

Acts 15-16 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. In Acts 15:22-35 who agreed with these directives and who disbursed them (v22-23)? What was addressed (v24), how was adherence promoted (v25-26, 27, 28), and how did they respond (v29-31)? What else occurred (v32-35)?

5. Based on 15:36-41 what did Paul and Barnabas desire (v36) and what dispute arose (v37-38)? How was it resolved (v39-40)? Who was sanctioned by the church (v40-41)?

6. Read 16:1-5. Describe who Paul encountered at Lystra (v1-2)? What did Paul require and why (v3)? How can we apply this? What else were they doing and with what results (v4-5)?

7. From 16:6-15 where did they go and why (v6-8, 9-10)? Where did they stop (v11-12) and what did they do there (v13)? What resulted (v14-15)? How can we follow Paul's example?

8. Using 16:16-24 who was following Paul and what was she saying (v16-18a)? How did Paul respond (v18)? What did this cause (v19-21, 22, 23-24) and why (v19)?

9. According to 16:25-34 how did Paul and Silas deal with their situation (v25) and what occurred (v26-27)? How did Paul respond (v28-29) and to what did this lead (v30-34)?

10. In 16:35-40 what occurred the next day (v35-36) and what did Paul say (v37)? How did they react (v38-39) and what did Paul do (v40)? Why do you think he did?

11. Looking over Acts 15-16 what truth about salvation was affirmed (15:5-11) and why was this crucial? How was this truth advanced (15:30-16:15) and how was it applied (v16:30-34)? What lessons does this section teach us?

Scripture to Remember

And after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household."

Acts 16:30-31 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

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Life Group Questions—A Radical Turnaround (Acts 9:20-31)

(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Tell the group about someone in your life that has claimed to be a different person. Describe how that went. When did you know they were for real?
2. Read Acts 9:20-22. What did Saul do once he was saved and what was his focus? How was he able to do that and what was the result? How can we follow his example?
3. Discuss 9:23-25. What happened to Saul and why? Why do people get so upset when we present the truth about Jesus? When do we fight and when do we run?
4. Read 9:26-28. What other "suffering" did Saul encounter? Do you think this was right? How does this happen today and what should we do about it?
5. Who stepped in to help Saul? What risk do you think he was taking? What does this show us about the ministry of encouragement? Who can you encourage today?
6. What else did Saul face (v29-30) and how was it handled? How did this confirm God's call on his life? How does suffering confirm God's call on your life?
7. Describe conditions at this point in the early church (v31). What had they faced? What lessons can we apply to our lives and our church today?



MANIFEST DESTINY

Studies in Acts

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The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Never Give An Inch Acts 15-16

“Never give an inch” was the slogan for the Stamper family of Oregon, loggers in the 1970 film, “Sometimes a Great Notion”. With the town going broke the loggers union went on strike, but the Stammers continued to work, never giving an inch. In this week’s study the apostles Paul and Peter do the same for the truth of salvation. They would “never give an inch” to those who would reduce salvation to rituals and legalism. In the first section salvation truth is affirmed by these apostles and the church at Jerusalem. A controversy between the Judaizers and the apostles had arisen, so they went to Jerusalem to settle it. They heard testimonies from Peter and Paul about God’s salvation of the Gentiles, and then James, the leading elder in the Jerusalem church, made a

judgment that salvation is by grace alone and that Gentiles should only observe three rules to keep from offending Jewish Christians. Everyone agreed, so Paul, Barnabas, Silas and Judas went to Antioch with this message. In the next section this salvation truth was advanced as Paul and Barnabas decided to go on a second missionary journey. However, they disagreed over whether or not to take Mark and thus their partnership ended, with Barnabas taking Mark with him to Cyprus and Paul going with Silas. The last pair first edified the established churches and then the Spirit led them to new territories. They finally stopped at Philippi, a Roman colony, going to the place of prayer by the river. They led a woman, Lydia, to salvation. Then, they stopped a demon-



The manifest destiny of disciples is to recapture the world for Jesus.

possessed girl following them, causing a financial loss to her master. This resulted in their imprisonment, but they simply praised the Lord in the cell. This led to the salvation truth being applied. When an earthquake occurred the jailer was about to kill himself over the loss of prisoners, but Paul and Silas stopped him. So, he asked what he needed to do to be saved, and they told him to believe in the Lord Jesus. He believed, along with his entire household, and they were all baptized. The next day the Romans ordered their release, but had to beg them to leave since Paul demanded it. He never gave an inch.

Study Questions for Acts 15-16

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study%20questions))

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| <p>1. Read Acts 15:1-5. What controversy erupted and who caused it (v1)? How did Paul and Barnabas respond (v2) and why (v3)? How did they try to resolve it (v2, 4-5)?</p> | |
| <p>2. From 15:6-12 who shared their experiences (v7, 12) and when did they do it (v7, 12)? What point were they making (v7, 12), how did they show this (v8-10, 12), and what was their belief (v11)?</p> | |
| <p>3. Using 15:13-21 who concluded this meeting (v13)? What was his basis (v14, 15) and what did the prophets say about this (v16-18)? What were his directives (v20), and why (v19, 21)?</p> | |

(Continued on Next Page)