

Supporting Ministry

God Providing Through His
People

Acts 16:6--15

They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us...

When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neaopolis; and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a Roman colony; and we were staying in this city for some days...

And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.”

And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16:6--15

The Challenge of God's will in ministry

- Commitment to do...
- Control of the commitment...
- Confirmation of God's will

Commitment to do

All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... Matthew 28:18—20

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. Matthew 9:37, 38

You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:13, 14

Control of the Commitment

“Forbidden” – to hinder to block

“Did not permit” – to not allow, not given the choice

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Confirmation of God's will

“concluding” – to put the pieces together

But I am hard pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith.

Philippians 1:23--25

From Lydia's Home

A businesswoman of substance

A worshiper of God

A Listener

Believed and Baptized

“If you judge me faithful”

“stay” – remain in

“Prevailed on us” – to force against nature

I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me...you have done well to share with me...you sent a gift more than once to meet my needs...Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. Philippians 4:13--19