



ACTS
UNHINDERED

Acts 16

[15:36-16:40]

“UN-PLANNED”



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*How do we respond when our plan
for what God will do seems to fall apart?*

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1. Un-Planned Version of Initial Mission- 1-10

From Antioch to Troas – “through Syria and Cilicia ... Phrygia and Galatia...”

2. Un-Planned Episodes of Extended Mission- 11-40

From Troas to Philippi – “setting sail from Troas ... from there to Philippi...”

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1. Un-Planned Version of Initial Mission- 1-10

From Antioch to Troas – “through Syria and Cilicia ... Phrygia and Galatia...”

“sharp disagreement so that they separated” – 15:39

“Silas ... Timothy” – 15:40, 16:1

“strengthened churches” – 15:41, 16:5

Spirit prohibited – 16:6-7

significant vision, then “we sought to go...” – 16:9-10



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2. Un-Planned Episodes of Extended Mission- 11-40

From Troas to Philippi – “setting sail from Troas ... from there to Philippi...”

Seller of Purple, Lydia from Thyatira:
when guesswork turns good

Slave Girl with Evil Spirit, Healed:
when big annoyance leads to big change ... and big trouble

Saved Jailer and Household:
when an earthquake brings salvation

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“The head of a Jewish household would use the same prayer every morning, giving thanks that God had not made him a Gentile, a woman or a slave. But here were representatives of these three despised categories redeemed and united in Christ. For truly, as Paul had recently written to the Galatians: ‘There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.’”

– John Stott

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“It would be hard to imagine a more disparate group than the business woman, the slave girl and the gaoler. Racially, socially and psychologically they were worlds apart. Yet all three were changed by the same gospel and were welcomed into the same church. ... The wealthy business woman, the exploited slave girl and the rough Roman gaoler had been brought into a brotherly or sisterly relationship with each other and with the rest of the church’s members.”

– John Stott

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for what God will do seems to fall apart?*

