

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Tremors

Week 1: God Guides

Acts 16:6-12

Week of May 24, 2020

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Making the journey across the Aegean Sea from Asia to Greece was not Paul's idea. It was God's idea. So how did God convince Paul to do it? Acts 16 reveals several ways God used to guide Paul to where He wanted him to go—ways we too can look for, as we seek to follow God's lead.

Kicking it off: Can you relate to Jeff's story about the difference having a guide can make? Can you share a personal story about a time you got lost? What was that like?

Discussion:

1. *Acts 16:6* says, "Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia."

Can you think of a time when you felt that the Holy Spirit himself was prompting you to do something (or not do something)? What happened?

2. *Acts 16:7* says, "When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to."

If we really believed that God sometimes guides us by closing doors, how would it change the way we react when our plans fall through? Have you ever gotten all worked up about a closed door only to realize in hindsight that God was directing you to something better? Tell us that story.

3. *Acts 16:9* says, "During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.'"

Have you ever felt that God was speaking to you through a dream? If so, why do you think that?

4. *Acts 16:10* says, "After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

What are some good reasons to rely on the input of trusted friends when discerning God's guidance? Have you ever wished you would have paid more attention to the counsel of others before making a decision? If so, what happened?

5. *Acts 16:11-12* says, "From Troas we put out to sea and sailed ... to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi."

It was a journey chosen for Paul by the will of God. What, if anything, gives you confidence that you're on the road of God's will for your life? How is He guiding you lately, and how are you responding?

Wrapping It Up: Pray for ears to hear the guidance of God. Commit together to follow even the subtlest promptings He provides.