

Following God's Dream  
for Your Life:  
*Lessons from the Apostle Paul*

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*“Expect great things from  
God—attempt great things  
for God”*

William Carey

# Acts 16:6-34

# Six Lessons from Paul's Pursuit of God's Dream

# 1. Be clear on your vision.

- Paul's original vision came directly from God; Acts 9
- A Macedonian vision; Acts 16:6-10
- Make certain God is the source of your vision.
- Make certain your vision is clear and compelling.

# How to conceive God's vision for your life

- Look above you – What is God saying?
- Look within you – What is your passion?
- Look around you – What is your context?
- Look ahead of you – Where do you want to be?
- Look beside you – What resources has God given you?

## 2. Develop and execute a plan

- Paul followed a missionary plan
- *“A dream without a plan is only a daydream”*
  - John Maxwell
- “Man does not plan to fail, he just fails to plan.”
- **Luke 14:28-33**; planning and counting the cost
- **Prov. 16:9**; The mind of man plans his ways, but the LORD directs his steps.



# 3. Listen to and obey the Spirit's guidance

- Acts 16:6-7; “prevented by the Holy Spirit”
- Acts 16:9; a vision for Europe
- Acts 16:16-18; spirit of discernment
- God's people have a capacity to know His voice; John 10



# 4. Appreciate and value the role of others in your dream

- Place a high value on people
- Use teambuilding to make your dream a reality
- Recognize the perils of going it alone.
- Eccl. 4:9-11; Two are better than one

# 5. Be prepared to endure adversity and resistance.

- II Timothy 2:3; “endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”
- Acts 16:22-24; beaten and imprisoned
- I Corinthians 1:8-10; Paul’s hardships in ministry
- *“Obstacles are only frightening when you take your eyes off the goal.”* Henry Ford

# 6. Rejoice in all situations

- Acts 16:25; Paul and Silas in prison
- Praise under pressure releases God's intervention.
- I Thess. 5:16-18; "be joyful always..."
- James 1:3; "Consider it joy when you face various trials..."