

THE BOOK OF
ACTS
LIFE IN THE SPIRIT



Acts 15:36-16:40

Message + Mission + Multiply

Acts 15: 36 NIV

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.”

Question

What do you see in
the hearts of Paul
and Barnabas?

Acts 15: 37 NIV

*Barnabas wanted to take
John, also called Mark,
with them,*

Question

Why do you think Barnabas wanted to take Mark with them on this return journey?

Acts 13: 4-5 NIV

The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.

*When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. **John was with them as their helper.***

Question

Why do you think Paul did not want to take Mark with them on this return journey?

Acts 15: 38 NIV

*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.*

Acts 13: 13 NIV

From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem.

Acts 15: 39 NIV

They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,

Sharp Disagreement

The word used here

παροξυσμος

paroxusmos, which our
word "paroxysm" is
derived, which means
"a violent or emotional
altercation".

Question

Which one do you
think was right,
Paul or Barnabas?

My 1 cent view on this

Paul had apostolic
authority over
Barnabas, so I feel he
should have
submitted to Paul's
apostolic authority.

My 1 cent view on this

Verse 40 says: "but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord." I believe this shows that the Church supported Paul as there is no reference of commendation to Barnabas and Mark.

Question

Who is ultimately
behind division?

Max Lucado

“The Greek word for devil is diabolos, which shares a root with the verb diaballein, which means “to split.” The devil is a splitter, a divider, a wedge driver. He divided Adam and Eve from God in the garden and has every intent of doing the same to you.”

Powerful Truth

God is in Control!

Please turn to:
1 Corinthians 9: 6

1 Corinthians 9: 6 NIV

*Or is it only I and
Barnabas who lack the
right to not work for a
living?*

Please turn to:
2 Timothy 4: 11

2 Timothy 4: 11 NIV

*Only Luke is with me. **Get Mark** and bring him with you, **because he is helpful to me in my ministry.***

Question

Will we always
agree as
Christians?

Question

What should we
do as Christians if
we do not agree?

Please turn to:
Romans 12: 9-21

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

*Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.** Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.*

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Hospitality definition

**The act of being
friendly and welcoming to
guests and visitors**

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

**Bless those who
persecute you; bless and
do not curse. Rejoice with
those who rejoice; mourn
with those who mourn.**

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. **Do not be conceited.**

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

**Do not repay anyone
evil for evil. Be careful to
do what is right in the
eyes of everyone. If it is
possible, as far as it
depends on you, live at
peace with everyone.**

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary:

Romans 12: 9-21 NIV

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

**Do not be overcome by evil,
but overcome evil with
good.**

Acts 15: 39 NIV

They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,



Interesting fact

Barnabas was from Cyprus and he was a cousin to Mark.

Acts 15: 40-41 NIV

but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.



Acts 16: 1 NIV

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.



Question

Do you remember
what happened to
Paul in Lystra?

Acts 16: 1 NIV

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.

Please turn to:
2 Timothy 1:5

2 Timothy 1: 5 NIV

I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

Acts 16: 2 NIV

*The believers at Lystra
and Iconium spoke well of
him.*

Acts 16: 3 NIV

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.

Timothy was half Jew
and half gentile. Being
uncircumcised the Jews
would assume he had
accepted his gentile
identity.

However, circumcision
would allow Timothy full
entrance and full acceptance
among the Jews and it
wouldn't hinder his work
among the gentiles, so the
circumcision was not for his
salvation, it was for reaching
those that were lost.

Acts 16: 4 NIV

As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey.

Question

How do you think the people in the towns accepted the decisions made by the apostles and elders?

Acts 16: 5 NIV

So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

Acts 16: 6 NIV

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.



Acts 16: 7 NIV

When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.



Please turn to:
Romans 8: 9

Romans 8: 9 NIV

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

Acts 16: 7 NIV

When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.

Acts 16: 8 NIV

*So they passed by Mysia
and went down to Troas.*

Acts 16: 9 NIV

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Acts 16: 10 NIV

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.

Question

Why is Luke now
saying we?

Acts 16: 11 NIV

From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis.

Acts 16: 12 NIV

From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.



Acts 16: 13 NIV

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

Acts 16: 14 NIV

One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

Acts 16: 15 NIV

When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.

Acts 16: 16 NIV

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling.

Acts 16: 17 NIV

She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved."

Acts 16: 18 NIV

She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

Acts 16: 19 NIV

When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

Acts 16: 20-21 NIV

They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice."

Acts 16: 22-23 NIV

*The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been **severely flogged**, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.*

Acts 16: 24-25 NIV

When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

*About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, **and the other prisoners were listening to them***

Acts 16: 26 NIV

Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.

Acts 16: 27-28 NIV

The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

Acts 16: 29-30 NIV

*The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**”*

Truth in Action!

We see the impact of living out Romans 12 in the question of “*Sirs, what must I do to be saved?*”!

Acts 16: 31-32 NIV

They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

Acts 16: 33 NIV

At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

Acts 16: 34 NIV

*The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; **he was filled with joy** because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.*

Acts 16: 35-36 NIV

When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: "Release those men." The jailer told Paul, "The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace."

Question

Do you know why
they were wrong to
mistreat Paul and
Silas?

Paul does!

Acts 16: 37 NIV

*But Paul said to the officers:
“**They beat us publicly**
without a trial, even though
we are Roman citizens,
and threw us into prison. And
now do they want to get rid
of us quietly? No! Let them
come themselves and escort
us out.”*

Acts 16: 38-39 NIV

*The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, **they were alarmed**. They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city.*

Acts 16: 38 NASB

*The policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. **They were afraid** when they heard that they were Romans,*

Acts 16: 40 NIV

After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. Then they left.

Next Week

Please Read
Acts 17: 1-15