

Opened Heart

3-30-25

Acts 16:13–14 (ESV)

¹³ ... We sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, ... The Lord “opened” her heart to pay attention to what was said.

The Lord opened her heart! There were several women there, but God opened the heart of Lydia.

We may speak to many people about Jesus, but we must remember that it is God who opens the

heart. Once God opens the heart, each person then must make the decision to believe the Words from God. For us we must decide to believe like Lydia or not believe like others who don't pay attention. This is the core value for sharing Jesus. We need to pay attention to what God is doing, then corporate with HIM knowing full well that it is God who has to open the heart. **Newsflash:** The conversion of Lydia is due to the action of God who opened her heart. When we encounter someone, before we say anything, we should pray that God would open their heart. We see this same principle when Jesus spoke to HIS disciples after HIS resurrection.

Luke 24:45 (ESV)

Then Jesus “opened” their minds to understand the Scriptures.

**Jesus is telling HIS disciples to believe God’s Word.
Our belief is proof God has opened our heart.**

1 Thessalonians 1:4–5 (ESV)

We know that God has chosen you, because (HE opened your heart) and our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

God opening our heart is evidenced by our full conviction. Using another analogy, God shows us how HE is involved in our faith.

Acts 14:27 (ESV)

And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how HE had “opened a door” of faith to non-believers.

**God is the orchestrator of belief and ministry.
God opens doors for HIS effective work.**

1 Corinthians 16:9 (ESV)

A wide “door” for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

We see that through the “opening” of a door, God gives us opportunities and successes in sharing Jesus. Also, by the abrupt reference to many adversaries, we are reminded that Christian ministry will have its challenges. When we have great opportunities of service, we also will have difficulties. Overcoming opposition is part of the opportunity. There is a battle ground.

2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (ESV) NO/OH

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

People’s minds have been darkened by the god of this world, but God can open their minds. God will intervene not only in word, but also in power and full conviction. God will open the heart, “then” use people as the avenue to speak HIS WORD.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (ESV)

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making HIS appeal through us.

As ambassadors for Christ, we must be alert to what God is doing then move with HIS power. Therefore, we must always pray that God will open a door so we can speak.

Colossians 4:3 (ESV)

Pray that God may “open to us a door” for the WORD, to declare the mystery of Christ.

God is touching people right now. HE may be touching you right now opening your heart. Therefore, we implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. Believe God’s Word.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave HIS only Son, that whoever believes in HIM should not perish but have eternal life.