

PHILIPPIANS

When God Opens a Door *Introduction to Philippians* (Acts 16)

What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open. (Revelation 3:7)

Introduction:

Paul's mission trip to Philippi took place in AD 51, ten years before the writing of the letter to the Philippians. The trip was the direct result of God opening doors of ministry and resulted in the first church planted in Europe. Today we will study how Paul and his companions discerned the open door and experienced the blessing of God.

Outline:

1. When God opens a door He usually closes other doors (16:6 - 10)
2. When God opens a door it is usually accompanied by His people praying (16:13, 16)
3. When God opens a door it leads us to people whose hearts are open to Him (16:11 - 15)
4. When God opens a door it leads to the kind of opposition that advances the gospel (16: 16 - 40)

Questions for Reflection:

What did you learn today about how the Lord directs us? Share with someone what the relevance of this Scripture is for you at this stage of your life.



Personal Study Notes

Acts 16

Paul Selects Timothy (16:1-5)

Evangelization Through Europe (16:6-10)

Lydia's Conversion (16:11-15)

Paul and Silas in Prison (16:16-24)

A Midnight Deliverance (16:25-34)

An Official Apology (16:35-40)

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

- 1)
- 2)

