

The
book
of

ACTS

Chapter 16

When the Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost
When the day of Pentecost came suddenly a sound like a rushing wind

Second Mission: 16:1 - 18:22
Asia & Macedonia/Greece

Trials & Joys
of
Ministry

Paul's 2nd Mission Joys

16:1-4 / Raising Young Leaders

16:5 / Church Grew Daily

16:11-15 / Divine Appointments

Paul's 2nd Mission Trials

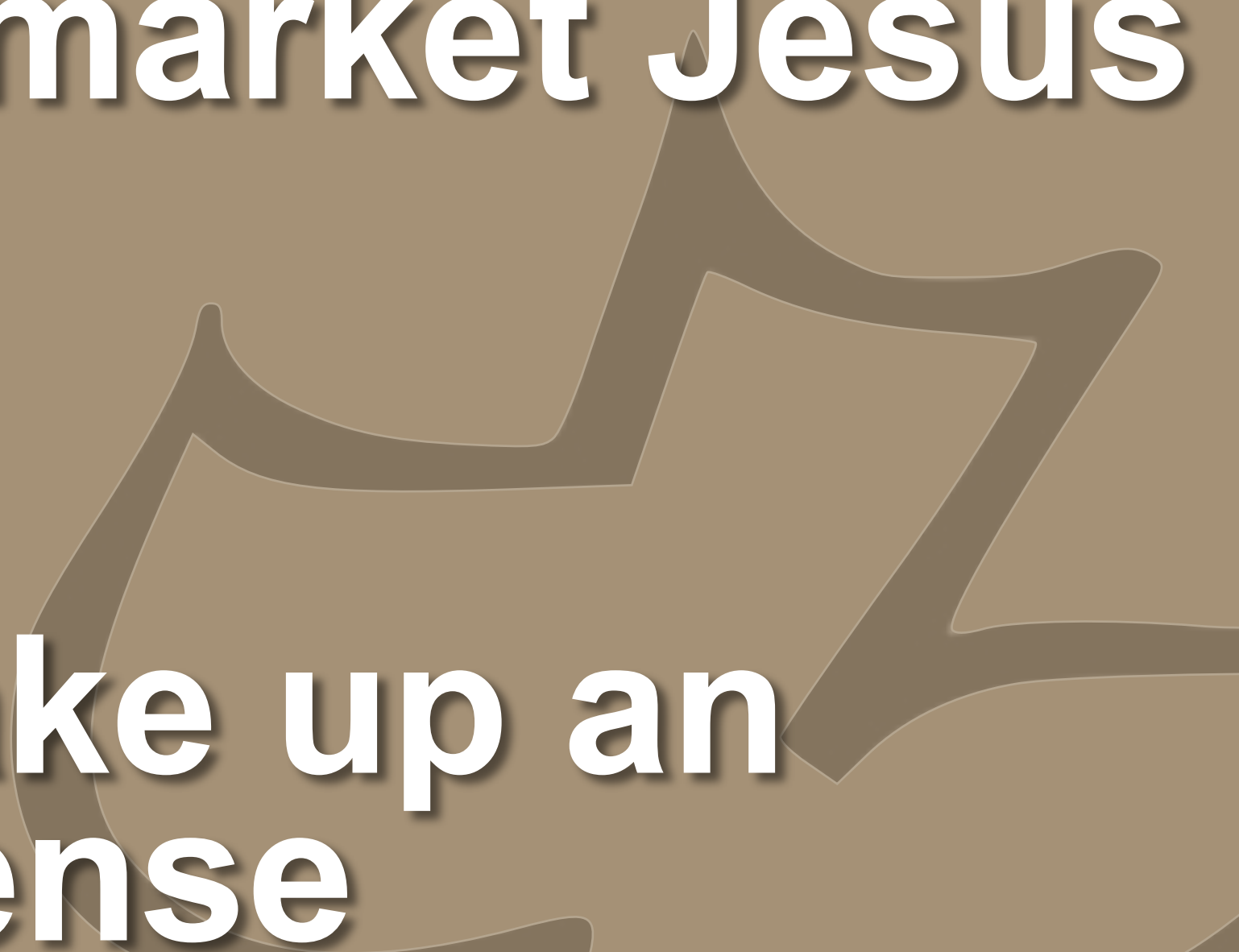
15:36-41 / Interpersonal Issues

16:6-10 / Vision & Direction

16:16-18/ Public Relations



16:16-18/ Public Relations

- ✱ **Why would this be a trial?**
 - ✱ **Two Reasons**
 - 1. Fighting the desire to market Jesus and/or the ministry**
 - 2. Mixed Messages**
 - 3. It's a struggle not to take up an offense or be on the defense**
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16:19-24/ Persecution

- ✱ Being bullied, shamed, grilled, put down, called names, verbally assaulted...told you are unloving when you whole heart is to love! = Not fun, nor feels good
- ✱ Brought up on false claims & charges
 - ▶ “Unlawful Customs” when it’s really a money thing
- ✱ Crowd joining in...your voice not heard!

