

Cross Brand
C3:16
8.5.26
Sources: John MacAuthor

Acts 15:36-16:10

I. The “right passion and priority”

³⁶ Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.”

A. Paul was passionate about the gospel.

B Paul was passionate about discipleship

He obeyed Matt 28:19-20 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Phil 1:8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

I Thess 2:17 ⁷ But, brothers and sisters, when we were orphaned by being separated from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you.

I Cor 4:15 Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

--He was committed to the greatest evangelism strategy in the world.....
Making mature Christians!

Eph 4:12-13 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Col 1:28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.

C. What does this mean for us today?

- 1. We must never forget the good news.**
- 2. We must help other believers come to maturity!**
- 3. We must partner with a local church who believes in the whole commission.**

II. The “right personnel”

³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, ³⁸ but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. ³⁹ They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹ He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

16: Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was Jewish and a believer but whose father was a Greek. ² The believers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. ³ Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

A. Paul and Barnabus disagreed on a helper

I Cor 9:6 Or is it only I and Barnabas who lack the right to not work for a living?

B. Paul would begin to minister with Silas

C. Paul would eventually minister with Timothy

D. What does this mean for us today?

1. Even Christian circles can have disagreements.

2. When disagreements occur, we must determine if the issue is doctrinal or personal.

III. The “right presentation”

As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. ⁵ So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

A. They had a message of Grace

B. God was blessing their message of grace.

C. What does this mean for us today?

1. We must be very careful not to contaminate the message of grace with preferences and works based salvation messaging.

IV. The “right place”

⁶ Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. ⁸ So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

- A. They were sensitive to the Holy Spirits direction**
- B. They were sensitive and obedient to the Holy Spirits redirection**
- C. What does this mean for us today?**
 - 1. We must pay attention to the Holy Spirit prompts.**

Ask God to clarify

Ask community to clarify.

- 2. We must believe and embrace that God's plan is best.**

