**WHERE HE LEADS ME I WILL FOLLOW**

**Acts 16:6-10**

[**6**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-6/)**Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,**

[**7**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-7/)**After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.**

[**8**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-8/)**And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.**

[**9**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-9/)**And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.**

[**10**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-10/)**And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.**

**INTRO:**

**\*\* We have often heard preachers say, “Just mind the Lord.” How often do we really mind the Lord? How often do we really follow where God leads us to go?**

**\*\*Notice our text:**

**1. We must follow the Lord despite our Abilities.**

**V-6 tells us that Paul and Timotheus “were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,”**

 **a. They did have the Lord’s Call to Preach concerning Abilities.**

 **b. They didn’t have the Lord’s Consent to Preach concerning Asia.**

**\*\*My point is just because you may have the ability to do something for God does not mean that you should bypass the leadership of the Lord.**

**\*\*You may have the ability to sing, testify, preach, or teach, but that does not mean that God will lead you to do those things in every service.**

**2. We must follow the Lord despite our Agenda.**

[**7**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-7/)**After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.**

 **a. Make sure you follow God’s Atlas.**

 **b. Make sure you follow God’s Arrangements.**

**\*\*Notice the end of the sentence in verse seven has a period.**

**Quote: One man said, “When God puts a period, don’t change it to a question mark.”**

**3. We must follow the Lord despite our Afflictions.**

**\*\*Paul and Silas followed God and prayed and praised . . .**

 **a. Despite the Punishment.**

 **b. Despite the Prison.**

**\*\*I want to follow the Lord in giving you instruction from God’s Word concerning following where the Lord leads.**

**\*\*We as Christians must follow the Lord on a daily basis.**

**\*\*When we learn that God’s Guidance for our lives is Possible, Purposeful, and Profitable, it makes it easier for us to make up our minds and say, “Where He Leads Me I Will Follow.”**

**I. GOD’S GUIDANCE IS POSSIBLE**

[**Isaiah 30:21**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Isaiah-30-21/)**- And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.**

**\*\*You cannot follow the Lord where He leads until you believe that His guidance is possible for your life!**

 **A. God’s Guidance is possible if we will be Mindful.**

 **1. Be Mindful of His Leadership**

 **a. Let Him lead you in His Doings**

 **b. Let Him lead you in His Directions**

**\*\*A lot of young Christians and some older Christians have missed the leadership of the Lord and got all mixed up.**

**Illustration: I remember when I was young I heard about a young man who announced his call to preach. Soon his pastor gave him an opportunity to preach. He stood and tried his very best to deliver what was on his heart. After standing and stumbling and stuttering and struggling, he went home feeling defeated. The next Sunday in church, he stood and began to speak. He said, “I want the church to know that I made a mistake. I thought God had called me to preach, but I now know that I missed it somewhere. I apologize for taking the Lord’s time last week, and I ask that you keep me in your prayers.”**

 **Yes, that young man missed the leadership of the Lord the first time, but he did not miss it the second time. The church loved him and prayed for him and He stayed in church living for God.**

 **2. Be Mindful of His Lordship**

 **a. Only God’s Way Works**

 **b. Only God’s Will Works**

**\*\*Soon we will see in this chapter that there were three people whose lives were changed simply because Paul was mindful of God’s way and God’s will. If he had gone his own way, the end results would have not been the same.**

 **B. God’s Guidance is possible if we are Meek.**

[**Psalms 25:9**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-25-9/)**- The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.**

**\*\*Meek means to be humble, yielding and submissive.**

 **1. Humbly allow your Heart to be submissive.**

 **2. Humbly allow your Hearing to be submissive.**

**\*\*Those who are hasty, high-minded, and headlong are not meek, and they most often miss God’s guidance for their life.**

 **C. God’s Guidance is possible if we are Manageable.**

 **1. We must be Teachable.**

**Psalms 25:4 - Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.**

 **a. Be Observant**

 **b. Be Obedient**

 **c. Be Open**

**\*\*Just like in school you got to observe what God is doing; you must obey what God tells you to do, and you must be open to do what God tells you to do if you are ever going to learn what God is teaching.**

 **2. We must be Tame.**

 **a. Be Surrendered**

 **b. Be Submissive**

**\*\*Every person and every animal that God ever led and used was tame, surrendered, and submissive.**

**\*\*God’s Guidance is possible if you are mindful, meek, and manageable! Where He Leads Me I Will Follow!**

**II. GOD’S GUIDANCE IS PURPOSEFUL**

[**Ecclesiastes 3:1**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ecclesiastes-3-1/)**- To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:**

