Uncertain – week 3

Purpose in Uncertainty

Acts 16:16 -35

* Paul and Silas’ Great Escape

Acts 16:6-35

* Four things to remember:

1. God’s purpose is unfailing.

*But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.* ***Psalm 33:11***

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."****Matthew 28:18-20***

* But not always popular.

*The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten.* ***Acts 16:22***

* And not always easy.

*After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.* ***Acts 16:23-24***

1. Integrity is important during uncertainty.

*The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"* ***Acts 16:27-28***

1. There will always be opportunities

*He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"   
They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household."* ***Acts 16:30-31***

1. Living according to God’s purpose will mean a change in our priorities

*At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God--he and his whole family.* ***Acts 16:33-34***