### Acts

## Chapter 16

1Well, [Paul] got as far as Well, [Paul] got as far as <span class="placename">DerbeWell, [Paul] got as far as <span class="placename">Derbe</span>, and then he continued on to Lystra.  
  
{Look!} There he found a disciple named Timothy, who was the son of a believing Jewish woman and a Greek father.  
  
2The brothers in The brothers in <span class="placename">LystraThe brothers in <span class="placename">Lystra</span> and The brothers in <span class="placename">Lystra</span> and <span class="placename">IconiumThe brothers in <span class="placename">Lystra</span> and <span class="placename">Iconium</span> had many good things to say about him, 3and Paul wanted to take this man along with him. So he went and circumcised him… He did this because of the many Jews who were in those places, since they all knew that his father was Greek.  
  
4Well, as they traveled through the cities, they taught the decisions of the Apostles and elders in Well, as they traveled through the cities, they taught the decisions of the Apostles and elders in <span class="placename">JeruSalemWell, as they traveled through the cities, they taught the decisions of the Apostles and elders in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>, and urged the brothers to obey them. 5So the congregations kept getting stronger in the faith and growing day after day.  
  
  
  
6From there they traveled through From there they traveled through <span class="placename">PhrygiaFrom there they traveled through <span class="placename">Phrygia</span> and the country of From there they traveled through <span class="placename">Phrygia</span> and the country of <span class="placename">GalatiaFrom there they traveled through <span class="placename">Phrygia</span> and the country of <span class="placename">Galatia</span>.  
  
However, the Holy Breath [of God] wouldn’t allow them to teach the word in However, the Holy Breath [of God] wouldn’t allow them to teach the word in <span class="placename">[the province of] AsiaHowever, the Holy Breath [of God] wouldn’t allow them to teach the word in <span class="placename">[the province of] Asia</span>. 7And when they got down to And when they got down to <span class="placename">MysiaAnd when they got down to <span class="placename">Mysia</span>, they tried to go on to And when they got down to <span class="placename">Mysia</span>, they tried to go on to <span class="placename">BithyniaAnd when they got down to <span class="placename">Mysia</span>, they tried to go on to <span class="placename">Bithynia</span>, but the Spirit of Jesus wouldn’t allow them to do so. 8As a result, they passed As a result, they passed <span class="placename">MysiaAs a result, they passed <span class="placename">Mysia</span> and went on to As a result, they passed <span class="placename">Mysia</span> and went on to <span class="placename">TroasAs a result, they passed <span class="placename">Mysia</span> and went on to <span class="placename">Troas</span>.  
  
  
9And there, during the night, Paul had a vision of a And there, during the night, Paul had a vision of a <span class="placename">MacedonianAnd there, during the night, Paul had a vision of a <span class="placename">Macedonian</span> man who was standing and begging him:  
  
 ‘Come over to ‘Come over to <span class="placename">Macedonia ‘Come over to <span class="placename">Macedonia</span> and help us!’  
  
10Well, as soon as he saw this vision, we started out for Well, as soon as he saw this vision, we started out for <span class="placename">MacedoniaWell, as soon as he saw this vision, we started out for <span class="placename">Macedonia</span>, assuming that God had called us to preach the good news to them.  
  
11So having been led from So having been led from <span class="placename">TroasSo having been led from <span class="placename">Troas</span>, we set a straight course for So having been led from <span class="placename">Troas</span>, we set a straight course for <span class="placename">SamothraceSo having been led from <span class="placename">Troas</span>, we set a straight course for <span class="placename">Samothrace</span>. Then the next day we traveled to NeaPolis, 12and from there on to and from there on to <span class="placename">Philippiand from there on to <span class="placename">Philippi</span> (a [Roman] colony that’s one of the main cities in that part of and from there on to <span class="placename">Philippi</span> (a [Roman] colony that’s one of the main cities in that part of <span class="placename">Macedoniaand from there on to <span class="placename">Philippi</span> (a [Roman] colony that’s one of the main cities in that part of <span class="placename">Macedonia</span>), where we spent several days.  
  
