



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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Acts 16:11–15, 40

Class Starter or Closer Discussion Questions

1. A Place of Prayer

- Why do you think Paul went outside the city to a place of prayer instead of beginning in the marketplace?
- What can we learn about the importance of prayer before sharing the good news of Jesus?

2. The Lord Opened Lydia's Heart

- Acts 16:14 says, "The Lord opened her heart." What does this teach us about God's work in bringing people to faith?
- How can we faithfully share the gospel while trusting God to work in people's hearts?

3. A Faith That Responds

- After believing, Lydia was baptized and welcomed Paul into her home. What do her actions reveal about genuine faith?
- What are some practical ways Christians today can show hospitality and support God's work?

4. The Holy Spirit Guides and Empowers

- How did the Holy Spirit guide both Paul in speaking and Lydia in listening?
- How does the Holy Spirit guide believers today as they pray and read the Bible before they begin to read and study?

5. Encouraged and Sent Out

After Paul was released from prison, why do you think he returned to Lydia's home before leaving Philippi?

- What one lesson from Lydia's example or Paul's ministry would you most like to practice this week? Why?

Extra Credit

- Read Acts 16:11–40. How does Lydia's conversion prepare readers for the events that follow in Philippi?
- Why do you think Luke included both Lydia's conversion and the Philippian jailer's conversion in the same chapter?