

Seizing God's
OPPORTUNITIES
— in New Situations —

Acts 16:9-10

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.



Philippi
Neopolis

BITHYNIA

Troas

MYSIA

Antioch

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Antioch

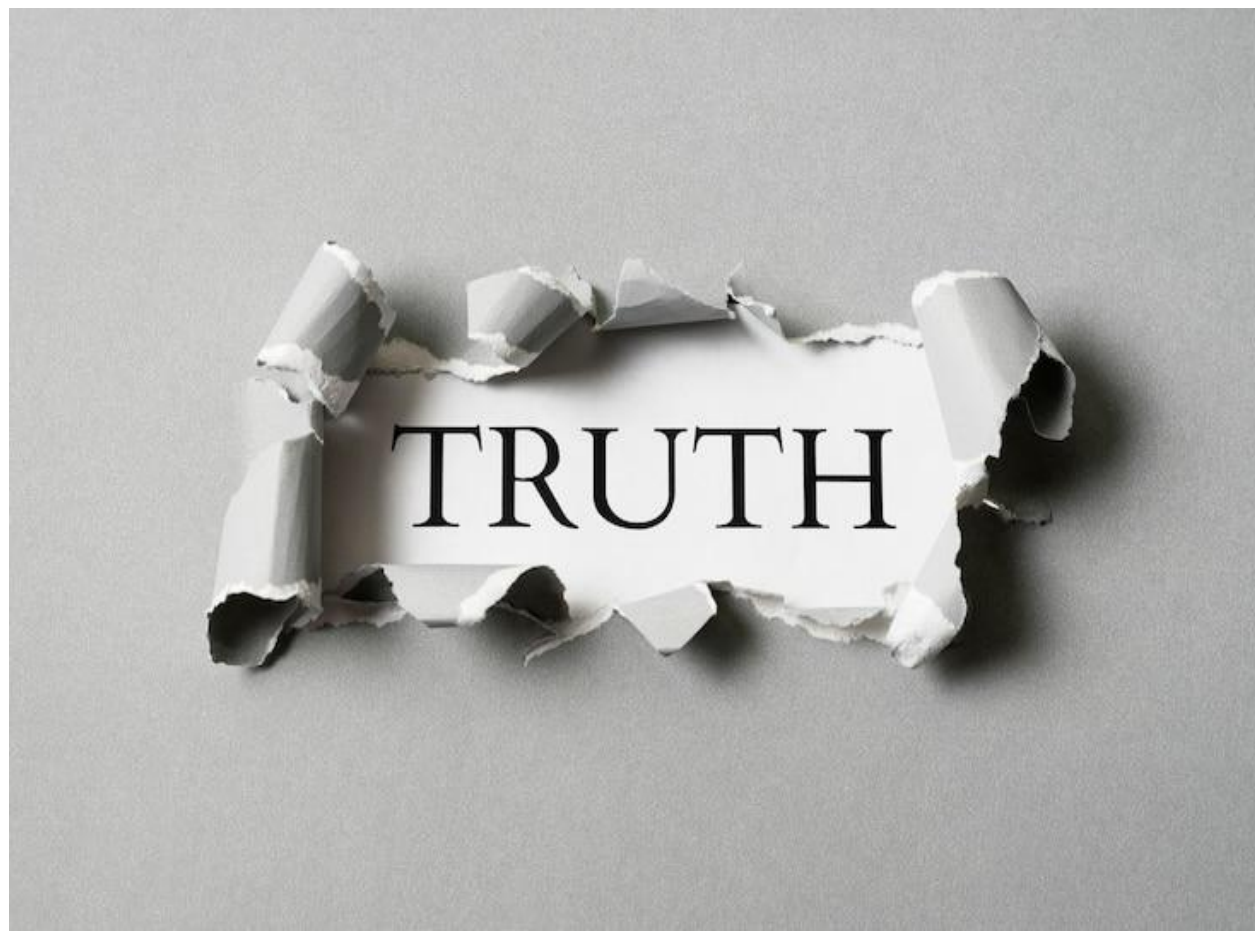
Jerusalem

Mediterranean Sea

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY
49-52 AD

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Truth 1: God uses setbacks to direct our steps and advance His mission.