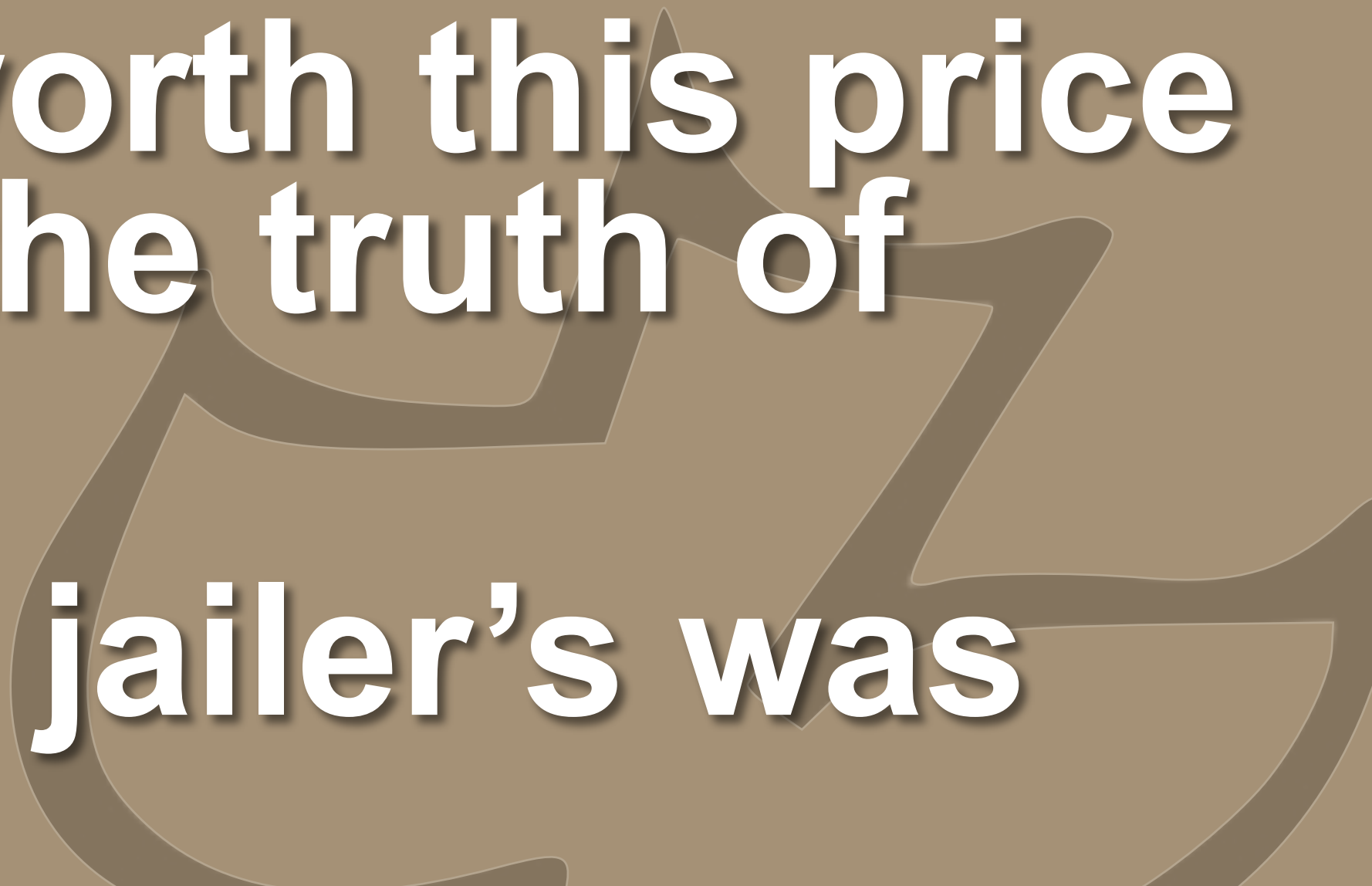
16:19-24/ Persecution

- ✱ Stripped beaten, flogged, imprisoned
- ✱ Today the inner prison = “The Hole”
- ✱ Stocks - spread legs apart...multiple holes
- ✱ I have heard many believers say “I want to be the hands and feet of Jesus” ...do we really understand what that means?
 - ▶ If they hated me...they will hate you!

