

# THE PLAN

## 35. The Mission (Acts 16-28) May 15, 2022

### Story Coordinates (Acts 26:9-18)

**People** (Who is the story about?)

**Place** (Where is their home?)

**Presence** (How can they meet with God?)

**Purpose** (What did God tell them to do?)

(Acts 1:8)

### The Story (Acts 16-28)

- Paul shared the Gospel with the \_\_\_\_\_ in Asia and Greece, and many of them began \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus. (Acts 13:47-48)
- Many Jews and Gentiles opposed Paul's message because it had real \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ consequences. (Acts 16:16-21, 17:6-7)
- They couldn't convict Paul because he stayed true to his mission--to transform \_\_\_\_\_, not overthrow \_\_\_\_\_. (Acts 18:12-16)

- The Holy Spirit told Paul to go to \_\_\_\_\_, with the goal of preaching the Gospel in \_\_\_\_\_. (Acts 19:1, 20:22-23)
- The Jewish leaders put Paul on trial for treason against \_\_\_\_\_, but Paul appealed to Caesar. (Acts 24:5-8, 25:10-12)
- God brought Paul safely to Rome so he could proclaim the Gospel in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. (Acts 28:16-31; Philippians 1:12-13, 4:22)

### The Morals

- The mission to share the Gospel to ends of the Earth continues-- \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Gospel will always \_\_\_\_\_ strong reactions because it transforms the way we live \_\_\_\_\_ in this world.
- As long as we stay faithful to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus, God will use us to carry his message into \_\_\_\_\_.

## Small Group Questions

### 1. Getting Started:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
- What are your coordinates? (People, Place, Presence, Purpose)?

### 2. Into the Bible (1 Peter 3:8-22)

- How would you summarize the point of v. 8-12? What is Peter's instruction? What is the promise of the Psalm he quotes?
- People often read 1 Peter 3:15 out of context. What is Peter's overall focus in v. 13-17? How does v. 15 fit in?
- How does suffering for good follow the example of Christ? What about when we do evil? What if we did the evil for the sake of good?

- V. 18-22 can be tough to interpret, but the link with the earlier verses is the phrase "clear conscience." What is the importance of a clear conscience in this passage?

### 3. Going Deeper

- Have you ever heard or seen people use the first part of 1 Peter 3:15 ("Always be prepared to give an answer") in ways that conflict with the end ("Do this with gentleness and respect")? How so?
- God's plan to get Paul to Rome involved having him arrested and imprisoned. Have you ever seen God use a hard—or unexpected—situation to give you an opportunity to serve him?
- God sent Paul to prison so he could witness to soldiers and slaves in Rome. Where has God sent you? How can you witness there?

### 4. Prayer

- Pray for each other in your coordinates. Ask for wisdom and strength to recognize your purpose and fulfill it.