

Acts 16: Establishment of the Church at Philippi

I. Second Missionary Journey (vv. 1–10)

- A. Paul receives Timothy as a coworker in Lystra — Timothy was a vessel raised up in Galatia
 - 1. Half Gentile, half Jew
 - 2. Praised by the brethren
 - 3. Paul circumcises Timothy out of fear of the Jews — Paul's weakness
- B. The unmistakable guidance of the Holy Spirit
 - 1. Going south prohibited by the Holy Spirit
 - 2. Going north prohibited by the Spirit of Jesus
- C. A vision brings clear direction
 - 1. Macedonia's plea
 - 2. Luke becomes a coworker — "us"

II. Start of the Church at Philippi — Established in the Midst of Prayer and Suffering (vv. 11–40)

- A. Preaching to a woman — Lydia's salvation (a firstfruit in Europe)
- B. The enemy interferes
 - 1. Endurance is needed in spiritual warfare
 - 2. Hope of making money gone, brought in persecution — Paul and Silas thrown into prison
- C. Overcoming through praise
 - 1. Praying, singing, and praising are the secrets to overcoming — the greatest expressions of faith
 - 2. An earthquake shakes the prison, chains are loosened
- D. The jailer repents
 - 1. Responding to brutality with love
 - 2. "Believe in the Lord Jesus" — the most clear, simple way of salvation
 - 3. His whole family receives salvation — believes in God, is filled with joy
- E. Leaving with nothing to hide
 - 1. Acting neither proud nor inferior but keeping the position of the Lord's servant
 - 2. Steady footsteps — leaving only after encouraging the brethren