

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Tremors

Week 2: God Stirs

Acts 16:13-15

Week of May 31, 2020

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

God helps us to hear and understand what He has revealed to us in the Bible. When we seek Him, He opens our hearts to drink in these truths and respond to them. It's another one of the "tremors" God uses to show us His presence and power. He did this in Lydia's life, and He can do it in ours.

Kicking it off: How would you feel if you showed up to a concert and settled in to your seat only to discover that from where you sat you couldn't see or hear what was happening on stage? What would you do?

Discussion:

1. *Acts 16:13-14* says, "On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message."

God stirred in Lydia's heart such that she both understood and was moved by the word of God. If you can, tell us about a time—whether it was at your conversion or some other time—when you got a burst of insight or felt a rising passion in response to hearing or reading the word of God. What did you do in response?

2. *Acts 16:15* goes on to say that, "When [Lydia] 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."

Lydia was changed and she wanted to celebrate! She professed her faith through baptism right there at the river and she insisted that Paul and his companions come to her home. If you've been baptized as a believer in Christ, why did you decide to do that? What do you remember about that experience?

3. What clues does our passage (*Acts 16:13-15*) provide about Lydia's willingness to hear the word of God even before Paul arrived on the scene? What evidence could someone point to in your life that you're open and responsive to experiencing more of God's truth in your life?
4. Can you think of a "Lydia" in your life who is seeking God? What are you willing to do to help that person find God?

Wrapping It Up: Pray together for hearts that seek God daily. Ask Him to bless you with greater understanding of and obedience to His revealed will in the Bible.