

sermon notes

October 19, 2025 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church
No Other Name | “Unfettered in Philippi” | **Acts 16:11–40**

Advancing Christ’s mission means:

- 1) _____ to Spiritual prompting
(Acts 16:11–15)

- 2) _____ satanic opposition
(Acts 16:16–24)

- 3) _____ blows for the gospel
(Acts 16:25–34)

- 4) _____ how to advance the gospel
(Acts 16:35–40)

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Acts 16:11–40. Why do you think the Holy Spirit sent Paul and Silas to Macedonia? What good things happened to them while they were there? What difficult things (i.e., suffering) did they experience?

If you were one of the prisoners watching Paul and Silas pray and sing after being beaten, what would you be thinking? What does this passage teach us about joy in the midst of suffering? Do you find it hard to worship when you are going through a trial? Does this passage encourage you? In light of this passage, what will you do differently the next time you face a significant trial?

What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas in Acts 16:30? Why would he be concerned about that question at that particular moment? What was their answer? What can we conclude about faith and salvation based on their response?

GET PERSONAL

Describe a time in your life when the Holy Spirit prompted you to take action. How did God use that prompting for his purposes? How do you recognize when the Holy Spirit is prompting you? List three or four principles for discerning the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Do you think you would be praising God in the prison like Paul and Silas (see Acts 16:25)? How could they be so joyful in the midst of suffering? Is that kind of joy possible for Christians today? If so, give some examples.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Read Ephesians 6:10–20. List some weapons that God has given us for spiritual warfare. What are some ways that we can courageously confront satanic opposition? What are some ways that we should not confront satanic opposition?

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

Why do you think Paul waited until he was released from prison to claim his rights as a Roman citizen? Why didn’t he invoke that privilege earlier, when he was being beaten? What did Paul accomplish for the church by asserting his citizenship before leaving Philippi?

Read through the book of Philippians in one sitting (it should take about 15 minutes). While reading, imagine yourself as Lydia, the jailer, or even as the little girl who was rescued from demonization. What passages stand out to you in Paul’s letter? What are some things for which the Philippian church was commended? What are some things they needed to work on?