Truth 2: People respond differently to the gospel, but our responsibility is to faithfully proclaim Christ

Truth 1:

God uses setbacks to direct our steps and advance His mission.

1) God turns conflict into kingdom expansion

**Direct leaders to
different fields**



1) God turns conflict into kingdom expansion

**Direct leaders to
different fields**



**Leaders multiply.
The Kingdom advances**



2) God gives **VISION to pioneer
new gospel works**

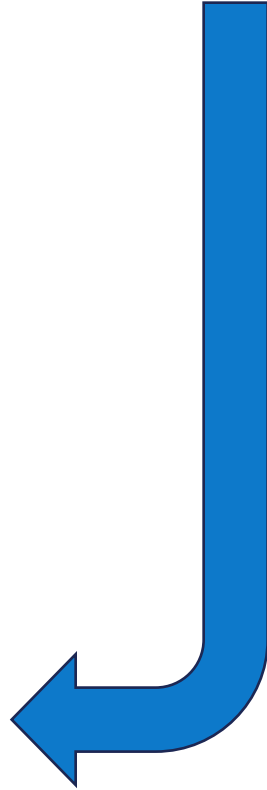
Acts 16:6-10

Paul and his companions travelled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. ⁸ So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

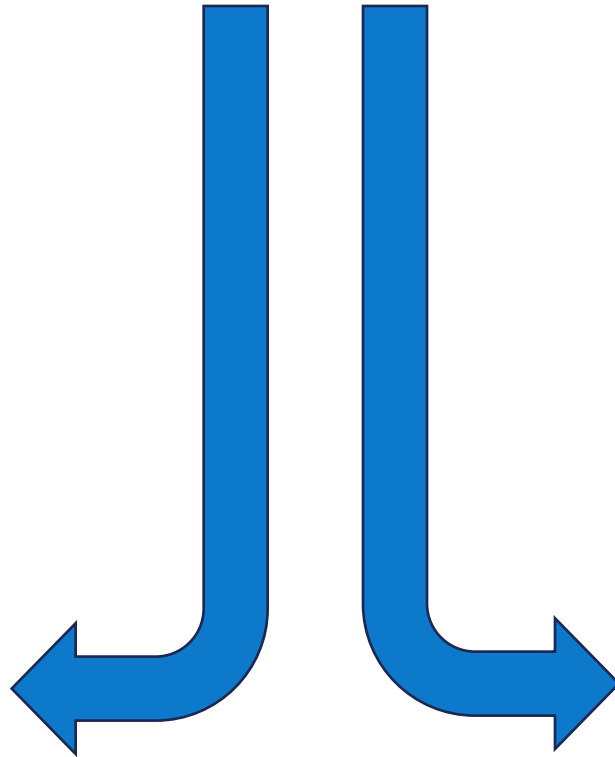
2) God gives **VISION** to pioneer new gospel works

**Redirect
Paul's plans**



2) God gives **VISION** to pioneer new gospel works

**Redirect
Paul's plans**



**Pioneered into
unfamiliar territory**



Acts 16:13-15

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. ¹⁵ When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

3) How Paul caught the Kairos moment and turned prison into a pulpit.