 **A. There is a Purpose in His Plans**

 **1. He has Blessings for you in His Plans**

 **2. He has Benefits for you in His Plans**

**\*\*So many people have problems because they just don’t follow His plan!**

 **B. There is a Purpose in His Policy**

**\*\*If you have a copy of the King James Bible, then you have a copy of His policy!**

 **1. His Policy contains a Clear Protection**

**\*\*Follow His policy, and He’ll go with you and protect you!**

 **2. His Policy contains a Clear Path**

[**Psalms 119:105**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-119-105/)**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**

**\*\*That path leads us to follow a Spirit-filled life, a Sanctified life, a Sacrificial life, and a Satisfying life!**

 **C. There is a Purpose in His Process**

**\*\*Sometimes we do not like the process God takes us through, but we must trust His purpose in it all.**

 **1. Keep Following His Procedures**

 **2. Keep Following His Program**

**\*\*To feel God’s power we must follow God’s process.**

 **D. There is a Purpose in His Praises**

 **1. Praising God Lifts the Savior**

 **2. Praising God Lures the Sinner**

**\*\*Where He Leads Me I Will Follow simply because there is a purpose in His Plan, in His Policy, in His Process, and in His Praises.**

**III. GOD’S GUIDANCE IS PROFITABLE**

**\*\*In Acts 16:10 Paul said, “we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.”**

**\*\*In Acts 16:12-13 Paul talks about where God’s plan and path led him. God put three people in the path that God led Paul to walk.**

 **A. God’s Guidance proved profitable for the Seller**

[**14**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-14/)**And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.**

[**15**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-15/)**And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.**

 **1. Her Heart got Help!**

 **2. Her Household got Help!**

**\*\*Paul said, “Where He leads me I will follow,” and it was profitable for the Seller.**

 **B. God’s Guidance proved profitable for the Slave**

[**16**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-16/)**And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:**

**\*\*This woman had a satanic evil spirit on her that at least gave her the appearance to be able to foretell the future. Her masters used her to make money, until something happened!**

 **1. She was Following**

[**17**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-17/)**The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.**

 **2. She was Freed**

[**18**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-18/)**And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.**

**\*\*Paul said, “Where He leads me I will follow,” and it was profitable for the slave.**

 **C. God’s Guidance proved profitable for the Sinner**

**\*\*Paul and Silas got arrested, beaten, and thrown into prison by the magistrates for commanding that spirit to come out of that woman. Her masters told the magistrates.**

**\*\*It was all a part of God’s guidance and His path which led them to pray and praise God in the jail cell.**

**\*\*What did it do for the sinful supervisor of the jail?**

 **1. It changed His Determination.**

**\*\*He thought all the prisoners had escape and was determined to kill himself, but that determination was changed.**

 **2. It changed His Destiny.**

**\*\*He wanted to know what to do to be saved, and he believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and his destiny changed.**

 **3. It changed His Dwelling.**

**\*\*Acts 16:33 said that he and all his was baptized. His household was never the same.**

**\*\*Paul said, “Where He leads me I will follow,” and it was profitable for the sinner.**

 **D. God’s Guidance proved profitable for the Servants**

 **1. Notice the Medical Restoration.**

**Acts 16:33 [33](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-33/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20info%20for%20Acts%2016%3A33)And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes;**

 **2. Notice the Meat Replenished.**

**Acts 16:34 [34](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-34/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20info%20for%20Acts%2016%3A34)And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them,**

 **3. Notice the Man Rejoiced.**

**Acts 16:34 he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.**

**\*\*Seeing that man rejoice over what God did for him and his household, I’d say, helped Paul and Silas more than anything else the man did for them.**

 **4. Notice the Magistrates Released**

**Acts 16:35-36** [**35**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-35/)**And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go.**

[**36**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-16-36/)**And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.**

**\*\*Notice that God’s servants were men of integrity and honor. They were not run away prisoners. The magistrates sent word to release them. Paul said, “No way. They beat us publicly so let them come and release us themselves publicly.” The magistrates feared God’s men so they came and released them publicly.**

**\*\*Paul said, “Where He leads me I will follow,” and it was profitable for the servants of God.**

**CLOSE**

**1. My plea to you is will you make up your mind and say today, “Where He leads me I will follow!”**

**2. God will guide you because it is possible.**

**3. God will guide you because He does have a purpose.**

**4. God will guide you because it is profitable for others as well as for you and as well as for the glory of God.**

**5. Are you sure you are on the right path and taking the right directions that God wants you to take in your life?**

**6. Has the Holy Spirit told you to do something and yet you have not done it? Or, have you done something the Holy Spirit has never told you to do?**

**7. Either way, you need to come and pray and ask for God’s guidance. You need to come right now, and say, “Where He leads me I will follow.”**