# WHEN GOD CHANGES YOUR PLANS

ACTS 15:5-12

#### Acts 16:6-12

- 6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,
- 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.
- 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.
- 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

#### Acts 16:6-12 - continued

10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; 12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

#### Introduction

- A. Plans are subject to change
- B. People are resistant to change
- C. God wants to change lives for the better Jeremiah 29:11
- For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

#### Introduction

- D. These changes may result in a change in our plans Isaiah 55:8-9
- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

A. Have a plan to serve God Acts 15:36

And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the LORD, and see how they do.

- B. Be willing to overcome adversity for God Acts 15:39-41
- 39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus; 40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

- C. Trust the sovereignty of God (16:6-8)
  - 1. Right place Troas



- C. Trust the sovereignty of God (16:6-8)
  - 1. Right place Troas
  - 2. Right time Ready for direction
- **Proverbs 3:5-6**
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

- D. Consequences for doing things your way
- 2 Chronicles 35:20-24
- 20 After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Charchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him.
- 21 But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not.

- D. Consequences for doing things your way
- 2 Chronicles 35:20-24 continued
- 22 Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.
- 23 And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded.
- 24 His servants therefore took him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

#### II. Willing To Listen To God (16:9)

- A. Because you are ready to hear Psalm 25:3-5
- 3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.
- 4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.
- 5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

#### II. Willing To Listen To God (16:9)

- B. Because you are ready to heed
- 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
- 9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

  10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for
- the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

# III. Willing To Launch Out For God (16:10-12)

- A. Straightaway (16:10)
  - 1. Because they saw the need (v 9)
  - 2. Because they saw they were needed
- 2 Timothy 2:21

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

#### **Romans 12:1**

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

# III. Willing To Launch Out For God (16:10-12)

- B. Straight to the goal (16:11)
- Philippians 3:13-15
- 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

#### III. Willing To Launch Out For God (16:10-12)

- C. Straight to the fight (16:12)
- Acts 16:20-23
- 20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,
- 21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.
- 22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.
- 23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

# Embrace God's Change Of Plan For Your Life