Acts 16:16-19

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

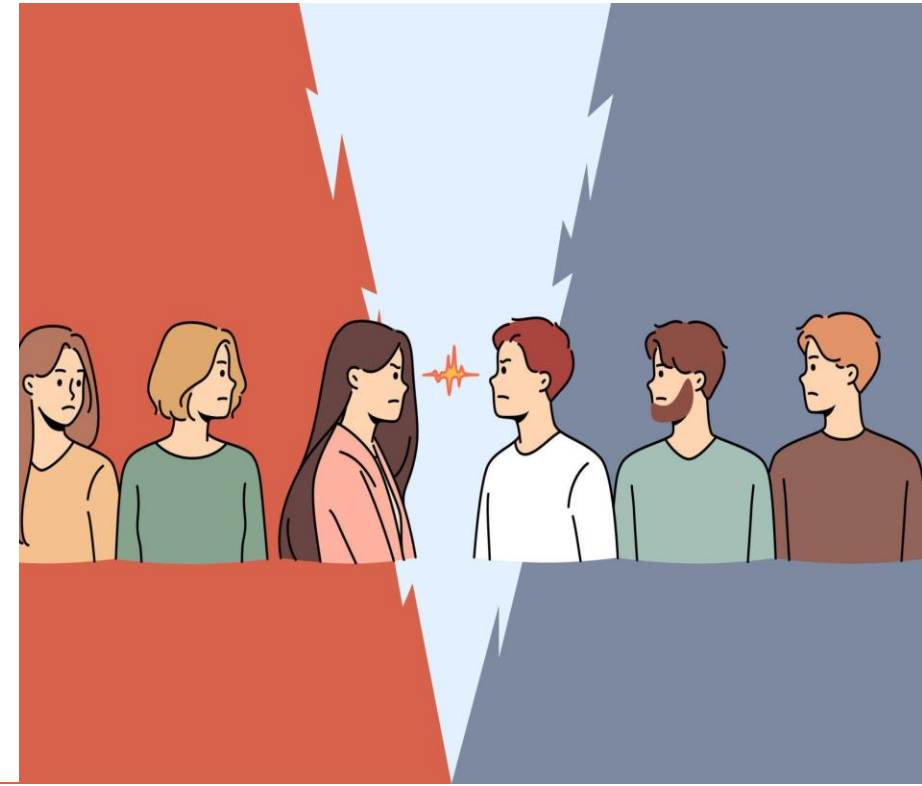
¹⁹ When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

3) How Paul caught the Kairos moment and turned prison into a pulpit.

When facing Opposition...

