

Bible Study 2 – Lydia’s conversion – Acts 16:11-15

Do you ever get discouraged in your efforts at reaching out to others with the gospel message? Do you wonder why your ministry plans just don't seem to work out the way that you envisioned? Does it seem like you are witnessing to hearts of stone that have no response to God's gracious offer of new life? It is easy to get discouraged in Christian ministry if we forget our dependence upon the sovereign initiative of God. We are severely limited in what we can accomplish & God has ordained it to be that way. We can try to persuade people of the truth of God's plan of salvation, but God must open hearts before people are able to respond in repentance and faith.

The context	After the Day of Pentecost, the gospel was preached to Jews and then to Gentiles. Peter was the main preacher to the Jews & Paul was the main preacher to the Gentiles. Paul's first missionary journey was to Cyprus and south-eastern Turkey where they established churches. Legalistic Jews insisted that male Gentile believers be circumcised according to Jewish custom. But a meeting of the leaders of the church decided that this was not necessary. Then Paul went on his second missionary journey.
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PART 1 Read & then write each section in your own words – Acts 16:11-15

Paul travels (v.11-12)	
Paul witnesses (v.13)	
Lydia travels (v.14a)	
Response to the gospel message (v.14b-15)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?

2. What does it teach about people?

3. Summarize a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in this passage?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. God gave Paul an opportunity to share the gospel. Do you think this happens today? If yes, give an example.

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

God directed Paul and Lydia to meet at Philippi so she could be converted to Christianity.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you or causing stress.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points