

# Implications from Acts 16:6-19:20

In this panel, Paul continues to his single-minded focus on the work. Paul is establishing the movement throughout the Roman Empire and moving towards the strategic city of Rome. The implications for us are the same today. We need to stay focused on shaping the emerging paradigm of the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century on the Way of Christ and His Apostles. Like we see in this panel, Paul and his team had many trials and times of want, but the team did what was necessary to press on.

# Read Acts 16:6-19:20

16:1-15    16:16-40    17:1-15    17:16-34  
18:1-17    19:18-28    19:1-20

What keys do you read in this panel? What occurred that made the church successful in establishment and expansion? What does the author mean by the words he is using?

Where are we today? What similarities can we see in this panel compared to our current situation? In our local, national and international work?

### Acts 16:1-3

Paul went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer; but his father was a Greek. He was well spoken of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him; and he took him...

### Acts 16:14-16

A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us. One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling.

Acts 17:10-15

That very night the believers sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea; and when they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue. These Jews were more receptive than those in Thessalonica, for they welcomed the message very eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see whether these things were so....Then the believers immediately sent Paul away to the coast, but Silas and Timothy remained behind. Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy join him as soon as possible, they left him.

Acts 18:1-4

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

**Paul began building a team of co-workers and a network of churches that he relied upon to accomplish the work that was given.**

First Set of Keys

## Acts 16:6-12

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

**- Paul and the team worked at a torrid pace.**

First Set of Keys

18:12-18

But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. They said, "This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law." Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews; but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters." And he dismissed them from the tribunal. Then all of them seized Sosthenes, the official of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of these things.

**-They were faced with many pressures that could make them quit, many Jews rose up and opposed their work, mobs and beatings**

First Set of Keys

18:1-4

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

**-The team supported themselves when needed, but remained totally devoted to the work.**

First Set of Keys

## Acts 18:24-28

Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the believers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

**-The team knew the scriptures very well and helped each other**

First Set of Keys

Acts 16:11-12

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

- **Paul had a strategic plan for carrying out the mission set before him, even though the details changed, he relentlessly worked the plan.**

Second Key

Acts 17:5,10, 13, 16

...but the Jews were jealous and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob

...the brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night  
...but when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds.

...Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols

- **Paul kept the entire vision of his mission in perspective at all times, often making choices of which few saw the logic.**

Third Key

Acts 16:11-12

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

Acts 17:16...22

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there...Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way.

Mars Hill served as the meeting place for the Areopagus Court, the highest court in Greece for civil, criminal, and religious matters. Even under Roman rule in the time of the New Testament, Mars Hill remained an important meeting place where philosophy, religion, and law were discussed.

- **Paul took the gospel into the marketplace, he went to the center of the culture.**
- **The leaders demonstrated an understanding of and ability to work within their culture.**

Fourth & Fifth Key

# Summary of Keys-Acts 16:6-19:20

1. Paul began building a team of co-workers and a network of churches that he relied upon to accomplish the work that was given.
  - Paul's core team worked at torrid pace – the team is in many different places
  - They were faced with many pressures that could make them quit – many Jews rose up and opposed their work, mobs and beatings
  - The team supported themselves when needed, but remained totally devoted to the work.
  - The team knew the scriptures very well and helped each other

# Summary of Keys-Acts 16:6-19:20

2. Paul had a strategic plan for carrying out the mission set before him, even though the details changed, he relentlessly worked the plan.
  - We summarize his plan as the Pauline Cycle and his strategy was through the key cities of the empire.
3. Paul kept the entire vision of his mission in perspective at all times, often making choices of which few saw the logic.
  - Example - Paul refused to remain in Ephesus, even though there was an open door for the gospel.
4. Paul took the gospel into the marketplace, he went to the center of the culture.
  - He went to the agora in Mars Hill.
5. The leaders demonstrated a tremendous command of the Scriptures and the culture.
  - The leaders demonstrated an understanding of and ability to work within their culture.

# Where are we today?

What are the implications of us today? When you hear these keys, what aspects of our work are similar?

Paul began building a team of co-workers and a network of churches that he relied upon to accomplish the work that was given.

- We have a solid leadership team like never before.
- We are getting the international cohorts/networks structured for succeeding with their 5yr and D-Min degrees.
- We are obtaining more years of accreditation from DEAC for the Antioch School.
- The 30-City cities are each progressing with cohorts and learning about ReBuild.
- We are building teams at each of the CityChurches and key leaders moving the Antioch School forward.



Paul's core team worked at torrid pace – the team is in many different places

- Everyone is working tirelessly. From 6am until after midnight for weeks at a time
- ....while in countries and cities all over the world
- the constant pressures of money, while having consistent conversations with leaders in other churches who don't/won't understand
- managing farm-work, family life, local community engagement, while remaining devoted to worldwide work

Paul had a strategic plan for carrying out the mission set before him, even though the details changed, he relentlessly worked the plan.

- We have a Grand Strategy to: Shape the emerging paradigm of the church of the 21st century around the 1st century “Way of Christ and His Apostles,” recovering the Antioch Tradition of the first 300 years.
  - Our Grand Strategy is completely shaped and put together from the keys of Acts and the entire New Testament.