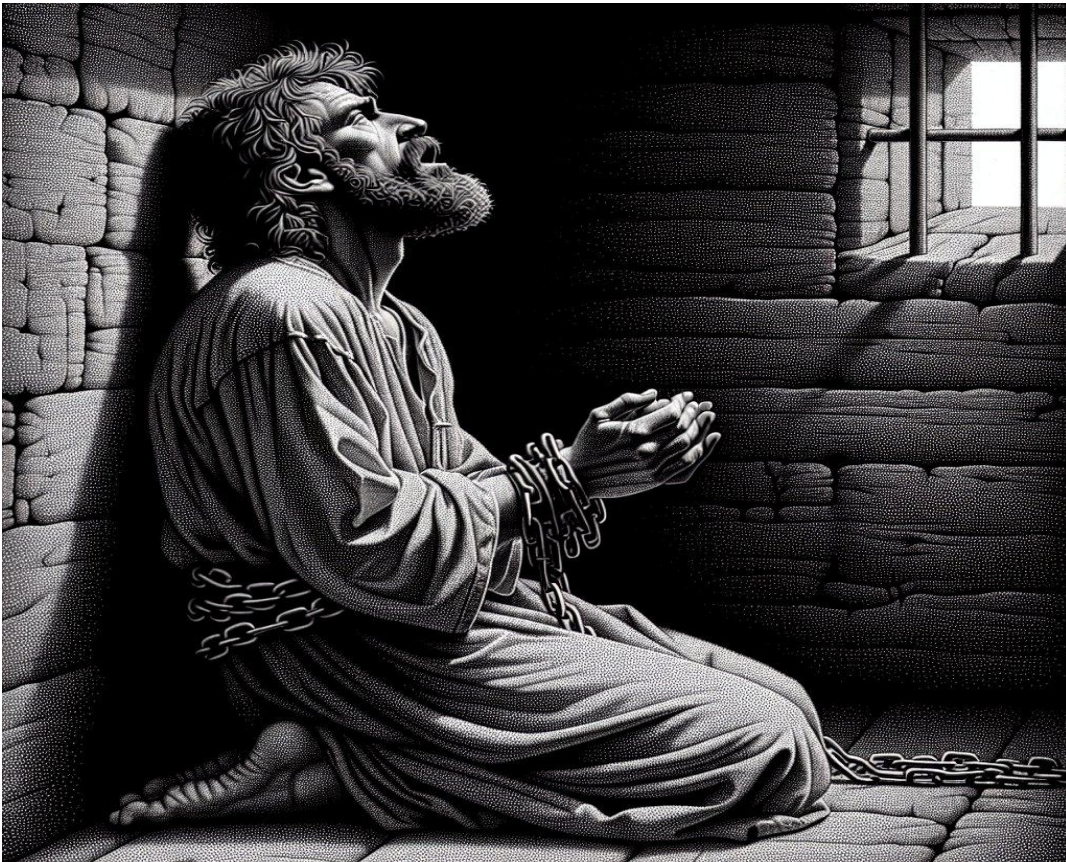


Opposition



**How Paul caught the Kairos moment and turned
prison into a pulpit**

When facing Prison ...



Acts 16:25-28

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

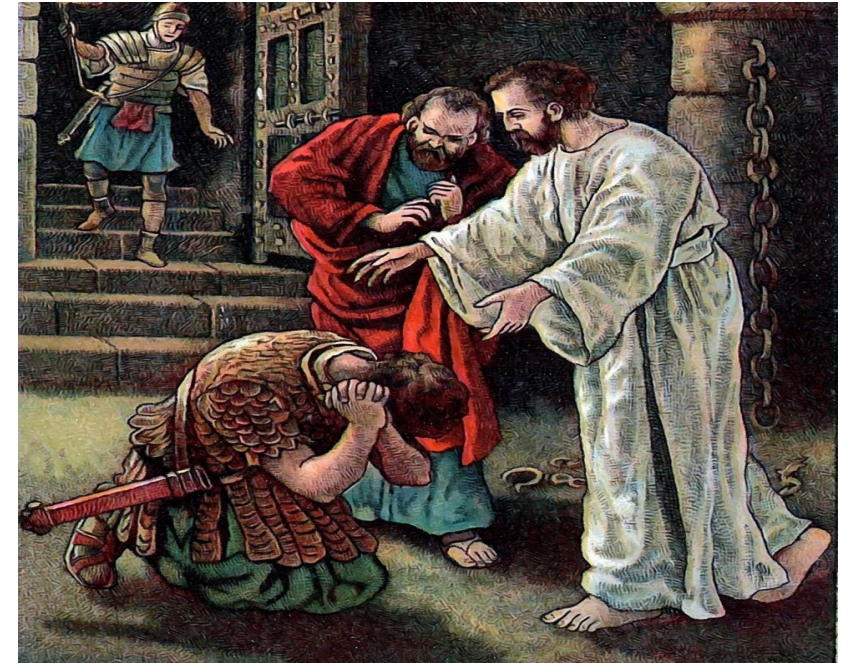
²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

How Paul caught the Kairos moment and turned prison into a pulpit

When facing Prison ...

Worship before deliverance



**Turning a prison crisis
into a gospel
opportunity**

Truth 2:

**People respond differently to the gospel,
but our responsibility is to faithfully
proclaim Christ.**

3 Strategies adopted with 3 kinds of people



A Prepared Heart
(Lydia)

S.O.W.

