Acts 16:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

Analysis

Paul's team went 'out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made' seeking Jewish worship. Finding a women's prayer gathering rather than formal synagogue, Paul preached anyway. This flexibility - adapting to find seekers wherever they gather - shows missionary focus on people over institutions and willingness to minister in unexpected venues.

Historical Context

Philippi lacked the ten Jewish men required for a synagogue, so Jewish women gathered at the riverside for prayer. This informal setting became the birthplace of Europe's first recorded church.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How do you seek and minister to people in informal settings rather than only established institutions?

2. What does this teach about flexibility in finding seekers where they are rather than requiring them to come to you?

Interlinear Text

τῇ	τε	ἡμέρᾳ	τῶν	σαββάτων	ἐξήλθομεν	ἔξω	τῆς
G3588	**And**	G2250	G3588	**on the sabbath**	**we went**	**out of**	G3588
	G5037			G4521	G1831	G1854	

πόλεως	παρὰ	ποταμὸν	οὗ	ἐνομίζετο	προσευχή	εἶναι
the city	**by**	**a river side**	**where**	**was wont**	**prayer**	**to be made**
G4172	G3844	G4215	G3757	G3543	G4335	G1511

καὶ	καθίσαντες	ἐλαλοῦμεν	ταῖς	συνελθούσαις	γυναιξίν
and	**we sat down**	**and spake**	G3588	**which resorted**	**unto the women**
G2532	G2523	G2980		G4905	G1135

Additional Cross-References

Acts 13:14 (Parallel theme): But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

Colossians 1:23 (Creation): If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;