

### Going deeper

In Acts 16 we read about the conversion of the first Christians in Philippi. Philippians is Paul's letter to those Christians. It is a very warm letter, that suggests a very good relationship between apostle and church.

### Read Philippians 4:10-20

4. What have the Philippians done to prompt Paul's thanks?
5. What does Paul say has caused him to rejoice in verse 10?
6. What important lesson has Paul learnt and who has given him the strength for this? How might learning this lesson help us today?
7. What was exceptional about the Philippian church compared with other churches in the early days?
8. What does Paul say about their gifts? Who are they an offering to? What does he mean by 'what I desire is that more be credited to your account'? (vs. 17)
9. How are the Philippian Christians a positive example for us today?

***Now do the applying it to our lives questions...***



**Week Beginning  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### Growth Team News

Growth Teams are back this week! If you are not part of one, then do consider joining one, they are a great chance to both encourage and be encouraged by other Christians.

This week we begin a 4 week series on Acts 16-17, seeing how God's plans work out on the mission field.

**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever**



## God's Plan for Paul

Acts 16:6-15 (page 1111)

Space to take notes on the talk

• \_\_\_\_\_ opens \_\_\_\_\_ h\_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_ open-ended h\_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_ opens \_\_\_\_\_ h\_\_\_\_\_

## Starter question

❖ Share an example of when your plans haven't worked out.

## Responding to the talk

1. What most encouraged, challenged or inspired you from this week's talk?
2. Read Acts 16:6-10
  - a. If possible see if you can find the regions and places mentioned in the passage on a map of the area in Roman times. (There is often a map in the back of bibles).
  - b. How do you think Paul and his team would have felt when the Holy Spirit stopped their plans? (cf. Rom. 1:13)
  - c. How did they respond to these setbacks?
  - d. What does this show about Paul's passion? (cf. Rom. 15:20)
  - e. Who is ultimately directing the mission? (cf. 1:1; 13:1-3)
  - f. How did Paul and his companions think they were meant to help the Macedonians?
3. Read Acts 16:11-15
  - a. Paul normally starts by preaching at a Synagogue (cf. 14:1; 17:2,10). Why might they have been disappointed by the place of prayer they found in Philippi?
  - b. How do we know Lydia was rich?
  - c. In what way did Lydia need help?
  - d. Who is responsible for Lydia becoming a believer?
  - e. How does Lydia offer support for further mission in Philippi? (cf. 16:40)

*You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.*

## Applying it to our lives

10. A Christian friend says that they think they are not called to tell people about Jesus, because every time they try to tell someone or invite someone to an event something goes wrong. How might you encourage them?
11. How can we be like Lydia and support the overall mission of the church in bringing the good news of Jesus to Ramsgate?