Seek those who are seeking God

Open God's Word

Wait on God to open hearts

3 Strategies adopted with 3 kinds of people

A Hardened Heart
(The slave girl's owners)

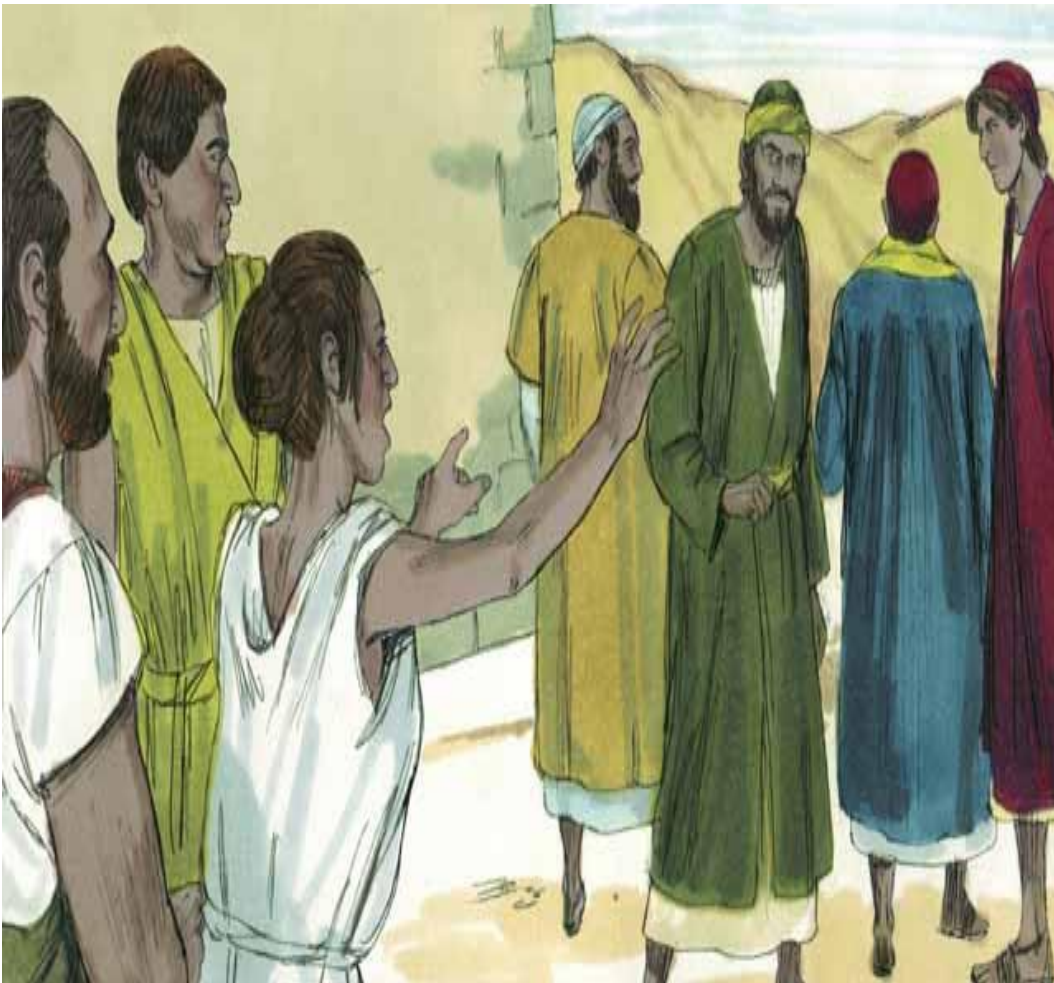
P.R.A.Y.

Patiently discern

Rescue the oppressed

Accept the cost of obedience

Yield the outcome to God



3 Strategies adopted with 3 kinds of people

A awakened Heart *(The Philippian jailer)*

4S's

- S**ing (Choose worship before deliverance)
- S**tay (Choose people over personal freedom)
- S**how (Show practical compassion)
- S**eize (Seize opportunities to proclaim Christ)

