THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

CHAPTER 16:1-10

Media Reference Number SM - 198

TITLE:

"FOLLOWING THE LEADER"

THEME:

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "**you shall be witnesses to Me**" in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth**."

WHEN GOD OPENS DOORS... HE ALSO OPENS HEARTS & PRISON DOORS

The Power of His Word

Isaiah 55:8-11

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says 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. :10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, :11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

John 1:1 & 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.....:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Concerning this Word of Life, Jesus...

God has commanded that this gospel be proclaimed to all By the Recipients of this Life (redemption) themselves

The Power of the Message

is seen in those who have received it!!!

5 Years had gone by since Paul had seen these people

Timothy GRK 5095 Timotheos (tee-moth'-eh-os)
"tee-moth = dear to. th'-eh-os = God" - Timotheus

* Jack A man; a fellow. One who does odd jobs. A portable device used for raising

objects. 8. The male species of certain animals, especially the Jack-ass.

Believed to be a personal convert of Paul's during the first missions trip...

(Paul introduced him to Jesus)

1 Timothy 1:2 To Timothy, a true son in the faith:

Philippians 2:19-20 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 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

* "Sincerely", A "True" Convert to Christ !

"Billy Graham was making his way into a hotel for a crusade and a drunk approached him and announced 'Mr. Graham, it's a pleasure to meet you, you converted me years ago' - Billy Graham replied "You must have been converted by me, because you sure weren't converted by the Lord!"

If a sinner is introduced to a man's ministry...that convert will eventually give up...

But if a man, that sinner is introduced to Jesus, and is instructed to serve and to follow Jesus - then that man will never fall (he may stumble - but he'll never fall!)

Timothy was qualified to go on the mission trip

1 Timothy 3:7 Moreover he must have a good testimony (reputation) among those who are outside (the church), lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. (what do the non-Christian's say about you)

A.) "THE CALL" OF GOD'S PEOPLE TO BE FOLLOWERS

#1.) Delight yourself in the Lord

HE WAS ALREADY A DISCIPLE

1 Timothy 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

* Delight GRK 6026 `anag (aw-nag')

to be soft or pliable, to become luxurious or delicate

Don't be like a donkey - bridle & bit - right hand A.) "THE CALL" OF GOD'S PEOPLE TO BE FOLLOWERS #2.) Go to Church to Learn

HE WAS TAUGHT FORM HIS YOUTH

2 Timothy 3:14-15

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, :15 and that <u>from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures</u>, <u>which are able to make you wise</u> for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

A.) "THE CALL" OF GOD'S PEOPLE TO BE FOLLOWERS

#3.) Be at the Right place at the Right Time

Numbers 9:23 At the command of the LORD they remained encamped, and at the command of the LORD they journeyed; they kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

HOW AM I GOING TO KNOW JACK...

Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. :7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil.

> Every time God has Spoken to me, it has been while I'm Going

Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

#4.) Hang Out with God's People

HE MUST HAVE ATTENDED PRAYER MEETINGS

1 Timothy 4:14

Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

Hebrews 10:25

not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

A.) PAUL'S SIMPLE DESIRE "I WANT HIM TO COME

- Tim was already known for his ministry heart (v.2)
- he was submissive to Paul's authority (circumz.)

Why!

The Jerusalem Conference had settled it....

But that was in relation to the church and being saved

Paul's reason is for evangelistic purposes

Not Legalism, but Love

1 Corinthians 9:19

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

Paul gave no opportunity for the Accuser

B.) TIMOTHY CAME FROM A "DYSFUNCTIONAL HOME"

• for Tim, the broken home added to his character (v.1&3)

You will not be a product of the atmosphere of your home...

"necessarily"

The Negative Home:

By your decision, your Ungodly home can be the very motivation that drives you to a better life in Jesus Christ!

If you want to be like timothy... you can desire to yield to what is right... Every person knows intuitively what is right or wrong

The Positive Home:

By your decision, your Godly home can be the very motivation that drives you to reject Jesus Christ!

Your Environment influences the decisions you make.

You will not "necessarily" make bad decisions because you've come from a bad home...

- The Woman at the well
- Mary Magdalene possessed by
- Jesus Invited to Simon the Pharisee's House
- The Whore and the Alabaster's Vase

Luke 8:1-2

After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, :2 and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities-- Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons, Luke 8:3 and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many other who provided for Him from their substance.

But Jack You Don't Understand !!!

I was Raped, I was Beaten, I was Abused

As Bad As that was....**or Is.**.. God desires to use you because of it!

Romans 8:18

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; :13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

IF.... JESUS IS A REALITY IN YOUR LIFE, YOU WILL HAVE HOPE IN YOUR SITUATION...

Romans 8:38

For I am persuaded (become confident, assured) that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

Psalm 76:10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise

Psalm 8:2

From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

Christianity Jesus Style, (which is the only Christianity there really is) Has All Power to deliver, All Power to Heal, All Power to Redeem You

The Same is True for Us Today

That the selection process remains the same, the church may be dressed differently, but the human element is still the same

Let a man be proven!

2.) The Joy of Christian Ministry

vv. 4-5

The Degree issued to the church from the Jerusalem Conference

Acts 15:29 that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from ''sexual immorality''. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well.

The Joy of Christian Ministry

A Strengthened Church is a productive church, a fruitful church

The Church Was Attractive because it was so different...

- Different by way of Faith (by absolutes)
- Different by way of Hope (by reasons)
- Different by way of Love (by examples)

Acts 2:47 ...And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

3.) The "Apparent" Discouragement of a Christian vv. 6-8

All the Doors Seemed to Be Opening Things Couldn't be Going Better

- Phrygia Central Turkey, around Ankara today
- Galatia Northern Turkey
- Asia Western Turkey
- Mysia Northwestern Turkey
- Bithynia On the Coast of the Black Sea (near Russia)
- Troas On the coast of the Aegean Sea

* forbidden GRK 2967 koluo (ko-loo'-o)

to prevent by hindering, to keep a troop from advancing

The Work Was Good. The Message Was Good. The Messengers Were Good...

But The Time Was Bad - It Wasn't The Right Time

Apparently it was recognized later in verse 10 Why is this Happening?

Between verses 4-5 and verses 6-8

"They Came Down (Literally) in Troas"

The Land was Forbidden, Back to The Sea NO WHERE TO GO !!!

Why did the Holy Spirit Resist Them ?

because He wanted them to go west rather than north. why... to go to troas, Why... because Luke needed to get saved

Paul's Sickness with Asian Flu... Fever & Eyesight (V. 10 Doctor Luke joins the Staff)

God leads through Affliction, He uses our Pain

4.) Being Led to Europe for Jesus

vv. 9-10

The Call to Take the Gospel to Europe Troas was the gateway to Europe and Jesus had not been preached there yet

I Thank God

that someone was willing to get involved in a Missionary Venture... you eventually were saved because of a missionary from somewhere...

Note;

that Antioch in the Middle East, the Gospel advanced to Western Asia to Europe... The Gospel then came to America from Asia back to the Middle East.

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.