



From Obstacles to Opportunities

Kingdom Building, part three

1 Corinthians 16:8

"I have ... been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers.

²⁷ I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked."

2 Corinthians 11:23-27 (NIV)

"But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me." 1 Corinthians 16:8 (NIV)

"Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:15-16 (NIV)

Don't see obstacles as _____ circumstances. See them as great _____, and _____ them.

Paul was successful in his ministry because he had a _____, and he _____ Him.

We need to think _____ the _____ and look for new ways to build God's kingdom—even outside the _____ of the _____.