

## **November 16**

### Acts 15:36-41

In this short passage, we read that Paul and Barnabas had a disagreement and went their separate ways.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Despite their disagreement, the missionary work went forward. Has there been a time in your life when God brought something good out of a disagreement? What were the circumstances and what was the outcome?

#### *Prayer:*

Father God, I know there will be times when I disagree with a brother or sister in Christ. I pray that we will be able to reconcile our differences, but if that is not possible then I pray that You will be able to bring something good out of our disagreement. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## **November 17**

### Acts 16:16-34

This passage tells of Paul and Silas in prison and how they were joyous, even in those awful surroundings.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Paul and Silas might have been expected to be miserable, but apparently they were not. When it comes to your own sense of joy, how dependent are you upon your surroundings?

#### *Prayer:*

Loving God, please help me to understand that joy is a matter of my heart, not my circumstances. I pray that I will always have a spirit of joy and gratitude, regardless of the specific circumstances I may face. I pray in Jesus' name.

## **November 18**

### Acts 17:1-12

Paul's missionary journey continued and in these verses we read about him teaching in Thessalonica and Berea.

#### *Question to Consider:*

The Bereans "examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." When someone makes a faith claim, how do you respond? Do you automatically go to God's inspired word, the Bible?

#### *Prayer:*

Merciful God, I know that You have revealed Yourself in Scripture and I pray that I grow as a student of Your word. Help me to be like the Bereans, examining the Scriptures to see if the claims that I hear are true. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

## **November 19**

### Acts 17:16-34

In this passage, we read that Paul spoke to the Athenians in a way they could understand.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Paul always made it a point to communicate the gospel in a way his listeners could understand. Do you think we do that today? Think of a friend of yours who, as far as you know, does not know Jesus as Savior. How would the gospel need to be communicated in order to help your friend hear and receive it?

#### *Prayer:*

Loving God, I pray that I am always like Paul; committed to Christ and willing to share his love in ways that will most help others to hear, and receive, the Good News. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

## **November 20**

### Acts 19:23-41

These verses tell of a riot in the town of Ephesus.

#### *Question to Consider:*

The people were rioting, but verse 32 tells us that "Most of the people did not even know why they were there." In other words, they were caught up in the frenzy of the crowd, but had no idea what all the fuss was about. Have you ever been caught up in a crowd like that? What happened?

#### *Prayer:*

Forgiving God, it is so easy to get caught up in the emotions of a crowd without fully understanding what is going on. Help me to be thoughtful and patient and to focus on You, instead of the crowd. In the name of Christ I pray, Amen.