

# Power Plays on the Missions Trail, Part 1

*Pastor Ross S. Russell, Church on the Beach, May 10, 2020*

**Text:** Acts 16 NASB

**1. Be all things to all men.** *Acts 16:3, 1 Corinthians 9:22*

We need to be culturally sensitive. Hudson Taylor, missionary to China in the 1800's, is a great example.

**2. Discipling is part of our call.** *Matthew 28:18-20, 3 John 1:4*

You see this throughout Paul's letters. He says in 3 John 1:4 that he found "no greater joy than seeing his children walking in the truth." These were his spiritual children, the ones he disciplined.

**3. God will show us where to minister through visions and by the power of the Holy Spirit.** *Acts 10:3-6, 22; 16:6-9, Ephesians 2:10*

Listen to the Holy Spirit. Follow God's lead. He has a plan.

**4. Trust God and follow His lead.** *Psalms 32:8-9, Proverbs 3:5-6, Isaiah 42:16*

Trust God to make your way straight as you follow Him and do each thing He shows you.

**5. God opens hearts to believe in Him by His working power.** *John 6:44, 65; Luke 24:45, Acts 16:14, 1 Corinthians 2:12-14*

God opens our minds to understand the Scriptures and our hearts to receive Him.

**6. Prayer is a powerful part of the salvation process.** *Acts 10:4, Romans 10:1*

Many of us are believers today because others were praying for us. Pray that the conviction of the Holy Spirit will fall upon those you love. Pray for revival. Revival starts with repentance. Repentance happens when people are under a deep conviction of sin. The Law is a schoolmaster, a tutor that leads us to Christ. We find that we can't possibly keep God's standard. We are not going to be good enough to get into heaven. That's when the Good News sounds good! That's when people truly get saved. When they realize they need a savior.

**7. Get baptized.** *Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38-41, 8:36-38*

The Bible says to be baptized. Another believer can baptize you. You don't need a pastor. We are all priests in Christ. Look at 1 Peter 2:5 and 9. We are chosen to serve the living God! What a privilege! As priests, we are to "reflect the holiness of God and that of our high priest (1 Peter 1:15), offer ourselves as spiritual sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2), intercede for man before God, and represent God before man (living epistles, letters from God walking in the world, ambassadors)."