



The Philippian Mission

Acts 16:6-34

February 16, 2020

The Church's mission in terms of relationships of Up, In, and Out

The interplay between Up, In, and Out

Sensitive/submissive to the Spirit's guidance, persevering in praise with what follows

The track of Paul's second missionary journey: Acts 15:36-18:22

Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Jesus supernaturally lead the way by blocks and visions: 16:6-10

Direct and indirect leading in the book of Acts (see chart on back)

Indirect (or partial, or picturesque, or symbolic) leading preserves the faith ingredient

Faith always pleases God! Hebrews 11:6

The two poles of paralysis or carelessness

Principles for following the indirect leading of the Lord:

- Default posture of submission to the Lordship of Jesus
- Open to signs, not looking for signs (is that You, Holy Spirit?)
- Trust in the (basically) reliable GPS of the new creation heart
- God is the master puzzler (there are a lot of ways to connect the dots!)
- Remember that God is more pleased with faith than with getting it right

God's leading doesn't always guarantee a trouble-free passage

Paul and Silas in prison: Acts 16:16-24

Prayer and singing hymns as trust: 16:25

Praise as a chain breaker: 16:26

Praise as witness: 16:25, 27-30

The core message of Paul: *Believe in the Lord Jesus*: 16:31

Notice their message is simply a description of what they are already doing

Salvation comes to an entire household: 16:32-34

Salvation as a holistic redemption and renewal (return from exile)

Direct and Indirect Leading in the Book of Acts after Jesus Ascends

Text	Example of Direct Leading	Example of Indirect Leading
Acts 1:26		Choose Matthias by casting lots
Acts 5:20	“Go and stand in the temple and preach”	
Acts 8:1		Scattering of Christians into Judea/Samaria
Acts 8:26	“Go down to road from Jerusalem to Gaza”	But notice, no reason given
Acts 9:6	“Rise and enter the city”	
Acts 9:11	“Rise and go to the street called Straight	
Acts 10:5	“ Send a men to Joppa and bring Peter”	
Acts 10:13		“Rise, Peter, kill and eat.”
Acts 10:19	“Behold, there are three men for you”	
Acts 12:7	“Get up quickly”	He did not know all of this was real (v.9)
Acts 13:2	“Set apart Paul & Barnabas”	No specifics yet as to where or how
Acts 15:28		“It seemed good to the Holy Spirit & us”
Acts 16:6	Direct, but unclear	Forbidden by the HS to speak in Asia
Acts 16:7		Didn't allow them to go into Bithynia
Acts 16:9		A man from Macedonia, “Come help!”
Acts 18:9	“Go on speaking, do not be silent”	
Acts 19:21		Paul resolved in the Spirit to go to M & A
Acts 20:22		Constrained by Spirit, not knowing what will happen, except afflictions in every city
Acts 21:11		Agabus binds his feet with Paul's belt
Acts 23:11	“You will testify about Me in Rome”	
Acts 27:24	“God has granted all those who sail w you”	