
Date: September 19, 2021

Scripture: Acts 16:13-34

Title: 3 Unexpected Encounters, 3 Transformed Lives

The 3 Unexpected Encounters

1. _____

- Her background:
- How the gospel came to her:
- The outcome:

2. _____

- Her background:
- How the gospel came to her:
- The outcome:

3. _____

- His background:
- How the gospel came to him:
- The outcome:

The Lessons:

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Acts 16:13-34

1. What are some unique circumstances you've heard of that God has used in the past in order to lead someone to make the decision to follow Jesus?
2. Acts 16:14 says that God "opened [Lydia's] heart to respond to Paul's message [the gospel]." How does God "open" a person's heart like that? What does that look like?
3. What is it about the good news of Jesus that is most appealing and attractive to you?
4. Whose conversion story in this chapter is the most surprising to you? Whose story in this chapter do you personally identify with most? If not one of these specific individuals, is there someone else in Scripture with whom you closely identify?
5. Who is someone you know who, for whatever reason, seems unlikely to ever decide to follow Jesus? How should these stories in Acts 16 encourage us?
6. Acts 16:6-10 indicates that the only reason Paul and his traveling companions ever encountered the three individuals whom we looked at in today's message was because God had redirected Paul and changed his travel plans. Have you ever had a similar experience, when God closed one door but provided a different open door for ministry instead? What was that experience like? What do these accounts have to teach us about how we should approach unexpected delays or changes to our plans?
7. Do you agree with the statement that the gospel is not just for certain "types" of people? Why or why not?