“12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”

~ 2 Timothy 3:12-13 | NIV84

16:19-24/ Persecution

- ✱ Today reason, common sense & science have been thrown out the window for something called social justice
 - ✱ Paul knew eternity was worth this price of the dissenting view = the truth of Jesus!
 - ▶ Also he knew lives like jailer's was worth it as well!
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“4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

~ **Philippians 4:4-7 | NIV84**

“If I could, I would put this book into the hand
of every Christian in America.”

—Dr. David Jeremiah

Responding Courageously to Our
Culture’s Assault on Christianity

*We Will
Not Be
SILENCED*

Erwin W. Lutzer

**“We Will Not
Be Silenced”**

**By
Erwin Lutzer**

16:25 / Rejoicing in Suffering

- ✳ **Already seen: Acts 5:41 - Peter & John “counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.”**
- ✳ **Rom. 5:3 - “know that suffering produces perseverance...character & hope...God pours our love into our hearts”**
- ✳ **2 Cor. 12:10 “...when I am weak, then I am strong.”**

“10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.”

~ **Philippians 3:10-11 | NIV84**

16:25 / Rejoicing in Suffering

- * It's in the deepest, darkest prison of suffering, there we find the true freedom of Christ...something no one can take away!**
- * Release from the chains of sin, fear of death, trust in the world, man, my stuff**
- * Life at it's simplest form & an intimacy with Jesus you will never trade for anything!**

16:25 / Rejoicing in Suffering

- ✳ **Note: we don't praise & worship so we can GET free, it's because we ARE free!**
 - ▶ **We worship & praise to give God adoration not so we can get something!**
 - ▶ **Not about manipulation!**
 - ▶ **I am concerned we are using worship music to sell the church rather than adore the Lord.**

16:26-34 / Miraculous Moments

- * There are moments in ministry that blow me away & rock my world - you always know when it is God!**
- * Doors opened that I thought impossible to open! - how many were listening to the worship?**
- * Did Paul have in mind to have midnight revival in a Philippian jail that night?**
- * Jailer & his whole family!**

16:35-40 / Worldly Vindication

- * Be careful of pride here**
- * Let God avenge - Rom. 12:17-21**
- * It's good when the law is on our side & we shouldn't be afraid to kindly make it known & use it**
- * Like in this case many times it comes after much suffering & trials**
- * Jesus was never a doormat!**

