



**No Scrubs**  
May 22, 2022  
*Acts 16:9-15*

### Connect

- When you hear the word, “*Scrubs*,” what is the first image that comes to mind? Why? What are other experiences you have with the word?

### Engage

- Read *Acts 16:9-15*. Paul is getting clear “*Do not enter*” messages from the Holy Spirit about the places he’s trying to visit. At the same time, he’s getting a clear vision of an invitation to “*Come and help*” from a place he would traditionally and culturally be less comfortable visiting. Do you feel the rejection, redirection, and invitation he experiences are aligned for a reason? Have you ever had such a re-directing experience in your own life?
- In response to the recent shooting targeting black people at a Buffalo grocery store, killing ten people and injuring three others, poet laureate of the city, Jillian Hanesworth, is in wider favor of the hashtag, #BuffaloHonest, than the one that quickly gets passed around, #BuffaloStrong. When it comes to the realities of racism, she says, “*We don’t need to be told we’re strong, we need to be told we’re right.*” Discuss the differences.
- “*We can make excuses or we can make a difference but we can’t make both.*” Do you agree? Discuss.
- Paul feels called to make the long and difficult journey to a foreign land, Macedonia, where he may be rejected, ridiculed, and imprisoned for his faith. He goes anyway. What “*foreign or challenging territory*” be it a physical place, issue, or otherwise, have you entered even when you knew it wouldn’t be the most comfortable or easy route? Why did you go anyway?
- Being obedient to his instincts and the nudge of the Spirit, Paul leads a crew to Macedonia and they meet Lydia, who not only becomes the first recorded European convert to the faith, but also becomes a key leader of the movement. Who do we need to partner with and/or invite into leadership among us at Broadway who may open us to greater understanding and ministry? How might we do that?

### Next Steps

- Are you having honest conversations about race and division in any circles in your life? Are you having these conversations with people of color? Find a circle where you can openly and honestly discuss and grow in understanding.
- Consider making a pledge to support the ministry we share at Broadway Christian Church. The budget is being finalized now and any remaining pledges would be a welcomed help toward our goals of the new fiscal year. Contact Ingrid Luckenbill to share your intentions. Thank you!

### Pray

*“It’s never too late for us to open our hearts wider to you, O God, and to each and every person – a unique reflection of your own image. As we have been welcomed, wanted and included, may we offer that same gift to others. Amen.”*