

Message Title: "WHY AM I A CHRISTIAN"

**Series: ACTS 180 – When the World
Was Turned Upside Down!**

180 Church | Acts 16:6-34
Pastor Harlyn | Sept 19, 2021

Acts 16:6-9 "And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷ And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. ⁸ So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Acts 16:10-12 "And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹ So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days."

Acts 16:13-14 "And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God."

Acts 16:14b-15 "The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us."

1. The Gospel gives _____ that answer the questions we are asking.

Acts 16:16-17 "As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation."

Acts 16:18 "And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour."

John 8:36 (Jesus) "He who the Son sets free is free indeed."

2. The Gospel of Jesus Christ radically _____ lives.

Acts 16:22-24 "The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks."

Acts 16:25-27 "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped."

Acts 16:28 “But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.”

Acts 16: 29-30 “And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

3. The _____ shows us a life that is more meaningful than the one we are currently living.

The Gospel offers:

_____ **that make sense of the world.**

_____ **that makes a difference in the world.**

_____ **that is unique in this world.**

Matthew 5:14 (Jesus) “You are the light of the world.”

LOOK IN:

- 1.** How has the gospel helped you in your life? How have you used the gospel to try and help others?
- 2.** Do you allow the words, the truth of the Gospel, to have the authority and influence they are intended to have in your life? Do you let them define your world? Why or why not?
- 3.** Do you live a transformed life that is transforming others? Is there a difference in you that others can see? And are you making a difference in others 'lives? Why or why not?
- 4.** Is your life unique? Is there a beautiful difference between your life and the lives of those around you, because of the gospel that is in you? Why or why not?