



### SET APART DECISION-MAKING - Acts 16:6-10

- This ministry year, we have been developing the theme, “Living Fully – Living Holy”. As we continue to reflect on what holiness (being set apart) looks like in some of the very day-to-day issues, today we’ll focus on God’s direction for making decisions.
- As a case study for godly decision-making, we will take a closer look at Acts 16:6-10 and see how Paul and his fellow workers made decisions regarding where to go on their missionary journey. The key truth we see in this passage is this...

#### **We can trust God to lead us as we are open and committed to follow.**

- The following principles of godly decision-making emerge from Paul’s story.

#### **Godly decision-making begins with belief in God and submission to God. (vs. 6-8)**

- Paul and his companions believed they were in a living relationship with the Living God and were committed to follow His lead.
- When making a decision, we have to answer two key questions...
  - Do I believe God will lead me?
  - Am I willing to follow as He leads?

#### **Godly decision-making is built on the revealed principles of God’s Word.**

- In embarking on a missionary journey, Paul and his companions were following the clear direction of Jesus. (Acts 1:8)
- When making a decision, we need to surrender to any Biblical principles that apply.

#### **While always remaining consistent with His Word, Gods lead in a variety of ways.**

- God often leads through ordinary circumstances. (vs. 4-5)
- God can lead through extraordinary means. These should always be tested. (v. 9, 1 Thess. 5:19-21)
- God can lead through a sense of inner peace. (vs. 10, Colossians 3:15)

#### **Godly decision-making pursues godly counsel. (v. 10)**

- Even after having a vision, Paul made the final decision in community.
- In making decisions, we need to be open to the perspectives of godly people.

#### **We can make decisions with the confidence that God will continue to lead. (Acts 16-17)**

- Rather than be paralyzed by a decision, we can move forward knowing God will continue to direct.

#### **Discussion Questions**

To what degree do you truly believe God is involved in the decisions of your life? Are you willing to follow as He leads?

Who are the people in your life to whom you can turn for Biblically-based insight and godly perspective? How can you apply today’s message to your current decisions?