

THE STORY
Paul's Mission
Chapter 29 April 14, 2024
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For the last 2,000 years, we the church, the people of God have tried to understand and live in our relationship with Jesus.

The church is a family, not a perfect family, of brothers and sisters.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 NIV

Paul becomes the main character in the rest of the New Testament.

God can and often does use the least likely person.

But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.” ¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 9:15-17 NIV

PAUL AND BARNABAS COMMISSIONED

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” ³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:2-3 NIV

THE QUALITY OF COMMITMENT

I have...more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. 2 Corinthians 11:23-25 NAS

After Paul heals a lame man in Lystra the crowds turn on him.

Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰ But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe. Acts 14:19-20 NIV

THE QUALITY OF JOY

But the Jewish leaders incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. ⁵¹ So they shook the dust off their feet as a warning to them and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. Acts 13:50-52 NIV

When you walk with Jesus and with the Holy Spirit you are doing all you can do. And whether you know it or not there is a plan.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them Acts 16:25 NIV

The Holy Spirit was the constant companion of Paul.

Before Jesus ascends to Heaven He makes a promise.

I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. John 14:16-17 NAS

The church continues today because of the work of the Holy Spirit.