



You never know where the road of life is going to take you.

Acts 16 is a story about the unexpected outcomes of God-ordained change — all the bad and all the good, and how we can learn to be content and give God the glory no matter what happens.

Verses 6-8 - Paul and Silas and ministry team have *walked* over a thousand miles. Weeks have gone by, and their are still unclear about the will of God.

Lesson: Most of the decisions we make are _____ *and* they affect _____, who may or may like what happens to them because of our decisions.

Verse 9 - At last! A sense of God's leading!

Lesson: When we are walking with God, we can make decisions with...

- _____ — you don't know everything now that you'll know later
- and _____ — that things will work out, and if it doesn't God's grace will sustain you. Paul and Silas looked forward, but they didn't look back. See **Verse 10**.

Verses 11-12 - Where do Paul and Silas end up? What's the name of the city? _____

Verses 16-24 — *You never know where the road of life is going to take you.*

- How could everything so right turn out so wrong?
- If we knew then what we know now, we would never have made this decision.
- Why is this happening to us if we were so sure God was leading us in the first place?
- Somehow, we failed. Or people have failed us. Or God has failed us.

“From time to time, and more often than you think, the failure must be big, bold, embarrassing, face-losing, and public. If we (you and me, our unit, our company) don’t make utter fools of ourselves from time, we grow smug — that is, we do not grow at all.”

— Tom Peters, *The Tom Peters Seminar: Crazy Times Call for Crazy Organizations* (p. 279).

You never know where the road of life is going to take you, but where ever it takes you, God will be there to meet you.

Lesson: Life is not about living happily ever after. It’s about making the _____ of every situation and being as _____ as you can be no matter what happens, even if it seems like God led you into this mess. Look how Paul and Silas respond: **Verse 25.**

- No sniveling
- No attitude
- A great attitude
- *And...*“the other prisoners were listening to them.”

Conclusion: Where was Paul thrown in prison?
_____ . See Philippians 4:11-13.

“Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.”

— Philippians 4:12-13, *The Message*