

The Prevailing Purposes of God

Acts 15:36-16:15

At the conclusion of the Jerusalem Council, Paul embarks on his **2nd Missionary Journey**.

“*And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” (15:36)*

The ultimate result was _____ for the first time!

“*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. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. 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.” (16:14-15)*

But there were **difficulties along the way** ... Acts 15:36-41

Some thoughts on **conflict** in the Christian life:

- Some conflict is _____, but our aim is always _____ (Romans 12:16-18).
- _____ at all costs is not _____. Sometimes _____ is the best outcome*.
- God can/will use conflict to advance His purposes ____ and _____ us.
- Conflict among Christians is always _____. (1 Cor. 9:6; 2 Tim. 4:11)

From this conflict ...

- The mission work was _____.
- John Mark was _____.
- Paul and Barnabas both _____.
- Silas added _____.
- Timothy _____.

Why did Paul have him circumcised?

Was Paul inconsistent in his theology? (Cf. to situation with Titus in Galatians 2:3-5)

Open doors and open hearts – **How God advances the gospel** ... Acts 16:6-15

Why did the Holy Spirit *forbid* them from going to Asia? Isn’t the gospel for everyone?

- The prohibition was _____.
- God’s _____ is _____.
- _____ was not the only weapon in God’s arsenal! (Cf. 1 Peter 1:1-2)

Some lessons for us?

Keep pushing forward until God Himself clearly _____ and _____ our efforts.

We discover God’s will and direction thru _____ ...

_____ God and _____ his leading.

Lydia – Europe’s 1st Believer!

A _____ appointment; an _____; a _____

My takeaways today:

Adult Choir Christmas Music Preview

Wednesday, August 3 | 6pm | Parlor

Everyone is invited to the Adult Choir Christmas Music Preview fellowship. Please also consider joining us in the choir room for regular fehearsals beginning August 10 at 7pm.

Family Bike Night | Wednesday, August 3 | 6-7:30pm

Preschool and Calvary Kids families, bring your bikes, your scooters, your skateboards, and your family for our “Family Bike Night.” We will block off our parking lot and allow children to safely ride with their friends! Parents must stay. Bring a chair or a blanket and enjoy this fun time of fellowship. We will also have ice cream for you to enjoy!

Local Missions Opportunities

Calvary’s Adopted School Needs

Teachers at Girard Elementary and Girard Intermediate Schools are in need of items for their classrooms. This school year we want to bless these teachers by collecting the following items for them: paper towels, Kleenex tissue, Clorox wipes, and baby wipes. Drop off items at the ROC or the church office. The deadline is Sunday, August 7. If you have questions, email Tommy Perry at tommy@calvarydothan.com or call the church office.

Love Dothan Initiative

As the body of Christ, we have another opportunity to serve the neighbors of our city through the Love Dothan initiative. On Saturday, August 20, the opportunity to serve will benefit the residents of the Morris-Haven neighborhood (adjacent to the Houston County Farm Center). The coordination point for volunteers will be the Houston County Farm Center. Work hours are 8:00-12:00. Cleanup will be the primary focus of our service. Bring useful tools such as chainsaws, pole saws, lawn mowers, string trimmers, hedge trimmers, pruning shears, rakes, and work gloves. If you or members of your Life Group are interested in volunteering, email tommy@calvarydothan.com or call the church office.

Midweek Meal Cook Needed

Calvary is in need of a Midweek Meal cook. If you or someone you know is interested, email Charles Uptain at charles@calvarydothan.com for more information.

Life Group Promotion Sunday

All preschool, children and student Life Groups will promote to their new class on August 7.

Dinner with the Pastor

Tuesday, August 9 | 6:15pm | Parlor

Membership Matters

Wednesday, August 17 | 6pm | Parlor

If you are considering membership at Calvary, please join us for Dinner with the Pastor and the Membership Matters class. Contact Angie in the church office or email angie@calvarydothan.com to RSVP for dinner and childcare. Childcare is provided for 6 week olds-5th grade.

D-Group Rally

Sunday, August 14 | 5pm | Fellowship Center

Come celebrate what God is doing through D-Groups! This event is for ALL men and women of Calvary. Childcare will be provided for babies through Kindergarten.

Evangelism Training with Randy Pope

Friday, August 12 | 6-8:30pm

Saturday, August 13 | 8:30am-12noon

Location: First Presbyterian Church in Dothan

This training is ideal for anyone who has a desire to share the gospel but doesn’t know where to start. \$25/person covers materials, dessert and coffee Friday night and continental breakfast Saturday morning. Call First Presbyterian Church office to sign up for childcare, 334-794-3128. Register online at: https://ministryplatform.perimeter.org/portal/event_detail.aspx?id=76715

enAble Volunteers Needed

enAble Ministry helps those with physical and mental disabilities. We offer a Sunday rotation schedule and we have respite care night once a month. Contact the church office for more information.

