

Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for May 29, 2022
Paul's Prayer for the Church: Possibilities



For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with
CGS Community or family

- **CONNECT** *with each other*

1. What are your family's traditions around Memorial Day weekend?

- **GROW** *in Christ*

9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. 11 From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. 12 From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. 13 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. 14 One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. 15 When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us. Acts 16:9-15

1. What strikes you about this passage? What questions do you have?
2. Paul is led to Macedonia by a dream. How quickly does Paul respond? When have you experienced God's leading in your life? Were you quick to respond?
3. What might be some of the challenges Paul faced in bringing the Gospel to a Roman city in northern Greece? Why is Lydia a gift to Paul and to the new Christian church in Philippi?
4. The river was a gathering place for all sorts of people, but on the Sabbath a gathering place for Jewish people in particular. Where are the gathering places in our community? How might we as a church meet and/or serve people in those gathering places?
5. Who at Royal Redeemer has touched your life in an important way? Has someone helped you see what's possible?
6. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. What is possible for Royal Redeemer in the next chapter of ministry?

- **SERVE** *others*

- Who in your life is out of possibilities? How might you encourage them today with Paul's prayer from Ephesians 3:14-21?

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short blessing.**