

ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, September 10, 2023 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 31 | **Setback or Set-Up?**

Acts 15:36-16:10

Previously... (Acts 1-15)

God can turn every **SETBACK** (v. 36-41)

real life

real setbacks Philippians 4:12-13

into a **SET-UP** (v. 1-5)

God has a plan Exodus 2:25; Romans 8:28



all things to all people 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

as we **SURRENDER** to his will. (v. 6-10)



ways the Spirit leads us John 16:13-14; 1 Corinthians 12:3

GOD'S WORD

OUR OBEDIENCE & PRAYER

OTHER CHRISTIANS

ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

EXTRAORDINARY MEANS

ALWAYS

RARELY



experiencing God's will Proverbs 3:5-6; 1 Peter 4:19; Psalm 23; Eph. 5:10; 15-17; Deuteronomy 29:29



Text us at **833-271-8805**.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "Pray for..." followed by your request.

Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.

How God Guided in ACTS

Through direct revelation (1:4-5, 11; 8:29; 10:19; 13:2; 16:6-7; 20:23)

Through Scripture (1:20)

Through the casting of lots (1:23-26)

Through unexpected, supernatural acts (2:1-41)

Through the apostles' teaching (2:42)

Through judgment (5:1-11)

Through church "growing pains" (6:1-7)

Through persecution and evil opposition (7:54-8:1; 14:5-7; 20:3)

Through angelic messengers (8:26; 10:3-8; 27:22-26)

Through miraculous relocation (8:39)

Through direct, life-altering encounters with the risen Lord (9:3-9)

Through visions (9:10; 10:3-8, 9-16; 11:6; 16:9-10; 18:9-11; 23:11)

Through human instruments/messengers (9:17-19, 27-28)

Through times of intense prayer (10:9; 13:2)

Through bringing to their minds the words of the Lord (11:16)

Through prophetic utterances (11:28; 21:4, 10-12)

Through God-honoring, Spirit-led discussions among church leaders (15:1-31)

Through promptings by the Spirit (15:28; 19:21; 20:22)

Through closed doors (16:6-7)

Through favorable circumstances (19:8-11)

Through having them take advantage of civil/legal/political rights (25:10-12)

Taken from Bruce B. Barton and Grant R. Osborne, Acts, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999), 274.

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Fall 2023 in Life Groups

This week we kick off our Fall Life Group Season. Your first meeting is designed to give you time to get acquainted, connect with each other, as well as time to discuss how to make your Life Group meetings great! The study questions have been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish all of this.

To prepare, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and see how God might work!

Getting to Know You

Here's a random question to discuss and break the ice as you get going: What are one or two things you enjoyed most this summer?

Priming the Pump...

- When life gets difficult and/or we face setbacks, we often try to understand what God's will is. We may wonder what God is up to and even if there's any hope. As you think back on this week's message, what one or two statements or points are most important for you to remember and why?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.

- This week we heard that living by the Spirit and knowing God's will has much to do with simply obeying Jesus in the small things of life. In **Philippians 4:4-14**, Paul gives us a game plan for God's will no matter where we are and/or what's going on. **Read the passage and jot down three or four things that catch your attention that we can do to be in God's will regardless of our circumstances.**

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR OUTCOMES

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...



1 | Receiving From God.

Am I reading the Word regularly? Am I gathering to hear the Word taught? Is there fruit of the Spirit in my life?



2 | Responding To God.

Am I worshiping Jesus or something else? Am I talking and listening to God regularly? Am I repenting of my sin?



3 | Receiving From Others.

Am I in community with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?



4 | Moving Toward Others.

Am I contributing to and initiating community with other Christians in our church or just consuming?



5 | Going Out on Mission.

Am I regularly moving out toward those far from God, loving them and sharing God's Story and my own story?

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 16:1-5 (NLT)

Find the words **bolded** below.

1 Paul went first to Derbe and then to Lystra, where there was a young disciple named Timothy. His mother was a Jewish believer, but his father was a Greek. 2 Timothy was well thought of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium, 3 so Paul wanted him to join them on their journey. In deference to the Jews of the area, he arranged for Timothy to be circumcised before they left, for everyone knew that his father was a Greek. 4 Then they went from town to town, instructing the believers to follow the decisions made by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem. 5 So the churches were strengthened in their faith and grew larger every day.

W E N T H O U G H T H E N F J
N M N F E R R F O L L O W U O
A U L Y S T R A O F O O E T U
M G T M W A N T E D W T L O R
E R C H U R C H E S P C L W N
D E R B E L I E V E R Y O N E
I E L F D A R R A N G E D K Y
P K A I E E C E U Y O J I P H
N L P R F O U W E V Y E S A U
T K O S E G M O T H E R C U M
I N S T R U C T I N G U I L F
M E T D E C I S I O N S P G U
O W L J N F S N A R E A L O W
T F E O C J E W I S H L E F T
H W S I E L D E R S J E W S R
Y O U N G I C O N I U M A D E

life groups Study Guide (continued)

praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me— practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. **PHILIPPIANS 4:4-14 (ESV)**

- Trusting that God's will is working for the good in our lives (and the world) can be and often is challenging. How might **Psalms 33:6-11** build your confidence in following God's game plan for your life?

⁶By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. ⁷He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. ⁸Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! ⁹For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. ¹⁰The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. ¹¹The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. **PSALM 36:6-11 (ESV)**

Prayer

As you close, do two things:

- Discuss some of your hopes for your Life Group this fall. Specifically, look at the 5 Outcomes or Targets of ways we all want to grow. If you had to pick one to focus on this fall, which would it be? (For your group, and for you personally.)
- Take time to pray for each other. Consider **dividing into separate groups of men and women** as you pray for one another.

This week's Study Guide is adapted in part from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

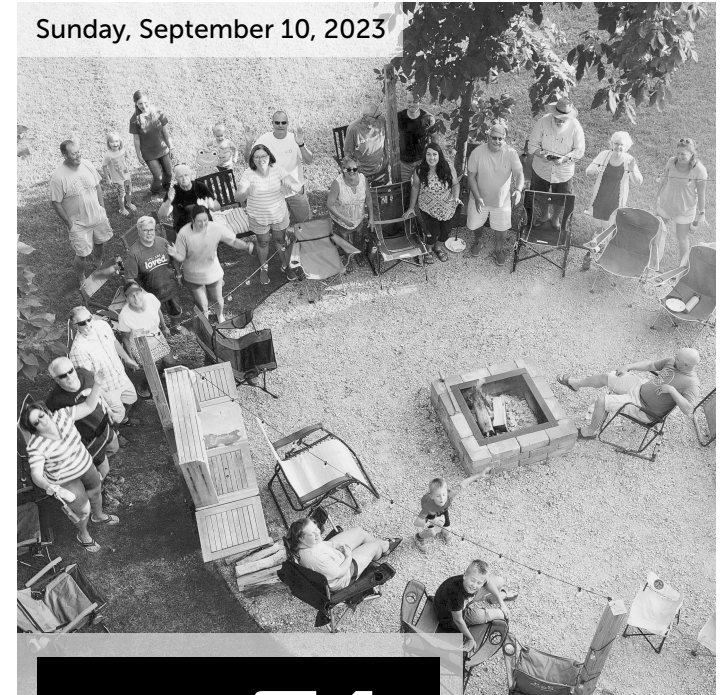
Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, September 10, 2023



PART 31

Setback or Set-Up?

ACTS 15:36-16:10



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you! You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.