Calvary Kids Ministry

We’re almost there! Our team is nearly full for August, but we’re still looking for a few more godly men and women to join our team to make disciples among our elementary boys and girls. Our current openings include:

Kids Worship Leaders | Sundays at 10am

1st and 2nd Grade | Wednesday Evenings at 6pm

Reach out to Zach in person, by email, call or text him at zach@calvarydothan.com or 334-733-6326.

God Opens the Heart

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. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. Acts 16:14

Everywhere Paul preached some believed and some did not. How are we to understand why some of those who are dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1, 5) believed and some did not?

The answer why some did *not* believe is that they “thrust it aside” (Acts 13:46) because the message of the gospel was “folly to [them], and [they were] not able to understand” (1 Corinthians 2:14). The mind of the flesh “is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot” (Romans 8:7).

Everyone who hears and rejects the gospel “hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed” (John 3:20). They remain “darkened in their understanding . . . because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart” (Ephesians 4:18). It is a guilty ignorance. The truth is available. But “by their unrighteousness [they] suppress the truth” (Romans 1:18).

But why then do some believe, since all are in this condition of rebellious hardness of heart, dead in their trespasses? The book of Acts gives the answer in at least three different ways. One is that they are appointed to believe. When Paul preached in Antioch of Pisidia, the Gentiles rejoiced and “as many as were appointed to eternal life believed” (Acts 13:48).

Another way of answering why some believe is that God granted repentance. When the saints in Jerusalem heard that Gentiles, and not just Jews, were responding to the gospel, they said, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life” (Acts 11:18).

But the clearest answer in Acts to the question why a person believes the gospel is that God opens the heart. Lydia is the best example. Why did she believe? Acts 16:14 says, “The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.”

If you are a believer in Jesus, all of these happened to you: You were appointed to believe; you were granted to repent; and the Lord opened your heart. The rest of your life you should be overflowing with amazed thankfulness at the miracle that you are a believer.

Devotional by John Piper excerpted from “*How the Lord of Life Gives Life*”

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

My Decision Today:

- I trusted Jesus as Savior.
- I’d like to join Calvary Baptist Church.
- I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.
- Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pastors & Prayer Team Only
- Churchwide

Connect Card

July 31, 2022

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- Please update my information
- Please contact me about membership

I am a:

- First Time Guest
- Attender
- Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

Male Female

Married Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

July 31, 2022



I'm New Here

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/podcast or use Calvary's Church by MinistryOne app.

calvarydothan.com

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901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday 334.793.9898

FIRST TIME GUEST?

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church. Please fill out the Connect Card to the left and place it in one of the offering plates when they are passed. Be sure to stop by our Next Steps kiosk after the service for a gift from us!

THE PEOPLE CAME...

July 24 (available 08/07)

Life Groups: n/a
10:00 Worship: n/a
Hispanic Church: n/a
Grace City Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund
Given July 24: \$35,497.25
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): (\$10,023.58)

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, August 7:
Dt 18, Ps 105, Is 45, Rev 15
Monday, August 8:
Dt 19, Ps 106, Is 46, Rev 17
Tuesday, August 9:
Dt 20, Ps 107, Is 47, Rev 17
Wednesday, August 10:
Dt 21, Ps 108-109, Is 48, Rev 18
Thursday, August 11:
Dt 22, Ps 110-111, Is 49, Rev 19
Friday, August 12:
Dt 23, Ps 112-113, Is 50, Rev 20
Saturday, August 13:
Dt 24, Ps 114-115, Is 51, Rev 21

Midweek Schedule

No Midweek July 6-August 3.
Midweek will resume August 10.
5:30pm Midweek Meal, Fellowship Center
6:00pm Midweek Worship, Sanctuary
Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool Building
Children, Grades 1-5, ROC
Students, Grades 6-12, Student Room

4 Ways to Give

- Give online by going to calvarydothan.com/give-online/.
- On Sundays, drop in the offering plate or in the collection boxes near the Fellowship Center exit doors
- Mail to 901 Montezuma Avenue, Dothan, AL 36303
- Bring to the church office, M-F, 8am-12noon & 1-4:30pm

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson.....Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship
Patrick Lima.....Worship
Tommy Perry.....Missions

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, July 31:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791
Saturday, August 6:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986
Sunday, August 7:
Randy Hunt | 334-791-7986

