

ACTS 16:11-34

BACKGROUND

In this passage, Paul and his traveling companions continue on their 2nd missionary journey to take the message of gospel “to the ends of the Earth” (Acts 1:8). In last week’s passage, Paul saw a vision of a “man from Macedonia” who was begging for Paul and his companions to “come over to Macedonia and help us.” At once they got up and left, concluding that God had called them to preach the gospel there.

PRAY

PLEASE READ ACTS 16:11-34

SHARE OBSERVATIONS (Who? What? When? Where? Repeating words, phrases, & themes?)

QUESTIONS

1. What does v14 tell us about how people change? What implications does this have for our expectations when it comes to the rate at which people change and how & when they change? Why?
2. One of the outworkings of Lydia being changed by the gospel was using her home for hospitality (v15). In what ways is opening your home for hospitality a natural outworking of being changed by the gospel?
3. What can we learn from the story of the jailer and his family in regards to how God uses people and circumstances to impact people with the message of the gospel?
4. In v40, Paul and Silas met with a bunch of other believers at Lydia’s house, indicating that there were probably many other conversions in Philippi besides Lydia and the jailer’s family. Why do you think Luke highlights the conversions of Lydia and the jailer in particular? What do you think he’s trying to show his readers?
5. How can we pray in response to this passage?
6. In what ways can we be praying for each other?