



The Holy Spirit Leads the Second Missionary Journey (Acts 16:6-15)

Study Notes Handout: August 13th

One of those listening was a woman named Lydia... the Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home, 'If you consider me a believer in the Lord,' she said, 'come and stay at my house.' And she persuaded us.

Acts 16:14 - 15

In the Scripture we are looking at this morning we see how the Holy Spirit of God led the Apostle Paul in his second missionary journey, extending the reign of Jesus Christ on earth, reaching new lands and opening hearts to know Him. These verses help us understand how the Lord does His work today as well.

Outline:

1. God sometimes closes doors to accomplish His greater purposes (16:6 - 7).

2. God opens doors we had never imagined to accomplish His greater purposes (16:8 - 10).

3. God brings people together in life to accomplish His greater purposes (16:11 - 12).

4. God adapts His strategy for ministry to accomplish His greater purposes (16:13).

5. God opens hearts to His message to accomplish His greater purposes (16:14).

6. God uses family relationships to accomplish His greater purposes (16:15).



Study and Discussion Questions

Acts 16:6-15

Explore It

1. *How did God guide the missionaries in their travels? ([16:6-7](#))
2. After leaving Mysia, where did the travelers go next? ([16:8](#))
3. What did Paul see in his vision? ([16:9](#))
4. How did Paul and his companions interpret this vision? ([16:10](#))
5. *What did the missionaries do after they understood what God wanted them to do? ([16:10](#))
6. *When did Paul and his companions respond to God's instructions? ([16:10](#))

Get It

7. *How do you think Paul, Silas, and Timothy recognized the Holy Spirit's directions as they traveled around Asia Minor?
8. *How can we be receptive to the Holy Spirit's guidance?
9. What do you do when the Holy Spirit thwarts your plans?
10. Why do you think God sometimes speaks to people through visions and dreams?
11. How does God usually speak to His children? How does God speak to you?
12. What does the example of Paul teach us about obedience to God?
13. With whom has God led you to share the gospel?

Apply It

15. How can you listen more closely to the Holy Spirit's direction in your life?
16. *What is one thing you can do to make yourself responsive to God and His will?
17. Do you know people like Lydia who know about God, but need to know Jesus?
18. What is in Lydia's response to faith that you see in your response as well?
19. Have you publicly professed your faith in Jesus by being baptised?