Paul kept the entire vision of his mission in perspective at all times, often making choices of which few saw the logic.

- We continue to have huge, strategic opportunities.
  - Opportunities - China, Indian cohorts, African networks, USA key leaders of denominations, 30-City Strategy, CityChurches
  - Why move on towards accomplishing China? Can't we wait until we have more problems solved in China?
  - Why add more cities in the USA? Can't we wait until we have more problems solved and have more money to do it with?
  - I think if people really understood the high-level of people we are working with their response would be: that can only be because of the Spirit's blessing.
    - Simultaneously, if people knew how few of people our church and team was in accomplishing this work, they would say: You guys are crazy and insane.

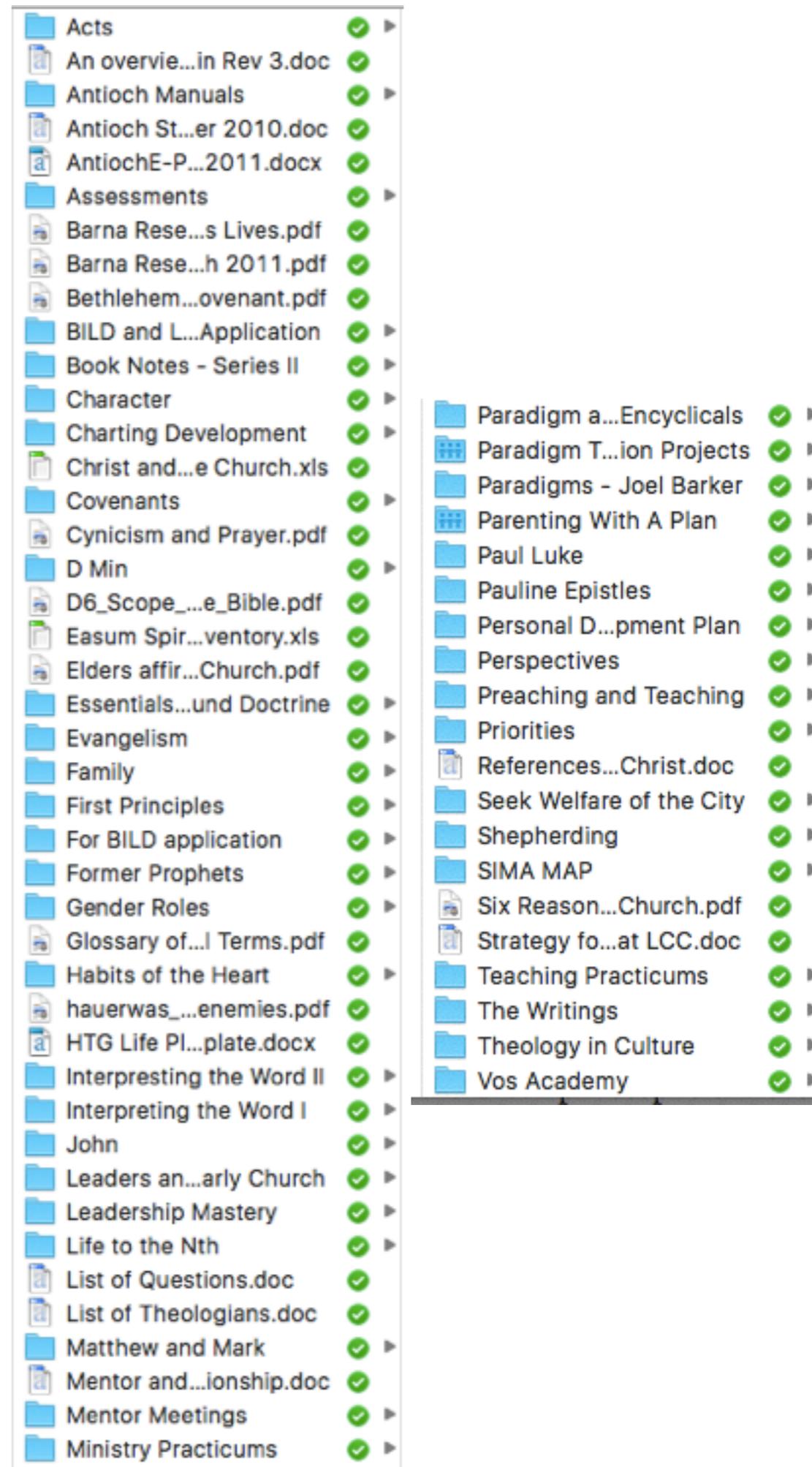
Paul took the gospel into the marketplace, he went to the center of the culture.

- We are taking the gospel to the Urban Centers and have a 30 City strategy.



The leaders demonstrated a tremendous command of the Scriptures and the culture.

- It is imperative that even among the torrid pace, that everyone in our leadership team prioritizes their work in the First Principles and Antioch School.
  - You will not be able to accomplish your role unless you have a lifelong habit of transforming your mind.
- I have completed over 900 projects in the Antioch School



## Mother-in-law

- anniversary with them leading them through Teaching FP
- worked in the church for over 30 years
- seeking “real and significant change”
- you guys appear to have it, why? We want what you and your church have?

...it appears that you and your team have an opportunity to actually move the church (worldwide church) in a different direction, embrace it.