

Beyond Borders

Lesson Three • Acts 16:6-40

The Gospel Advances to Europe

Going Beyond Borders

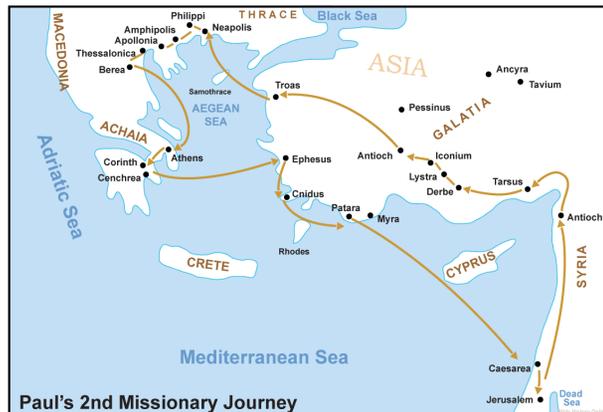
To bridge the gap to all peoples with the Gospel, we must be wholly ABANDONED to God's mission for His glory.

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." ~Apostle Paul, Philippians 1:21

Bridging the Gap to All Peoples

1. FOLLOW the Spirit of God as He Guides!

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them. Acts 16:6-10



How Do We Follow the Spirit of God?

As we OBEY God's commands, God DIRECTS our steps, and He always has something better planned for us than we would plan for ourselves.

2. PROCLAIM the Gospel of God as You Go!

The Power of the Gospel to Save

The Gospel is God's power for salvation to EVERYONE who believes, regardless of gender, race, or status.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. Romans 1:16

The Gospel's Power to Save Different People

- God saves an upper-class Asian BUSINESSWOMAN. vs. 11-15
- God saves a lower-class Greek SLAVE GIRL. vs. 16-18
- God saves a middle-class Roman PRISON GUARD. vs. 25-34

3. TRUST the Grace of God as Trials Occur!

But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. Acts 16:19-24

God Sustains His People

Regardless of our circumstances, God gives us a SONG to sing and a CHURCH to strengthen you.

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Acts 16:25

And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes... Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. Acts 16:33-34

So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed. Acts 16:40

The Necessity of Being Wholly Abandoned to the Lord

When the going GETS TOUGH you will abandon following God's Spirit, proclaiming God's Gospel, and trusting God's grace unless you are wholly abandoned to God's mission.