

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## Tremors

### Week 3: God Fights

#### Acts 16:16-18

Week of June 14, 2020

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

We have a very real enemy, and he's coming. Satan and his demons are intent on wreaking havoc in our lives. We can't afford to be caught off guard or to try to fight this enemy on our own. The good news is that God is more powerful than Satan and will fight for us when we call on Him. It's another one of the subtle activities—a "tremor"—that He uses to reveal His power and presence.

**Kicking it off:** Can you recall a scene from a popular movie in which "the good guys" were caught off guard by "the bad guys." What happened? Recount that scene for us.

#### Discussion:

1. Philippi was steeped in demon worship, so it's not surprising that in *Acts 16:16* Paul and his companions reported that, "Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit [a demon] by which she predicted the future."

Can you think of a time when you were particularly aware that you were in the presence of—or even under attack by—an evil spirit? What happened?

2. *Acts 16:17* goes on to say that "She [the demonized woman] followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, 'These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.'"

Are you familiar with other instances where Satan has "masqueraded as an angel of light" (*2 Cor. 11:14*)? What comes to mind?

3. *Acts 16:18* continues, "She kept this up for many days. Finally, Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, 'In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!' At that moment the spirit left her."

Why do you think Paul became so annoyed with what was happening here?

Paul *discerned* this evil spirit and *turned* to Christ for help. What would it look like for you to put into practice Paul's two-fold strategy for dealing with an enemy attack? Can you describe for us a personalized example of what that might look like in your life?

4. Jeff shared his personal experience about being attacked by self-deprecating thoughts while preaching and finding victory by turning to God for help in prayer. Does this give you hope that you too can experience victory over your inward spiritual struggles? Why or why not?

**Wrapping It Up:** Pray for discernment to recognize the enemy's attacks and for the humility to turn immediately to God for His help. Ask Him to fight for you.