

### The Macedonian Vision

#### Acts 16:9-10 (NASB)

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.**

- "Help" is in the imperative and means literally, "to run to a cry" (*boe\_theo\_*) {see Heb 2:18}
- Luke was with the group and they discussed Paul's vision as a group

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2

### Paul Takes Action in Response to the Vision

#### Acts 16:11-12 (NASB)

So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis; 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.

- Philippi becomes a key place for gospel outreach.
- Philippi had great pride in their honored status by Rome. Citizenship was important to them.

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3

### Lydia's Heart Is Opened

#### Acts 16:13, 14 (NASB)

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.

- Lydia will become a key person, used by God for the gospel to take root in Philippi

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4

### Lydia and Household Are Baptized

#### Acts 16:15 (NASB)

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.

- Lydia will become a key person, used by God for the gospel to take root in Philippi
- The text does not tell us any details about these household members
- The implication is that they, too, heard the gospel and believed

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5

### God's Perfect Will

#### Romans 12:2 (NASB)

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.**

- The "will of God" here is God's moral will which is revealed in Scripture
- "Good, acceptable and perfect" all are adjectives that modify "will of God"
- Proving in this case is thinking and living according to what God has revealed as true

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6

### A Theophany, Not "Small Voice"

#### 1 Kings 19:11b-13 (NASB)

And a great and strong wind was rending the mountains and breaking in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a **sound of a gentle blowing.** When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, **a voice came to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"**

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7