

New Mount Moriah AMEC

Bible Study, 7 July 2026

Acts 16:6-11 (NKJV)

Introduction: During last week's Bible Study, we engaged in a very lively discussion on fulfilling our born-again purpose and emphasizing that our purpose/good works are not for our story but for God's glory. Tonight, we will discuss Paul fulfilling his purpose through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Despite his desire to preach in Asia, Paul yielded to the Holy Spirit and preached in Europe! God also closes doors for His children that He may lead them to fulfil His purpose.

Lesson Outline:

- Vs. 6-7 Are Your Plans, God's Plans?**
- Vs. 8-9 God's Plan Revealed**
- Vs. 10-11 Responding to God's Guidance**

Lesson Review:

Vs. 6-7 Are Your Plans, God's Plans? The Apostle Paul's plans were Godly, but not according to God's plans. Proverbs 16:9 reads, "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps." We must not force open doors that God closed to redirect us. The text says, "**They were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.**" **Forbidden** (Kolyo) means to restrain, hinder, or prevent.

Insight: Please note, Paul wasn't forbidden from preaching the gospel, but preaching it in Asia. Please also note the Spirit who forbade them is the Spirit of the risen Christ (John 14:15-18).

Life Application: Has God ever closed a door in your life to lead you in a different direction? Have you forced open a door that God closed only to regret it later?

Supporting Scriptures: John 16:7

John 14:16-17

Vs. 8-9

God's Plan Revealed: Macedonia was located across the Aegean Sea on the mainland of Greece. Paul desired to preach the gospel in Asia, but God's plan was for him to preach it in Europe. The primary Greek word for **Vision** is (horama), which means that which is seen, a supernatural sight, or a divine vision.

- It was through a vision that God revealed His plan to the Apostle Paul.
- Wi-Fi isn't new; God connected with His people (wireless) through prayer long before the internet was invented. And unlike the internet, His password never changes (JESUS).

Life Application: Because God closes a door or redirects us doesn't mean we should close our hearts to His guidance. We should never allow closed doors to discourage us and sit down on God. The Apostle Paul teaches us to keep moving and wait on God's guidance.

Supporting Scriptures: Matthew 28:19-20

Acts 2:17

Vs. 10-11 **Responding to God's Guidance:** The word "**we**" in our text informs us that Luke joined Paul, Silas, and Timothy on their missionary mission. **Immediately**, Paul and those accompanying him did not hesitate to go to Macedonia.

Life Application: Because Paul did not try to force open a door that God closed, but continued about his Father's business, God's Will was revealed to him through a vision.

Supporting Scriptures: 1 John 4:1