



Title | Jumping to Conclusions
Series | The Church That Changed the World
Text | Acts 16:1-5
By | Bob Kerrey
Date | August 22, 2021

Sermon Notes

Acts 16:1 Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. **2** He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. **3** Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. **4** As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. **5** So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily. *ESV*

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

I Corinthians 9:22-23 . . . Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. *NLT*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read Acts 16:1-5. Paul has Timothy circumcised. But earlier in Acts 15, Paul argued that circumcision is not required for salvation and the Jerusalem Council agreed with him. How do you reconcile this?

Tuesday:

Think of the Jewish Christians who argued that circumcision is required for salvation back in Acts 15, verses 1 and 5. How might they interpret the outward appearance of Paul having Timothy circumcised in Acts 16:3? Now, think of the Gentile Christians who had previously heard Paul argue that they were not required to be circumcised. How might they interpret the outward appearances?

Wednesday:

Read Joshua 22. How is this an example of how outward appearances can mislead? How is it an example of how motives matter?

Thursday:

In Acts 16:3, what specific reason is given for Timothy being circumcised? How does it relate to what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23? Why is it important to seek to understand one's motives?

Friday:

Outward appearances can mislead; motives matter. How does this idea relate to your life today? How can you apply it?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, keep me from judging people based on outward appearances, knowing that I may be sorely misled. Help me to remember that truly understanding motives could change everything. Amen.