# Week of Sunday, June 26, 2016 What God Opens No One Can Shut | <u>Acts 16:1-15</u>

In preparation for your home group this week:

### Sermon Outline

Main Idea: Jesus uses flexible followers who are faithful to their calling for glorious results.

- God opens up opportunities and grows His Church. (16:1-5) Explanation: Though he adamantly opposed Titus being circumcised - <u>Gal. 2:1-10</u>, Paul was flexible - <u>1 Cor. 9:20</u> - and circumcised Timothy so as not to hinder gospel opportunities with Jews. Application: Need to remain flexible in ministry and take each situation as it comes.
- 2. God opens up the way and guides His people. (16:6-10) Explanation: God closed two doors and opened up another in his perfect timing. They kept moving the whole time. Application: We need to keep following were Jesus leads.
- 3. God opens up hearts and gives His gift. (16:11-15) Explanation: Though God directed them away from Asia he led them to a woman from that area would've brought the gospel back there. He saved her and her household and they celebrated believers baptism. Application: We need to keep faithfully preaching the gospel and trusting God with the results. And we need to faithfully obey whatever he commands.

#### Read

- 1. <u>Galatians 2:1-10</u> (Go to Talk #1)
- 2. <u>1 Corinthians 9:1-27</u> (Go to Talk #2)
- **3.** James 4:13-17 (Go to Talk #3)

## Talk

- 1. What were the differences in the circumstances that led to Paul's circumcision of Timothy but his refusal to allow Titus' circumcision?
- 2. What did Paul teach about the proper use of personal liberty for the sake of the Gospel?
- 3. What does the Bible say about presumptuous expectations about the future? How have your plans been redirected by God in the past? How did you respond to changes that were different from what you were initially expecting?
- 4. What are you planning for the next year? Five years? How would you respond if those plans were redirected by God?

## Pray

- That God would be glorified.
- $\circ$   $\;$  That you would be a blessing in your group.
- That people's needs would be met.
- That friendships would be built and strengthened.
- $\circ$   $\;$  That the group would serve God's purposes.
- Pray for all our ministry partners (graceorange.org/globaloutreach and graceorange.org/localoutreach)

If you're not in a home group yet, get connected!