

Theme: As he arrived at Philippi Paul had survived conflict, been strengthened by new partners, and was guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

## **I. Intro – Phil: Joy in Every Circumstance**

- A. Philippians: Joy in Every Circumstance
- B. Will begin by looking founding of the church
- C. Many themes from Acts 16 recur in letter
- D. Shows the true nature of joy
- E. Map of 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey

## **II. Conflict in Ministry (Acts 15:36-40)**

- A. Paul wants to visit churches planted before (v36)
- B. The conflict over Mark (vv37-39)
- C. Paul and Barnabas split company (v39-40)
- D. Paul later values Mark! (Col 4:10; 2 Tim 4:11)
- E. Paul still commended by church (v40)

## **III. New Partners in Ministry (Acts 15:40-16:10)**

- A. Silas joins Paul at Antioch (Acts 15:40-41)
- B. Paul and Silas go to Derbe and Lystra (map)
- C. Timothy joins Paul and Silas (Acts 16:1-3a)

D. Timothy a major part of Paul's life & ministry (Phil 1:1; 2:19-22)

E. Luke joins team at Troas (Acts 16:8-10)

## **IV. Guided & Empowered by the Spirit for Ministry**

- A. Churches were strengthened & grew (Acts 16:5)
- B. Guidance & gifting for Timothy (1 Tim 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6)
- C. Guidance from Spirit where to Go (Acts 16:7-10)
- D. Philippi – not enough Jews for synagogue (16:13)
- E. God opens Lydia's heart (v14)
- F. Lydia and family convert & are baptized (v15)
- G. A new base for ministry from Lydia's house (v15)

## **V. Applying the Word**

- A. How do we handle conflict?
  - 1. Conflict inevitably comes!
  - 2. Do we let conflict cause us to separate from church?
  - 3. Are we willing to be restored in relationships?
- B. Do we work with others in ministry?
  - 1. God has no lone rangers!
  - 2. Do we look to walk in long-term relationships?

C. Are we guided and empowered by the Spirit?

1. Has Spirit opened your heart to the Gospel?
2. Do we meet the Spirit in regular means (Word/baptism/etc.)?
3. Do we seek the guidance of the Spirit?
4. Have we learned how to keep in step with Spirit?

112507 - The Founding of the Church at Philippi

(Part 1)

Acts 15:36-16:15

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Spirit of the Living God

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

10 My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, **as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.)**

Colossians 4:10

11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

2 Timothy 4:11

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

Philippians 1:1

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send **Timothy** to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. **20 I have no one else like him**, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. 21 For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. **22 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.**

Philippians 2:19-22

14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

1 Timothy 4:14

6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

2 Timothy 1:6