

The Holy Spirit Directs the Mission

1. God Directs Which *People* Go on the Missionary Trip (40-3).

2. The Holy Spirit Guides Which *Positions* to Hold (4-5).

3. He Sets the Course for Which *Places* to Visit (6-12).

CONCLUSION: Christ had sent them as His witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. But specifically where? When, and in what order? Who should go where? What of all that He taught them should they teach first and how? There are so many questions. And that's why He didn't send them alone. He sent His Holy Spirit to guide them. But what does that look like when you can't see Him? This beginning of the Second Missionary journey helps us to see how that gets worked out. Let us trust Him and follow the Holy Spirit's lead.

Acts 1: 8

“But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 8: 12 – 17

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are **led by the Spirit** of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Galatians 5: 16 – 26

¹⁶ But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we **live by the Spirit**, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

What does it mean to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit? How do we follow someone we cannot see? What about people who claim the Holy Spirit has led them to do things that go against God's Word? How do we sort these things out?

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 5:16-26.** DISCUSS, How does the Holy Spirit direct the people, positions, and places of this missionary trip? How does that help us submit to His leading? What do you do when you are not sure what the Holy Spirit is leading you to do? PRAY "Jesus, Thank You for giving us Your Spirit to lead and strengthen us as we seek to follow You."

Sunday Evening

Young Adults Fellowship at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW's Library!*

Monday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; First Thessalonians 1:5-8; Romans 14:13-19.** DISCUSS, How did this team of Paul, Silas, and Timothy model being led by the Holy Spirit? How are we to model this? How are we to follow their example? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23.** PRAY, "Father, help us to rejoice in Your Word with the joy of the Holy Spirit. Sound forth from us all throughout the Upper Valley the power You have over the dead through the resurrection of Jesus."

Tuesday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; First Corinthians 9:19-23.** DISCUSS, How does the gospel free Paul to be all things to all people? How are we to emulate Paul in this regard? How is Christ leading you to identify with your neighbors to impart the gospel? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23.** PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for loving us enough to give us opportunities to point others to You."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Romans 15:22-25**. DISCUSS, Why was Paul hindered from going to Rome? What is he doing as of this writing? Why? Have you been kept from plans that you had to serve Christ? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. PRAY, “Lord Jesus, forgive us for the many times we just don’t get it. Teach us to trust You!”

Thursday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Galatians 2:1-5**. DISCUSS, Why does Paul have Timothy circumcised yet refused to do the same with Titus? What differences were there between Timothy and Titus? What specific ways are you standing for the truth of the gospel today? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. PRAY, “Jesus, enable us to walk in Your ways. Guide us in Your truth.”

Friday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 5:16-26**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 15:40-16:40**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Jude 1: 20 – 23

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.”