

Bible study for the week starting January 15, 2023

SHARE

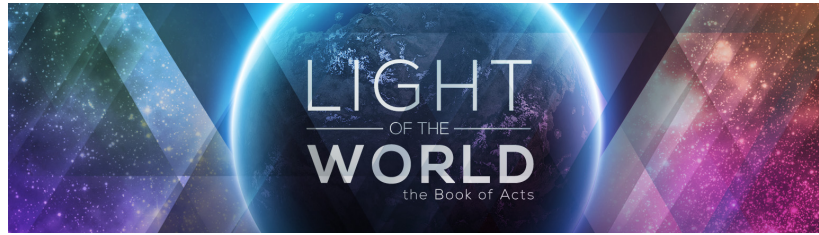
Paul picked up some travel companions as he started out missionary journey #2: Silas, Timothy, Luke... If you were going to pick three people to take with you on a missionary journey, who would you take, and why?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read **Acts 16:1-15**. Pastor Eric said in the sermon: "The invitation of God demands a response." This is Scripturally true but can easily be taken in a legalistic direction. How do we process this truth in a Gospel-centered way as we seek to be invitational to others?
2. Timothy is the hero of the day, as he willingly chose to be circumcised as an adult even though he didn't need to. We call that "taking one for the team." Can you think of a time you've sacrificed something for the good of family/workplace/church/etc.? Or can you think of a way you may have to in the future? Is this easy or difficult for you (and why)?
3. Thinking about your own life, has discipleship (following Jesus and learning from Him) been an attitude that leads to action or an action that leads to a change in attitude? Which came first?
4. Read **Isaiah 43:1-7**. I remember Isaiah 43:1 on a banner in my church growing up, that they would hang up whenever there was a baptism. What does it mean to you to know God calls you by name?
5. Read **Matthew 3:13-17**. Speaking of things people did that they didn't have to do, Jesus didn't have any sin to wash away, but still chose to be baptized in order to fulfill all righteousness. This is probably a familiar text, but read these verses again and try to envision what that day would have been like and what impact it would have had on you as an observer.

PRAY

6. Pray that God would use you to shine His light to the world in word, action, example, and invitation. Pray that God would kindle in us a desire to invite others to come along for this adventure of following Jesus, like we see happening in Acts.



The Call of God

Acts 16:1-15

January 15, 2023 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

The INVITATION of the Gospel demands a RESPONSE.

Paul returned to the place that STONED him.

Timothy did something painful he did not NEED to do, but he willingly CHOSE to.

Timothy tried to remove anything that would be a STUMBLING BLOCK to the work of the Gospel.

“A Christian is a perfectly FREE lord of all, subject to NONE. A Christian is a perfectly DUTIFUL servant of all, subject to ALL.” - Martin Luther

“So the churches were STRENGTHENED in the faith, and they INCREASED in numbers daily.” -Acts 16:5

In summary:

- We don't give up on people EASILY
- We sacrifice a great deal VOLUNTARILY
- We actively LISTEN to the needs of those around us

Discipleship is an ATTITUDE that leads to ACTION (or is it the other way around?).

For next week, read Acts 16:16-40