

I am grateful to have had the chance this month to spend a few days in Greece, walking in the footsteps of St. Paul on his apostolic journey. Aside from travel, I was only there for three days, but they were well worth it.

We prayed at the shrine near Philippi where Lydia and her household were baptized, the first in the European continent to receive the faith.



We also saw the archaeological site where Paul was imprisoned in Philippi. During the night, he and the other prisoners were miraculously freed from their chains – but they didn't run away! Instead, they remained and announced the Gospel to the jailor, and he and his family were baptized (Acts 16).



On the second day we visited Meteora, ancient monasteries perched atop magnificent cliffs, as though suspended between earth and heaven.



We stayed in Thessalonica, and spent time scrutinizing the letters of Paul to the Thessalonians.

The third day we were in Athens. In the Areopagus, we meditated on the words Paul preached there, while he waited for the rest of his team to arrive from Thessalonica (Acts 17).



There were many moments of grace on this short pilgrimage, but these were just a few highlights I wanted to share with you all this week.

In Christ,
Fr. John