

GRACE... NO GREATER GIFT

MINI-SERIES ON THE GRACE OF GOD

PART 8

"THERE IS GRACE..." "When the Task Is Overwhelming" "The Church Scattered: The Spread of the Gospel from Asia to Europe" (Acts 15:36-17:15)

INTRODUCTION:

"From there they sailed to Antioch, <u>from which they had been commended to the grace</u> of God for the work that they had accomplished." –Acts 14:26

1A. ONE DECLARATION:

• It is only by the ______ of God that we can ______ the ______ of God.

"But Paul chose Silas and left, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord." —Acts 15:40

2A. FOUR OBSERVATIONS: "...because God's grace is at work."

1B. It is a Story of ______ that were changed,... (Acts 15:36-16:10)

"They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, <u>having been forbidden by the</u> <u>Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia</u>; and after they came to Mysia, <u>they were trying to</u> <u>go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them</u>; and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas." —Acts 16:6-9

1C. Life and ministry may not unfold the way you planned. Stay _____ !

2C. Life and ministry may not unfold the way you planned. Stay _____!

2B. It is a Story of ______ that were changed,... (Acts 16:11-40)

1C. Story of Grace #1: A ______ Story (v. 13-15)

• God, by His Grace, found me... in _____.

2C. Story of Grace #2: A _____ Story (v. 16-18)

• God, by His Grace, found me... in _____

-over-

3C. Story of Grace #3: A _____ Story (v. 19-34)

• God, by His Grace, found me...in _____.

3B. It is a Story of ______ that were changed,... (Acts 17:1-15)

"Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to **Thessalonica**, where there was a synagogue of the Jews." " –Acts 17:1

"The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to **Berea**, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews." **–Acts 17:11**

3A. THREE AFFIRMATIONS: "...because God's grace is at work."

1B. God _____ me here. (Acts 15:40-16:10)

"When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, <u>concluding</u> that God had called us to preach the gospel to them." –Acts 16:10

2B. God _____ me here. (Acts 15:40-16:19-27)

"When <u>they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison</u>, commanding the jailer to guard them securely; and he, having received such a command, <u>threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks</u>. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them..." –Acts 16:23-25

2B. God _____ me here. (Acts 16:13-18, 28-40)

• There is no greater joy than to partner with the God of all grace and to watch Him open and open .

"...A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and <u>the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by</u> **Paul**." –Acts 16:14

"...and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened." –Acts 16:26

A FOURTH AND FINAL OBSERVATION: "...because God's grace is at work."

• It is a Story of ______ that were changed,...

"Now I want you to know, brethren, that <u>my circumstances have turned out for the</u> greater progress of the gospel,...

...according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

—Philippians 1:12, 20-21

