

Bible Study: Wednesday April 14, 2021
Sermon: Sunday, April 18, 2021
Scripture: Acts 16:11-15

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

- Read Acts 16:11-15. What observations can you make about Lydia, her lifestyle, and her household?
- What evidence of spiritual gifts active and operating do you observe in Lydia (a recent “convert”)? Do you think God gives spiritual gifts to those who don’t believe in God? Why or why not? Do you see spiritual gifts active in those around you (whether or not they are part of a church community)?
- Once she was persuaded, she asked the travelers to come and stay in her house. Think about the radical hospitality Lydia is demonstrating. What needs is she meeting by doing this? Are there people with these needs in our communities today? How can we provide for these needs?
- Lydia, “a dealer of purple cloth,” had an honest job. She was what we would call a “Lay person” in the church. This lay person was the first believer to be baptized on European soil. She opened her home to provide for ministry workers (Paul & Silas would be clergy today) and was influential in her community. Think of some lay people who are active in our church and our community. Do they have different spiritual gifts and resources than the clergy team? What do they have to offer the greater community? What do YOU have to offer the greater community?
- What are your spiritual gifts? How can you use these spiritual gifts in your day-to-day activities (both at work and at home) to further the story (God’s story)?