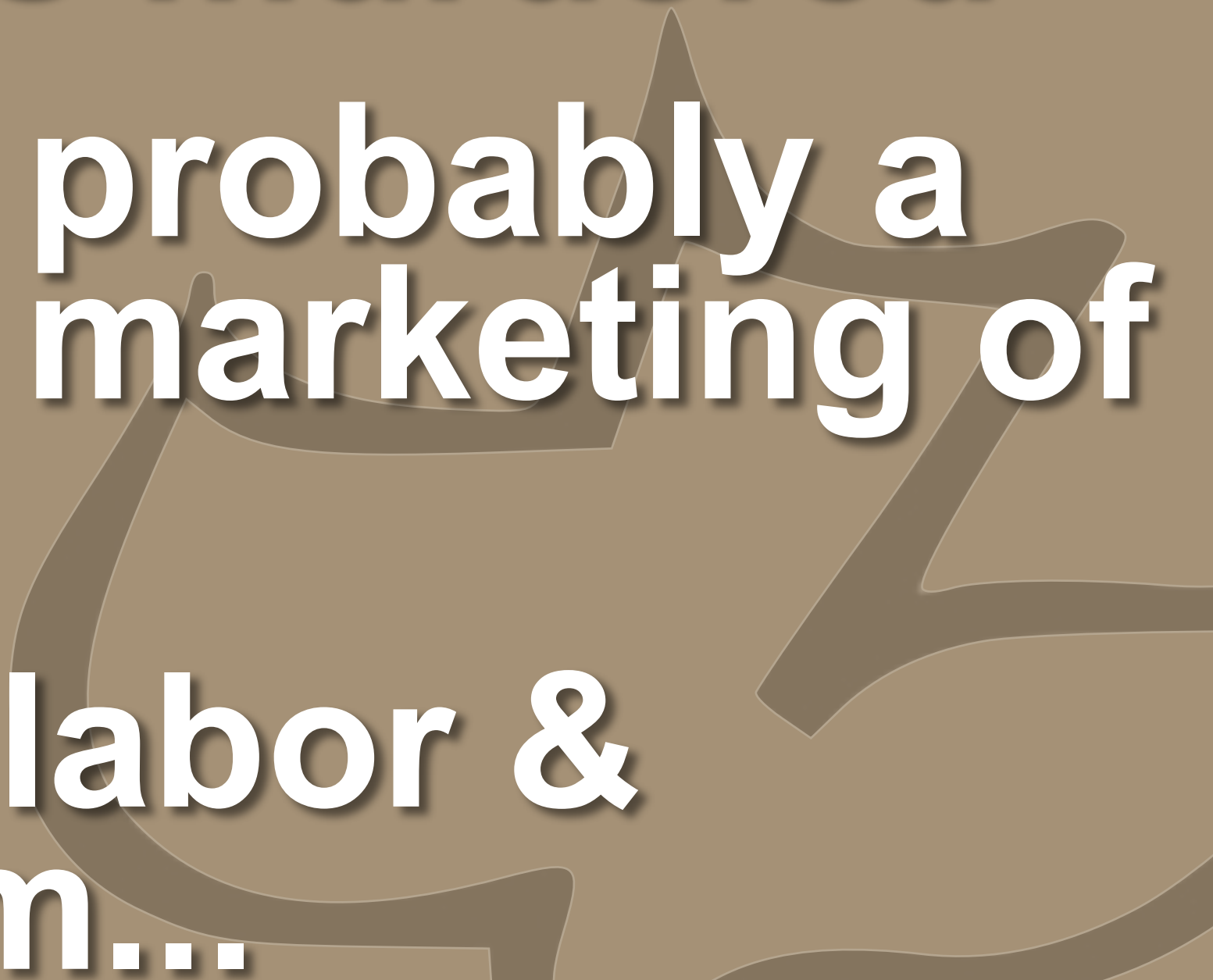
16:35-40 / Worldly Vindication

- ✳ **The Gospel is never chained because it is God's Word which is powerful, based on the truth, it sets people free no matter what their surroundings or conditions - at some point the world has to agree.**
- ✳ **Our Hope = There is a time coming when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess! (No need for marketing)**

17:1-9 / Ministry Envy/Jealousy

- ✱ v.2 “As his custom was...” = Paul’s starting place for ministry - reasoned from scripture, explained & proved Christ
- ✱ Thessalonica - capital of Macedonia & a free city where they elected their own officials & minted their own coins even.
 - ▶ No Roman garrison there
 - ▶ Why the riot was such a big issue

17:1-9 / Ministry Envy/Jealousy

- ✱ **Notice they manufactured a riot to get attention = Bate & Switch**
 - ✱ **Jealousy - why Jesus was murdered**
 - ✱ **Pervasive in the church - probably a leading reason for all the marketing of the church!**
 - ▶ **Eccl. 4:4 - Solomon all labor & achievement come from...**
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17:1-9 / Ministry Envy/Jealousy

✱ It's SIN

- ▶ Prov. 14:30 = “envy rots the bones”
- ▶ Mk. 7:20-23 - Jesus says it comes from a man's heart
- ▶ Gal. 5:20-21 - acts of the sinful nature are obvious
- ▶ Rom. 13:13-14 - Paul calls us to “behave decently”...not in jealousy

17:1-9 / Ministry Envy/Jealousy

- ✿ It was truly Satan's downfall
 - ▶ Isa. 14:12-14
 - ▶ Gen. 3:1-5 "Did God really say...cause you will be like him..."
- ✿ It drives people to murder = Cain & Abel
Gen. 4, David 1 Sam. 11, Joseph's Bros
Gen. 37
- ✿ Covet the World? Ps. 73

17:10-15 / Truth Seekers

- ✳ **Nothing better than teaching truth seekers or people who self feed!**
- ✳ **People who are eager to learn, who are not just suspect but don't just blindly believe or take things at face value.**
- ✳ **v.11 Examined the scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."**
- ✳ **What interesting is we don't hear anything else about the church here?**

1 Thessalonians

1:4-10