

Welcome to the Pleasant Plains Church of Christ VBS

Journeys for Jesus



Be Happy!

Paul's Second Journey for Jesus

Acts 15:36–16:40



Theme: Whatever your situation, rejoice in the Lord!

Happiness Defined:

2. a state of well-being and contentment: joy
 - b: a pleasurable or satisfying experience

Merriam-Webster, I. (2003).
Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. (Eleventh ed.).



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Theme: Whatever your situation, rejoice in the Lord!

Happiness Defined:

Joy — Luke 15:7

Rejoice — Philippians 4:4

Gladness — Acts 2:46

Blessed — Matthew 5:1-12

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Acts 15:36–16:40



Theme: Whatever your situation, rejoice in the Lord!

I. Paul and Barnabas go separate ways (Acts 15:36-41).

A. Paul asked Barnabas to go with him to the cities of the first journey to see how the Christians were doing. **Why? 2 Cor. 11:28 1 Thess. 3:5**

B. Paul and Barnabas had a sharp disagreement over taking John Mark
What did they disagree about? (see Acts 13:13).

C. Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus; Paul took Silas and traveled to Syria and Cilicia.
Did this Help or hurt the spread of the gospel? Or Their Joy in serving God?

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II. Paul came to Lystra where Timothy joined him (16:1-5).

A. Timothy was the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, and his father was a Greek.

Was Timothy Circumcised to keep the Law?

Gal. 2:3-5

B. Timothy had a good reputation among the people in the area.

How does having a good reputation help us in life?

Proverbs 22:1

C. He set out with Paul. They helped churches to be strong in the faith and to grow in number.

Does Luke 10:2 play a part in Paul's recruitment of Timothy?

Do we consider it joyous work for him to help strengthen brethren?

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III. Paul answered the Macedonian call (Acts 16:6-10).

- A. The Holy Spirit directed where Paul went to preach. In this case, the Spirit prevented him from going to preach in Asia.

Does the Holy Spirit guide men where and where not to preach today?

Why Did the Holy Spirit forbid Paul from going to Asia?

- B. At Troas, Paul saw a vision of a man of Macedonia asking him to come there to preach the gospel to them. Paul obeyed the vision and went to Macedonia.

Romans 10:14-15

2 Corinthians 2:12

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IV. Paul and his companions sailed to Macedonia and came to Philippi (Acts 16:11-40).

A. Lydia becomes a Christian (16:11-15).

1. Paul and Silus joined the women who were meeting by the river to pray.

Were these good prospects there?

How or why?

2. Paul preached and the gospel opened Lydia's heart.

What did Paul use that is God's power to save?

Romans 1:16

What kind of heart did Lydia have according to Luke 8:11-15?

3. Lydia and members of her family and household were baptized.

How does being baptized contribute to our happiness?

Acts 8:39

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B. Paul rescues a slave girl (16:16-21).

1. Paul told an evil spirit to leave the slave girl.

How Did rescuing her bring joy to her and her family?

2. When Paul's action decreased the merchant's profit, they were upset. They dragged Paul and Silas before the city leaders and complained that they were disturbing the peace.

They were selfishly using her — Not caring or loving!

Was this a false charge? See Ephesians 6:15

3. A crowd rose up against Paul and Silas, and they were beaten and put in jail.

Luke 21:12

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C. Paul teaches and baptizes a jailor (**16:22-34**).

1. In jail at Midnight, Paul and Silas prayed and sang.

James 5:13

2. An earthquake shook open the doors and released the prisoners.

3. Paul and Silas did not escape. This impressed the jailor who was about to kill himself.

Philippians 4:5

4. He asked what to do to be saved. Paul spoke the Lord's words to the jailor. He believed and was baptized, along with members of his family.

From hopelessness to rejoicing by way of the gospel!

5. The leaders hoped Paul would just leave town, but instead he exercised his rights as a Roman Citizen. This would help protect Christians.

6. Paul and Silas left the jail and went to Lydia's house. They encouraged the Christians and then left Philippi.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

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V. Paul's work and fellow-workers (Acts 16:6-10).

A. Paul encouraged Christians to be happy in the Lord.

He later wrote to the church at Philippi— they were his *“joy and crown”* (Philippians 4:1). He encouraged them:

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!”

(Philippians 4:4)

B. Paul's fellow-workers were happy to serve Jesus.

1. **Silas**— *“a leading man among brethren”* (Acts 15:22); joined with Paul singing and praying in jail at midnight (Acts 16:25).

2. **Timothy**— Learned the Scriptures from his grandmother and mother (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15); Paul thought of him as his *“son in the faith”*

(2 Timothy 1:2)

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Concluding Remarks:

Happiness & Real Joy Comes From:

- (1) Having Jesus As Our Savior.**
- (2) Having A Right Relationship with God.**
- (3) Having The Promise of Eternal Life in Heaven!**

1 Peter 1:3-9