Acts 15:36-17:14

A Disagreement (15:36-41)

* “Paul said to Barnabas…” (v36)
* “But Paul thought best not to take with them

one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia

and had not gone with them to the work.”(v38)

* “There arose a sharp disagreement” (v39)

“Midnight Song” bronze, tabletop sculpture by Tom White

The Guiding of the Spirit to Convert of Lydia (16:1-15)

* Timothy:
  + Son of a Jewish woman, Greek man (v1)
  + Well-spoken of (v2)
  + Circumcised by Paul (v3)
    - Why did Paul circumcise Timothy?
* “they delivered the decisions that had been reached by the apostles” (v4)
  + What decision? (v \_\_\_\_)
* The Spirit “forbids them to speak in Asia, Mysia, and Bithynia (v6-8)
* “A vision appeared to Paul” (v9)
* “Immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia” (v10)
  + Why? (v10b)
  + First person plural?
    - 16:10-16:18; 20:4-21:19; 27:1-28:30
* “We went outside the gate… where we supposed there was a place of prayer” (v13)
* Lydia:
  + From Thyatira (v14)
  + Seller of purple goods (v14)
  + Worshipper of YHWH (v14)
* “The lord opened her heart to take heed of what was said by Paul.” (v14)

Paul and Silas in Prison (16:16-40)

* “as we were going to the place of prayer” (v16) (cf. v13)
* “a slave girl who had a spirit of divination” (v16)
* “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.”(v17)
* “Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned…” (v18)
* “These men are Jews and are disturbing our city.” (v20)
* “…ordering the jailer to keep them safely.” (v23)
* “Paul and Silas were praying hymns sung to God and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake” (v25-26)
* “What must I do to be saved?” (v30)
* They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned… do they now throw us our secretly?”(v37)
* “They came and apologized” (v39)

Thessalonica and Berea (17:1-14)

* “Paul went [to the synagogue] and reasoned with them from the scriptures explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead” (v2-3)
* “some were persuaded” (v4)
* “But the Jews were jealous… and formed a mob.” (v5)
* “And when they had taken considerable money from Jason and the rest, they let them go.” (v9)
  + Where were Paul and Silas in verse 6?
* In Berea “these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed” (v11-12)
* The mob follows them and Paul leaves, but Timothy and Silas stay. (v13-14)

