



When My Life Takes A BIG Turn

U-TURN #4

Tim Gill - April 24, 2016

What can I learn from the conversion of Lydia?

1. God **brings people together on purpose.** (v.9-10)

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:9-10 (NIV)

When I came to the city of Troas to preach the Good News of Christ, the Lord opened a door of opportunity for me.

2 Corinthians 2:12 (NLT)

But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

1 Corinthians 16:8-9 (NIV)

And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

Colossians 4:3 (NIV)

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

Acts 16:13 (NIV)

- God can **open doors anywhere.**

2. God **rewards my worship.** (v.14)

One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God... **(14a)**

...The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. **(14b)**

Tell me clearly what to do, and show me which way to turn.

Psalms 5:8 (NLT)

3. God **gives me a better purpose.** (v.15)

When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

Acts 16:15 (NIV)

After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them.

Acts 16:40 (NIV)

- My **Gratitude** is expressed in my **generosity.**

You Philippians remember when I first preached the Good News there. When I left Macedonia, you were the only church that gave me help. ¹⁶ Several times you sent me things I needed when I was in Thessalonica. ¹⁷ Really, it is not that I want to receive gifts from you, but I want you to have the good that comes from giving. ¹⁸ And now I have everything, and more. I have all I need, because Epaphroditus brought your gift to me. It is like a sweet-smelling sacrifice offered to God, who accepts that sacrifice and is pleased with it.

Philippians 4:15-18 (NCV)