

**The ONE Voice**  
**“The First Time They Heard His Voice”**  
PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY  
February 21, 2021

*“This letter is from Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus.*

*I am writing to all of God’s holy people in Philippi who belong to Christ Jesus, including the church leaders and deacons.*

*<sup>2</sup> May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.*

*<sup>3</sup> Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.<sup>4</sup> Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy,<sup>5</sup> for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*

*<sup>7</sup> So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart.”*

**Philippians 1:1–7 NLT**

**Acts 16: The ONE Voice is heard in Philippi**

**Lydia**

- “Riverside”
- “Seller of purple”
- “Worshiper of God”
- “Come to my house and stay”

**Slave Girl**

- “Spirit of divination”
- “Fortune teller”
- “She followed...crying out...‘way of salvation’”
- “Their hope of gain was gone”

**Jailer**

- “Was about to kill himself”
- “Trembling with fear, fell down before Paul and Silas asking, ‘What must I do to be saved?’”
- “Washed their wounds”
- “Brought them into his house and set food before them.”

*When Paul and Silas left the prison, they returned to the home of Lydia. There they met with the believers and encouraged them once more. Then they left town.*

**Acts 16:40 NLT**

**Three people, once separated, broken and desperate are now \_\_\_\_\_, experiencing \_\_\_\_\_ and hope.**

**These 3 people \_\_\_\_\_ our generation’s confused and contradicting IDEAS.**

**We learn:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ seeing people as common; \_\_\_\_\_ understanding why God paid such a high price to restore them.

**Acts 10:16**

3x God spoke, “What God has made clean do not call common.”

2. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ people find deep friendship through Jesus.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ paves the way to imitating Jesus; preferring others as higher than ourselves.
4. God’s incredible \_\_\_\_\_ is our example and inspiration.
5. Time to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus through the crowd.

**Challenge:**

- How will you give your attention to the ONE VOICE that matters?
- Where do I start?
  - Read MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE or JOHN. Listen, correct, & act.
  - What are you confused about?
  - What hurts in your life?
  - Where do you want to grow?
  - Commit to being present as God’s church when we gather; in-person or online.
- **CLARITY will come, the fog will dissipate.**

**Check out these FREE online studies from Doug Britton for further study:**

**Listen to God, Not Culture**

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/cultural-contamination](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/cultural-contamination)

**Allow the Holy Spirit to Change You**

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-spirit-in-you](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-spirit-in-you)

**The Power in Humility**

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/humility](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/humility)

## Life Group Homework

For the week of February 21, 2021

### MY STORY

- 1) What did you do this past week to shift your heart towards generosity?
- 2) How was your Chair Time this past week?

### QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What challenged you from Sunday's message?

### DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

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#### Philippians 1:1-7 NLT

- 1) What do you see about Paul's and Timothy's attitude and actions toward the Philippian church?

Let's take a step back and read Acts 16:11-40. Here we will learn more about Paul's relationship with this church.

- 2) From this passage where is the first place Paul met the God-fearing people of Philippi? What do you see about this initial exchange?
- 3) What happened with the slave girl, and what was the accusation toward Paul and Silas?
- 4) What was Paul's and Silas's response to being beaten and jailed?

The jailer would have been executed in Roman culture for failing to do his Job—that is the reason he starts to end his life. Paul and Silas didn't flee because they saw the value of the jailer.

- 5) How did God use Paul and Silas in the jailer's life?
- 6) How would this experience have set a tone for the Philippian church?
- 7) In thinking about the experience from Acts 16, how does it impact the way we understand the opening of the letter to the Philippian church?
- 8) What did you learn from today's study? What is your takeaway?

### CHAIR TIME TOOL

Read Acts 16 and Philippians 1 and answer the following questions.

- 1) What are the connections?
- 2) How does God move through Paul and Silas?
- 3) Were their circumstances easy or difficult, and what was their perspective?
- 4) Ask God to reveal other thoughts to you from these passages.