



In [Acts 16:11-15](#), we're told that while in Macedonia, Paul and his companions go to a place of prayer and meet Lydia. She accepts Christ as her Savior and Lord. Her home then becomes a "missionary base" for reaching her neighbors and city for Jesus Christ. Our study begins at this point.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read [Acts 16:16-34](#). Jot down 1 or 2 new thoughts that seem important. Why are they important?
2. On their journey to a place of prayer, Paul and his companions meet a young woman in [verses 16–18](#). How is she described? What place do you think this woman held in society?
3. Think carefully about [Acts 16:16-18](#). The words of the fortune-telling girl were true in a formal sense, but why would Paul become greatly annoyed? Why wouldn't he want it to appear that she was his partner in the gospel? Do you have any associations that are holding you back from ministering to others? Have you thought about introducing them to the power of Christ to deliver them from the world's grasp on their lives?
4. What were Paul and Silas saying from the clues in [verse 17](#)? How might this message have sounded to Roman ears? Does the gospel threaten anyone's vested interests on your campus, workplace or neighborhood?
5. Picture yourself as a fellow prisoner of Paul and Silas in [verses 25-26](#). What would you be wondering or feeling? In [verse 25](#), how is the response of Paul and Silas to their persecution different from the way most people would react? Describe what happens to the prison in [verse 26](#). What does this tell us about God?
6. What does the jailer realize in [verse 30](#)? Why is the question he asks such an urgent one? Why was his household also affected?
7. How do Paul and Silas respond to his question in [verses 31–32](#)? Read [1st Peter 3:15-17](#) and think of how you would respond?

MOVING FORWARD

How do the happenings in [Acts 16:16–34](#) motivate you to share the gospel where you are? How does this account encourage you to move out of your comfort zone and reach those within your sphere of influence with whom you have contact daily or weekly? Will you allow your home to become a missionary base for reaching others?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

³⁰ Then he escorted them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." [Acts 16:30-31](#)