

SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY  
(ACTS 15-18)  
MAY 10, 2026



Unstoppable Gospel: Unshakeable Faith

The Church at Jerusalem had to be instructed on what God was doing among the Gentiles...and they changed

Their change encouraged believers in other parts of the world; change is not easy, but it must be part of our approach.

Their willingness to follow Holy Spirit caused Paul and Silas (along with Timothy and Luke) to travel 3,000 miles and to expand the corners to Europe.

Message never changes, methods should

A willingness to grow in our understanding of Scripture will encourage others to grow in their faith. Old ways do not equal Absolute Truth

Absolute Truth of Scripture provides the guardrails to protect against compromise (going against Biblical Truth) and promote change for the world to hear the Gospel!

1. Truth: Sometimes God says NO before He says GO

- Acts 16:9
- Acts 18:20-21

2. Truth: The Gospel reaches people with all backgrounds (rich woman, a slave girl, and a Roman jailer). Always love the sinner while exposing the sin with TRUTH!

- Acts 16:13-14
- Acts 16:16-18

3. Truth: Faithfulness to Christ always comes at a price (Paul was beaten, imprisoned, and accused). Blessed are those that are persecuted for righteousness.

- Acts 17:6-7

4. Truth: There is JOY in following Jesus; the absence of joy signals a decrease in the filling of Holy Spirit

- Acts 16:25
- Acts 18:9-10

5. Truth: Scripture must be the foundation for following Jesus; the Word (Holy Spirit) lights the path to follow the Word (Jesus)

- Acts 17:11-12
- Acts 18:27-28

Conclusion: God directs our steps; The Gospel saves all kinds of people; Opposition is normal; Joy is possible; Scripture is the authority; Faithfulness matters

1. Read Acts 16:6-10 and Proverbs 3:5-6.

How does God guide His people today? What is the relationship between Holy Spirit, the Word, and your life? How can you discern God's direction in your decisions? How does William Carey (father of modern missions) exemplify this truth?

2. Read Acts 16:13-34 and Ephesians 2:8-9.

What do the three conversions in Acts 16 teach about salvation? How does Romans 10:13 back this truth: anyone is capable of being saved? Who in your life needs the Gospel? What is your plan to share the Gospel with them? How does Augustine (early church father) illustrate this truth?

3. Read Acts 17:5-9 and John 15:18-20.

Why does the faithful preaching/presenting of the Gospel provoke opposition? How is the Gospel offensive in itself and how do people often make it unnecessarily offensive? Where have you faced pressure for sharing your testimony/faith? How did Bonhoeffer (pastor during Nazi control) live this out?

4. Read Acts 16:25 and James 1:2-4.

How can believers maintain joy in hardship? Is it possible to be filled with Holy Spirit and not have joy? Explain and examine Galatians 5:22-23. What trials in your life have tested your joy?

5. Read Acts 17:11-12 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

What makes the church at Berea a model for believers to follow? What priority should the Word of God have in the role of the Church? How did Scripture motivate Martin Luther to stand up against the Catholic church and write the 95 theses that were posted on the door of the church?

6. Read Acts 18:1-4 and Colossians 3:23.

How does God use ordinary people/work for His purposes? Explain this statement: For the Christian, there is no difference between the sacred and the secular. How can your daily work/job serve God's mission? How does 1 Corinthians 10:31 apply?

7. Read Acts 18:9-10 and Isaiah 41:10.

What promises sustain believers in difficult times? What promise of God do you need in this season of your life?