

**EXPOSITORY SERMON SERIES ON THE BOOK OF ACTS, #42**  
**Section Three, “The Foreign Emphasis,” Part One**  
**“Paul is a Pioneer for the Continuation of the Church,” #11**  
**“Paul Expands the Church- The 2nd Missionary Journey,” Part One**  
**“The Expanding Church Experiences Fruitful Progress,” #2**  
**“Another Plan is Adopted,” 16:6-15**  
**Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, PM, February 27, 2005**

**INTRODUCTION:**

*SneakPreview:* It is foolish to make plans and then ask God to bless them. It is better to discover God’s plan and join in with Him!

**PROPOSITION:** In this passage we shall see four dimensions to the alternate plan of the missionaries which help to teach us that God’s plans are not always our plans.

**I. THE REASON FOR AN ALTERNATE PLAN IS EXPLAINED.**  
**Vss. 6-8.**

- A. Note the Servants’ Plans. Vss. 6a, 7a.
- B. Note the Spirit’s Prevention. Vss. 6b, 7b.
- C. Note the Spirit’s Plan. Vs. 8.

*LifePoint One:* The Spirit never graciously hinders our plans if our plans hinder the Spirit.

**II. THE REVELATION OF THE ALTERNATE PLAN IS EXPRESSED.** Vss. 9, 10

- A. The Method of the Revelation was Conclusive. Vs. 9a.
- B. The Message of the Revelation was Communicated. Vs. 9b.
- C. The Meaning of the Revelation was Clear. Vs. 10.

*LifePoint Two:* While God often works “in mysterious ways,” He is never ambiguous when He wants us to move.

**III. THE REALIZATION OF THE ALTERNATE PLAN IS EXPERIENCED. Vss. 11, 12**

A. The Missionaries were **Obedient**. Vss. 11, 12a.

B. The Missionaries were **Observant**. Vs. 12b.

**LifePoint** Three: Sometimes discovering God's will takes time and lots of patience. "Good things come to those who wait."

**IV. THE RESULTS OF THE ALTERNATE PLAN ARE EXCEPTIONAL. 13-15.**

A. The Results were Exceptional Because of **Prayer**. Vs. 13.

B. The Results were Exceptional Because of **Preparation**. Vs. 14.

C. The Results were Exceptional Because of **Participation**. Vs. 15.

**LifePoint** Four: Whenever God does a "big" thing, He has been at work "behind the scenes" long before we know it!

**APPLICATION:** It is amazing what happens as we, as the bumper sticker says, "Let go and let God."

**PowerPoint:** Rather than wondering if God will come through for you, why not plan on coming through for God? Get in on God's plan. It's better than yours, anyway.