

ACTS: Church On Mission

Part 43- From God Fearer To Christ Follower

Acts 16:6-15: "And they went through the region of Phrygia & Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him & saying, "Come over to Macedonia & help us." And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, & the following day to Neapolis, & from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia & a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, & we sat down & spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, & her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house & stay." And she prevailed upon us."

- **God Is Against Mission That's Not His Own: (VS. 6-7)**
- VS. 10: "We": Luke has now jumped in on this crazy journey...
- 2 Timothy 2:3-4: "Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him."
- John 3:8: "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." they would
- VS. 9: Paul had a vision of a Macedonian Man
- This was appealing- men were to minister to men (usually...)
- VS. 10: "Immediately we sought to go on to Macedonia"
- VS. 11: "made a direct voyage" (different than Acts 14)
- This was an important area...
- VS. 12: They stop in Philippi, a leading city in the district of Macedonia & a Roman colony
- Mark 5:18-20: Man was told to "Go Home"
- A "Go Home" from Jesus is still a "Go" & should be taken w/ as much passionate obedience & intentional excellence as a "Go to South America" would conjure up
- Some of you are offended because you think Jesus has rejected you- but, like w/ Paul, He's not rejected you, but redirected you

RESPONSE:

- **How's Your Obedience Level?**
- **Are You Stuck?**
- **Are You Despondent?**
- **Are You Lydia?**
- VS. 14: the "Lord opened her heart to pay attention..."