

Values Matter Discovery Starters

We Are a Global Missions Movement

8. BE INTERNATIONAL AND INTERDENOMINATIONAL

YWAM is international and interdenominational in its global scope as well as its local constituency. We believe that ethnic, linguistic and denominational diversity, along with redeemed aspects of culture, are positive factors that contribute to the health and growth of the Mission.

[Gen 12:1-4](#); [Gen 26:2-5](#); [Psa 57:9-10](#); [Jer 32:27](#); [Dan 7:13-14](#);
[Act 20:4](#); [1Co 12:12-31](#); [Eph 4:1-16](#); [Col 3:11](#); [Rev 7:9](#)

Value #8 – Be International and Interdenominational: Paul’s Missionary Band

Biblical Foundation:

Several men were traveling with him. They were Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Berea; Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica; Gaius from Derbe; Timothy; and Tychicus and Trophimus from the province of Asia (Act 20:4).

Discovery Starter:

Luke notes seven who traveled overland with Paul from Ephesus to Troas on his third missionary journey. These are just some of those who served alongside Paul in the spread of the gospel. According to Eusebius, the famous 4th century church historian, Paul “had innumerable fellow-laborers, or fellow-soldiers, as he called them ... for he gave enduring testimony concerning them in his own epistles” (*Ecclesiastical History* 3.4.4).

Indeed, Paul used nine different terms to identify 39 individuals as his companions in ministry. He described each as an apostle (*apostolos*), deacon (*diakonos*), fellow-servant (*sundoulos/doulos*), fellow-prisoner (*sunaimalotos*), fellow-soldier (*sustratiotes/stratiotes*), fellow-worker (*sunergos*), laborer (*kopiao*), partner (*koinonos*), and/or as a sister/brother (*adelphe/adelpchos*). The passages in which Paul describes his 39 partners in ministry are:

Achaicus	1Co 16:17
Andronicus	Rom 16:7
Apollos	1Co 3:5-9; 4:6-9,12; 16:12
Apphia	Phm 2

Aquila	Rom 16:3
Archippus	Col 4:17; Phm 2
Aristarchus	Col 4:10-11; Phm 24
Barnabas	1Co 9:5-7; Gal 2:9
Clement	Php 4:3
Demas	Col 4:11,14; Phm 24
Epaphras	Col 1:7; 4:11-13; Phm 23
Epaphroditus	Php 2:25
Euodia	Php 4:2-3
Fortunatus	1Co 16:17
James	Gal 2:9
John	Gal 2:9

Junia	Rom 16:7
Justus	Col 4:11
Luke	Col 4:11,14; Phm 24
Mark	Col 4:11; 2Ti 4:11; Phm 24
Mary	Rom 16:6
Onesimus	Col 4:9; Phm 10-13,16
Onesiphorus	2Ti 1:16-18
Persis	Rom 16:12
Peter/Cephas	Gal 2:9
Philemon	Phm 1,6-7,10-13,17,20
Phoebe	Rom 16:1
Priscilla	Rom 16:3
Quartus	Rom 16:23
Silas	2Co 1:19-24; 1Th 2:6-7
Sosthenes	1Co 1:1
Stephana	1Co 16:17
Syntyche	Php 4:2-3
Timothy	Rom 16:21; 1Co 16:10; 2Co 1:1,19-24; 3:3-6; 4:1; 6:3-4; 8:19-20; Php 1:1; Col 1:1; 1Th 2:6-7; 3:2; 1Ti 4:6; 2Ti 2:3-6; 4:5
Titus	2Co 2:13; 8:16-9:5
Tryphaena	Rom 16:12
Tryphosa	Rom 16:12
Tychicus	Eph 6:21; Col 4:7
Urbanus	Rom 16:9

This list illustrates how remarkably diverse Paul's team was. It includes Africans, Asians and Europeans, as well as both men and women. The group includes some wealthy individuals as well as slaves; the politically powerful and prisoners; Jews and Gentiles; the learned and the uneducated. Paul did not just surround himself with people like himself. He reached out to many who came from backgrounds very different from his own and included them in his Great Commission activities.

Keep Going:

Paul, a Jew, championed Gentiles. He promoted others who were not like himself. Spend some time in prayerful reflection. Is there someone who comes from a different background, a different nation, a different ethno-linguistic group, that you could champion? How could you work with them in spreading the good news of Jesus? What concrete steps can you take this week to reach out to others who are not like you?

