

MAY 5, 2024

# "When We Don't Get What We Want"

Scripture: Acts 16:6-10



# When We Don't Get WHAT WE WANT

6th Sunday of Easter

## AUTHOR

Luke, a Gentile physician, wrote this gospel between A.D. 63-70. It's considered to be a sequel to the Gospel of Luke which he also wrote. Luke writes about the birth and growth of the Christian church and covers the 30 years after Jesus was taken up into heaven.

## CONTEXT

In today's scripture passage, the apostle Paul is on his 2nd missionary journey. Paul had chosen Silas, who was from the Jerusalem church and had been involved in the Jerusalem Council, to accompany him to visit the cities that Paul had preached in earlier. Paul was from the Antioch church. This journey laid the groundwork for the church in Greece. Timothy, a young disciple, traveled with them and together they went to many cities to spread the Good News. They instructed the believers to follow the decisions made by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem and the churches were strengthened in their faith and grew larger every day.

## ENCOURAGEMENT

Due to Paul's obedience, the Gospel spread ultimately to Europe and the Western World. When we are obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit, great things can happen.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Acts 16:6-10. Where did Paul and Silas travel next?
2. Where did they want to go?
3. What prevented them from going?
4. Have you ever wanted to do something but you felt that it wasn't what God wanted you to do? Were you disappointed?
5. God leads us in different ways. When you are seeking God's will, how can you discern what God is wanting you to do? Discuss what you might do or look for.
6. Where did Paul and Silas try to go next?
7. Did they arrive at their destination?
8. Have you ever felt frustrated because God closed a door that you really wanted to go through? Discuss how this felt and how you dealt with it.
9. Where did they go after that?
10. What happened to Paul in Troas? Describe what he saw. (In verse 10, the author of Acts, Luke, joins Paul, Silas, and Timothy on their journey and was an eyewitness to most of the remaining events.) What did Paul discern and how did Paul respond?
11. Have you ever experienced a time when you felt God was leading you elsewhere to protect you from a situation? Were you able to give thanks later for the way things turned out?