"The Birth of a Church" Acts 16:11-40

- I. A wealthy business woman is saved (v. 11-15)
 - A. Paul was led by God to Philippi

"Those who are led by the Spirit are sons of God." (Romans 8:14)

B. Paul saw where God was working

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him." (John 6:44)

C. Paul shared the gospel with the women

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.' (I Peter 3:15)

D. Lydia and her household were saved

"For God so loved the world that he sent his one and only Son that, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

- E. Lydia began to house the missionaries
- II. An enslaved woman is freed (v. 16-18)
 - A. The woman was a slave to men
 - B. The woman was a slave to the devil
 - C. The woman was a slave to sin
 - D. The woman was freed in the name of Jesus

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." (I John 4:4)

- III. A tough jailer is saved (v. 19-34)
 - A. Paul and Silas are wrongly arrested
 - B. Paul and Silas are wrongly beaten
 - C. Paul and Silas are wrongly imprisoned
 - D. Paul and Silas are praising God

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)

E. God sent the Jailer an earth shaking message

- F. The jailer got the message and <u>believed in Jesus</u>
- G. The jailer's household was also <u>saved</u>
- H. The jailer was a changed man

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

- IV. A church was born in Philippi (v. 35-40)
 - A. Paul & Silas were officially released from <u>prison</u>
 - B. They encouraged the <u>church</u> at Lydia's house