SERMON SCHEDULE

No Midweek Service July 6-August 3

Sunday, August 7 | 10am
Acts: Unstoppable Spread of an Unshakeable Faith
Message by Paul Thompson

Wednesday, August 10 | 6pm
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, August 14 | 10am
Acts: Unstoppable Spread of an Unshakeable Faith
Message by Paul Thompson

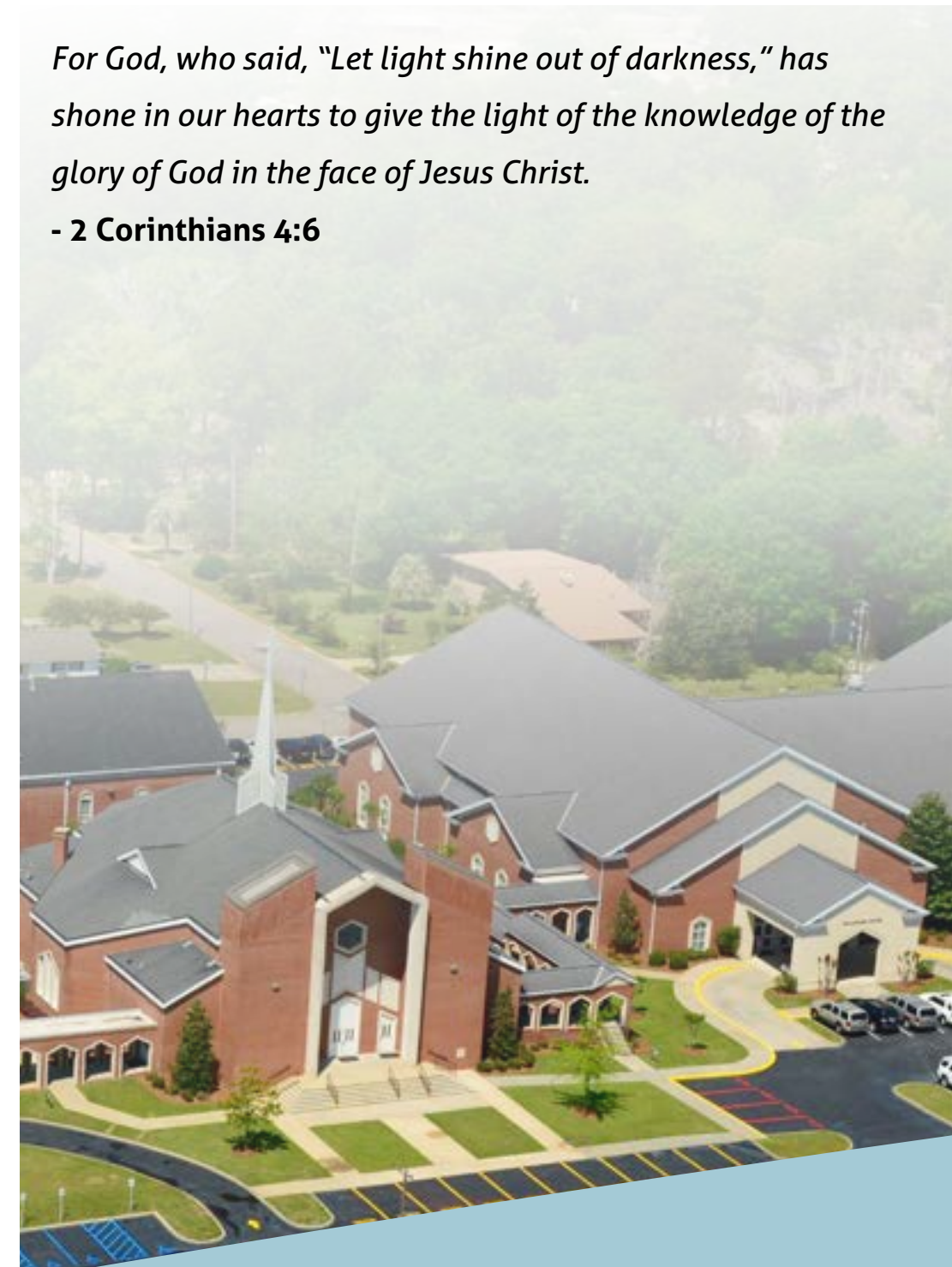
Wednesday, August 17 | 6pm
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Sanctuary
8:30am Life Group
10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
No Kids Worship in July
11:00am Worship Broadcast on JoyFM 94.3/96.1 with a 1 wk delay.

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 4:6



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH