



Background:

Neapolis to Philippi was about 10 miles. It was a Roman colony, and one of the leading cities in the district. There was no Jewish synagogue, as the Jewish population was small. The place of prayer was by the Gangites River, about a mile and a half west of town.

In this passage, we see a demon-possessed girl. The demons took advantage of the people's worship of false gods. While the words the girl spoke were true, the gospel of Christ and the work of the apostles would be damaged by associating with a demon-possessed person.



Read Acts 16:11-15

Have you ever invited a stranger to stay in your home? If yes, how did that work out? If no, what stops you?

What do you think it means to have the gift of hospitality?

Read Acts 16:16-18

How common is it today for us to see a demon-possessed person? Have you ever experienced that?

Why did the demonic spirit leave the girl immediately upon Paul's command?

Read Hebrews 13:1-9; 1 Peter 4:7-11

How are you at showing hospitality to others?

What gifts are you using for God's Kingdom purposes?



Life Change:

As we are taught to love one another, we are also taught to show hospitality “without grumbling”. How can you show hospitality to another this week?

What is God asking you to sacrifice for the good of other believers?

Are there any parts of these Scriptures that you do not understand?



Getting Out There:

Paul and Silas never stopped preaching the gospel. They did not consider anyone out of reach of the grace of God. Remember those 3 people you thought of earlier this summer that need the gospel, or that culture that you consider almost unreachable by God, or that group of people God has given you a vision for reaching? **BE BOLD THIS WEEK!** Try to share the gospel with at least one person this week. If you’ve never shared the gospel before, start with memorizing Romans 6:23. (Teams “out there” this week: Uganda 2)



Family Moments:

Elementary: Read Acts 16:15

What did Lydia do after she believed and was baptized? Why do you think she did that? Like Lydia, how can we invite people into our lives to share in Christ?

*Pray as a family that God would give you an opportunity to invite someone into your home, that you may share the blessings God has given you, with others.

Teen: Read Acts 16:14

What did God do to help Lydia receive His message?

What is our part in helping the family receive the message of God and what is God’s part? Pray that God would open their hearts to His message this week.