13And on the Sabbath we went to the riverbank outside of the city gate where we thought that we would find a place to pray, then we sat down and started talking to the women who’d assembled there.  
  
14Well, a woman named Lydia from Well, a woman named Lydia from <span class="placename">ThyaTiraWell, a woman named Lydia from <span class="placename">ThyaTira</span> (an importer of purple [cloth]) who was a worshiper of The God, was listening... And the Lord opened her heart to pay attention to the things that Paul was saying.  
  
15Then as she and her household were being immersed, she begged:  
  
 ‘If you men have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my house!’  
  
And she kept urging us to come.  
  
  
16Then sometime later, as we were going somewhere to pray, a servant girl with a divining spirit came and met us. Her masters used her to make predictions, which earned a tidy profit for them.  
  
17She kept following Paul and the rest of us, shouting:  
  
 ‘These men are slaves of the Most High God and they’re preaching to you about the way of salvation!’  
  
18Well, after she’d done this for several days, Paul finally got tired of it... So he turned and said to the spirit:  
  
 ‘I order you to come out of her in the name of Jesus the Anointed One!’  
  
...And it came right out.  
  
19But when her masters saw that they’d just lost their hope of any income [from her], they grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the rulers in the marketplace.  
  
20They brought them before the judges and said:  
  
 ‘These men are Jews who are creating a disturbance in our city; 21and they’re preaching customs that are illegal for us as and they’re preaching customs that are illegal for us as <span class="placename">Romansand they’re preaching customs that are illegal for us as <span class="placename">Romans</span> to either accept or to practice!’  
  
22Well, the entire crowd arose against them.  
  
So the judges, having [ordered that] their clothes be stripped off, commanded that they should be beaten with rods.  
  
23Then after they’d received many blows, they threw them in jail, ordering the jailer to keep them safe. 24And since [the jailer] had received such an order, he took them into the innermost dungeon and put their feet in stocks.  
  
25However, during the middle of the night, while Paul and Silas were praying and singing sacred hymns (within earshot of the rest of the prisoners there), 26a great earthquake occurred that shook the jail to its foundation… And this immediately opened all the doors and loosened all the chains!  
  
27Then when the jailer woke up and saw the cell doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought the prisoners had escaped.  
  
28But Paul called out loudly:  
  
 ‘Don’t harm yourself… We’re all still here!’  
  
29So [the jailer] asked for lamps to be brought in... And shaking in fear, he jumped in and fell down before Paul and Silas.  
  
30Then he brought them outside and asked:  
  
 ‘Lords,  
  
 ‘What must I do so that I might get saved?’  
  
31And they replied:  
  
 ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you and all in your house will be saved.’  
  
32Then they spoke to him and all those in his house about the word of the Lord.  
  
33So at that hour of the night, he went and washed their whip wounds; then he and his family were immediately immersed. 34And thereafter, he brought them into his home, sat them at the table, and he and his entire household started rejoicing over their coming to believe in The God.  
  
  
  
35Well the next morning, the magistrates sent officers who told him to release them.  
  
36And the jailer said to Paul:  
  
 ‘The magistrates have sent men to release you.  
  
 ‘So now that you’re free, you may go your own way in peace.’  
  
37But Paul said to him:  
  
 ‘Although we weren’t found guilty [of doing anything wrong], they had us publicly flogged and thrown in jail… And we are ‘Although we weren’t found guilty [of doing anything wrong], they had us publicly flogged and thrown in jail… And we are <span class="placename">Romans ‘Although we weren’t found guilty [of doing anything wrong], they had us publicly flogged and thrown in jail… And we are <span class="placename">Romans</span>!  
  
 ‘Are they now going to try to throw us out secretly?  
  
 ‘No, let them come down here and bring us out themselves!’  
  
38Well at that, the officers went back and reported what he had said to the judges, and they were frightened when they heard that the men were Romans! 39So they called for them and released them, then they asked them to leave their city.  
  
40So after they were released, they went to So after they were released, they went to <span class="placename">Lydia’s houseSo after they were released, they went to <span class="placename">Lydia’s house</span>, where they met with the brothers and encouraged them before traveling on.