

reachONE

REACHING... Two in Philippi
Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor
February 23, 2014

Acts 16:6-24

PRAYER FOR OUR MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD

MY REACH ONE (Bulletin Insert Response)

TRAINING PRINCIPLE #1: God is actively preparing people all around us to receive the Gospel.

LYDIA (Acts 16:13-15)

TRAINING PRINCIPLE #2: All forward progress for the Kingdom of God begins in a place of prayer.

- ❶ From Thyatira (vs.14)
- ❷ Probably Greek by background & orientation (vs.14)
- ❸ Wealthy business woman (vs.14)
- ❹ God-fearer (vs.14)
- ❺ Generous & hospitable (vs.15)

TRAINING PRINCIPLE #3: Be willing to allow your agenda to be changed by God's agenda.

DEMONIZED SLAVE GIRL (Acts 16:16-24)

- ❶ Possession that enabled fortune telling (vs.16)

TRAINING PRINCIPLE #4: Reaching people with the Gospel involves spiritual warfare. (Acts 10:38)

- ❷ Owned as a slave (vs. 16, 19)
- ❸ Drawn to Paul & company (vs.17)
- ❹ Gospel distraction (v.17)
- ❺ Delivered from the powers of Hell (v.18)

TRAINING PRINCIPLE #5: Christians have been given both the responsibility & authority to reach lost People. (Matthew 28:18-20)

- I asked Jesus Christ to be my Lord & Savior for the first time today.
- I rededicated my life to Christ today.



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Lesson Aim: *To grow in our understanding and application of God's heart to reach people that don't know Him... and begin to learn how to become "REACHERS" ourselves.*

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your study time and/or discussion.

Ice-breaker: What comes to mind when you hear the expression "fertile soil"? (Hint: Think about the miracle of the Central Valley!)

1. **READ Acts 16:6-15.** What are some things that stand out to you about Lydia and why?
2. In the message this weekend, Pastor Scott stated "God is actively preparing people all around us to receive the Gospel." Think about the time in your own life when you made a decision to follow Jesus. List 1 to 3 ways God was preparing your heart for this decision.
3. How can God use things that seem like a curse (addictions, loneliness, moral failure, loss, pain, etc.) to prepare the hearts of people to believe and embrace the Gospel?
4. Another statement from Sunday's message was "all forward progress for the Kingdom of God begins in a place of prayer." Do you have one or more "places of prayer"? If yes, how has God used this place(s) in your life? If no, what are some possibilities of where you could begin?

5. Specifically in relation to our ReachOne focus this month, how has God worked through your prayer times (for example: if you are receiving the text reminders, how has God worked on your heart, opened up opportunities to connect, etc.)?
6. **READ Acts 16:16-24.** In these verses (and in verses 6-15) how do we see God change the agenda for Paul and company?
7. Share one example of how God has changed an agenda for you and how it turned out.
8. Has God ever changed your agenda in a way that related to reaching a person for Christ? Tell your group about it (unless your answer is the same as to question 7).
9. **READ 1 Corinthians 15:58 & Galatians 6:9.** What stands out to you in these verses and why? How can this relate to our ReachOne focus for 2014?
10. What is one ongoing ReachOne commitment you can make for 2014?

Close in prayer, taking time to pray (by name) for some of the people you mentioned who don't yet know Jesus. Also pray for each other to have the heart of Jesus and His guidance as you strive to reach others for Him (if your LifeGroup is large you may want to break up into smaller groups to do this).

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our friendly, message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Messages" link.