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# The Truth About God's Will

Acts 16

## A TOUGH START TO A 2<sup>ND</sup> TRIP!

### RANDOM LESSONS FROM A TOUGH START:

When it comes to our \_\_\_\_\_, everyone counts.  
Acts 16:1-2, 10, 17-18, 1 Corinthians 15:33, Psalm 1:1, Proverbs 13:20

There will always be \_\_\_\_\_ – find them.  
Acts 16:1-2, 10, 13-15, 27-34, Ephesians 5:15-17, Colossians 4:5-6

God's \_\_\_\_\_ is more important than our \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 16:37, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 26:42, James 4:13-17

### GOD'S WILL IS:

Not as \_\_\_\_\_ as we think.  
Acts 16:6-8

Not always the \_\_\_\_\_, or the most \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 16:19-24

More about \_\_\_\_\_ we are, than \_\_\_\_\_ we are.  
Acts 12:25

All about obedience in the \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 16:10, 13, 18, 25, 27-31, 40

# Home Fellowship Questions

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If God's will is all about obedience in the little things, then it would be wise of us to take a good look inward and ask God to help us see any little things that He would like to change. Spend a few minutes thinking about that and see if God brings anything to mind.

1. Paul had no idea that his traveling companions would eventually play such an important role in church history. Can you think of any "traveling companions" in your life that may have much greater potential than you could imagine right now? Can you think of any ways that you might encourage their development as an employee, student, spouse, friend or follower of Jesus?

2. This weekend we dug into what God's will looks like. Have you ever had a time in your life when you were not sure about God's will and what you were supposed to do but now, looking back, you can see God's guidance in it all along?

3. How do you typically respond when your heart is set on something and the door just doesn't open for you to go in the direction you want?

- Keep on knocking
- Break the door down
- Look for another door that's open
- Give up
- Other

*This week we're going to take a look over Paul's shoulder as he writes a letter to the church at Philippi, the city that Chris taught about this weekend in Acts 16. Ten years have passed since Paul first visited the Philippians and he is now under house arrest in Rome.*

4. The book of Philippians can also be referred to as "Paul's joy letter." Read the following passages and see if you can jot down a few sources of Paul's joy.

Philippians 3:7-9

Philippians 3:17- 4:1

Philippians 1:3-6

Happiness depends largely on our circumstances, but joy is more of a quiet confidence in God and His promises. As you look at your own life can you identify any sources of joy that have influenced you even when you weren't happy?

5. This week we saw that God's will might not be as clear as we thought and has more to do with who we are than where we are. In Philippians 4:4-13 Paul gives us a game plan for being in God's will regardless of where we are in life. Make a list of 3 or 4 things that we can do to be in God's will regardless of our circumstances.

In verse 9, Paul tells the Philippians to put into practice what he taught and to imitate his example. Which of the things you listed above are most important for you to put into practice?

6. Paul also gave us multiple examples of how to endure persecution and use every opportunity to minister to others. His letter to the Philippians was written in the midst of a bad situation. Read Philippians 1:12-14 and 1:27-30 and jot down a few of the opportunities Paul sees in trials and suffering.

When you are experiencing hard times, what does it look like to "conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ"?