begin?

**APPLICATION:** This week, it's all about affinity, proximity, and pain. Take notice to the people and experiences around you. THAT is your mission. What is one step you can take to connect with people in your life for the sake of God's mission in the world?