



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Acts 16	Title:	Mission Starts From and At Home
Author	Ho Wan Leng		
Summary of Chapter	Acts 16 is about Paul's second missionary trip with Silas. They were joined later by Timothy and Luke. Paul planned to travel to Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) but the Holy Spirit shut all doors and led them to Macedonia instead. Lydia was the first woman in Europe who converted under Paul's ministry and was instrumental to the founding of the Church of Philippi.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i>¹⁴ One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying. ¹⁵ She and her household were baptized, and she asked us to be her guests. "If you agree that I am a true believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my home." And she urged us until we agreed.</i>	<p>Lydia's conversion immediately brought salvation to her household. Her desire to serve and her generosity were immediate and abound as seen in urging Paul and his team to stay at her house. The Church of Philippi started in her home and from there the gospel spread to Europe.</p> <p>This is my 40th year in Christ. I accepted Jesus into my life in April 1980 and baptized in November 1980. Soon after, my sister and brother accepted Jesus. Subsequently, salvation came upon our friends, my parents and our extended families. It just multiplied. I prayed daily that none in my immediate and extended family shall pass on without knowing Jesus. It pierced my heart to think of spending eternity without them.</p> <p>I can remember clearly how I stood before the gods in our home daily and declared that as for me and my household, we shall serve the Lord Jesus and commanded them to leave our home. Once when my grandfather visited our home and saw the gods standing outside our home; he asked my mother why this was so.</p> <p>Mission starts from and at home. My maiden mission ground was my family and friends. It is indeed the hardest mission ground. They know me from inside out; my best and my worst. God convinced me to just obey and speak forth the good news. It is He who shall be at work in their hearts. Let's partner the Holy Spirit, follow His leading which is never early nor late.</p>

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	Is your household serving the Lord Jesus? How will you lead your household, family and friends to serve the Lord?
Youth:	List one area you need to surrender to God so that you can serve the Lord together with your family, and as a family.
Child:	Do you have a family member or relative whom have yet to know about Jesus? Discuss with your parents on ways you can share about Jesus to that person.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear Lord, Your ways and thoughts are higher than ours. We lift our lives and all our possessions to You and yield in obedience to Your leading. We have chosen this day that as for us and our household we will serve the Lord. Lord, make us Your vessels that bring good news to our households and all who cross our paths. In Jesus' Name, Amen.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.