

# Let God Lead in Your Christian Walk: Embracing Divine Adventure

The Christian life is meant to be an adventure with the Lord—a journey where we say, "Lord, lead me and guide my steps and use my life." When we allow God to direct our path, we discover that He has incredible plans that often exceed our expectations and take us places we never imagined.

## What Happens When God Leads Your Steps?

In Acts 16, we find Paul and Silas on their second missionary journey, and through their experience, we can learn valuable lessons about letting God lead our lives. Their story reveals that when we surrender control to God, life becomes a divine adventure filled with unexpected appointments and supernatural encounters.

## Finding Your Timothy: Someone to Pour Into

When Paul and Silas arrived in Lystra, they encountered Timothy, a young man from a blended family. His mother was a Jewish believer, but his father was Greek and likely not saved. Despite his mixed heritage, Timothy had a good reputation among the believers.

Lesson 1: When God leads your life, there's often a Timothy to pour into up ahead.

God may be calling you to disciple someone—perhaps someone others have overlooked or discounted. Timothy came from what some might consider a "bent" family tree, yet God used him powerfully. Never underestimate who God might want to use through your influence.

Timothy's story teaches us three important things about the people God calls us to mentor:

- Family background doesn't disqualify anyone - Timothy's mixed heritage didn't prevent God from using him
- Favorable reputation matters - Timothy was "well spoken of by the brethren," showing that character development through God's Word creates trustworthiness
- Future ministry requires sacrifice - Paul circumcised Timothy not for salvation, but for effective ministry to Jewish audiences

## Why Did Paul Circumcise Timothy?

This decision wasn't about faith or acceptance by God—it was about ministry effectiveness. Timothy was technically considered an apostate Jew by Jewish law because he was uncircumcised. Paul knew that for Timothy to have credibility in synagogues and among Jewish communities, this step was necessary.

Lesson 2: When God leads your life, you end up sacrificing self to serve others effectively.

As Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 9:19-22: "For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more... I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

Effectiveness in ministry comes with a cost. Love moves our rights out of the way so that others may be saved.

## **How Does God Expand His Ministry?**

God's expansion of ministry often involves redirection, replacement, and restructuring. When Paul and Barnabas had their disagreement, instead of one mission team, God created two. This wasn't a failure—it was God's way of multiplying the work.

## **The Importance of Flexibility in God's Plans**

Lesson 3: When God is leading your life, you are more flexible to changes that come your way.

You begin to see things from God's perspective—that He's building a kingdom, not just catering to our comforts. Sometimes God redirects hearts, replaces people, or restructures situations to accomplish His greater purposes.

Every disciple needs three types of people in their life:

- A Paul - a mentor who is further along in the journey
- A Barnabas - a peer who encourages and stands beside you
- A Timothy - an apprentice you can pour into and who will carry the baton forward

## **What Motivates People to Share Jesus?**

As Paul and Silas delivered the decrees from the Jerusalem church, Acts 16:5 tells us: "So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in number daily."

Lesson 4: When God leads your life, God's love is seen in your works and God's gospel is shared on your lips.

What motivates people to share Jesus isn't obligation or manipulation—it's the beauty of God's grace that captures our hearts. When we truly grasp how much Christ loves us, we can't help but tell others about Him.

## **Why Does God Sometimes Say No?**

In Acts 16:6-8, we see something fascinating: "Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them."

Paul experienced multiple closed doors. Why would God forbid them from preaching in certain places? It wasn't about God's heart for those people—it was about His timing and His greater plan.

## **Learning to Wait at Dead Ends**

Eventually, Paul and his team reached Troas, a coastal city where they faced what seemed like a dead end. Ocean stretched before them, and doors had closed behind them. But this wasn't really an end—it was a setup for God's next move.

Lesson 5: When God leads your life, closed doors are just as important as open ones.

Sometimes God brings us to the end of the road so we'll wait on Him and be in the right place at the right time to receive His direction. As Psalm 27:14 reminds us: "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!"

## **How Does God Give New Direction?**

While Paul waited in Troas, God gave him a vision: "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us'" (Acts 16:9).

Notice that this direction didn't come while Paul was busy traveling and trying to figure things out. It came in the stillness and darkness of the night, when he was waiting on God.

Paul's response was immediate: "Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them" (Acts 16:10).

## **Using Common Sense in God's Leading**

Lesson 6: When God leads your life, the natural becomes grounds for the supernatural.

God told Paul to go to Macedonia but didn't specify which city. Paul used common sense and went to Philippi, the foremost city of that region. Sometimes God gives us general direction and expects us to use wisdom and common sense to work out the details.

## **Life Application**

This week, challenge yourself to truly let God lead in your Christian walk. Stop trying to force open doors that God has closed, and start looking for the Timothy He may want you to pour into. Be willing to sacrifice your comfort and preferences for the sake of effective ministry to others.

Ask yourself these questions:

- Am I fighting against closed doors instead of trusting God's timing?
- Who is the Timothy in my life that I could be discipling and pouring into?
- Do I have a Paul, Barnabas, and Timothy in my life for healthy spiritual growth?

- Am I flexible enough to let God redirect my plans when He has something better?
- When God says "no" to something I want, do I trust that He has something better in mind?

Remember, when God closes doors in your life, it often means He's about to open new ones. The question is: Is your heart ready to move when God says move? Faith sees the God of the closed door rather than fixating on the door God closes. Let Him lead your adventure, and watch what incredible things He has in store for your life.