

When The Holy Spirit Calls An Audible Acts 16:6-10

A. Whose Calling The Shots?

Paul and those traveling with him were living in a way that was sensitive to the Spirit's leading. They were constantly seeking to discern what God wanted them to do

B. How Do You Respond To Adversity?

Even though it made logical sense to go into Asia. Paul didn't force his way in when God said no. instead, he continued to seek God's direction for what he should do next.

C. How Do you Respond to God's Direction?

Once the Spirit revealed to Paul where he should go, Paul 'immediately' went to Macedonia (16:10). Immediately can be translated 'ran' or 'direct route'

D. How Does Our Obedience Impact the Kingdom?

The result of Paul's obedience was two people came to know Christ (16:11-40)



Acts 16:4-10: As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵ So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

⁶ And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷ And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. ⁸ So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Discussion Questions

1. Do you trust God? What does the way you make plans reveal about your view of God? Do you trust your plans and ask God to bless them, or do you trust God's plans and seek to implement them?

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- 2. Think about how you responded to interruptions in your plans. What does your response reveal about your motivation for following Christ?
- 3. How do you respond to the Spirit's leading? When the Spirit is leading in a direction that is uncomfortable or difficult for you how do you react? Does it help you to remember that there is spiritual impact waiting on the other side of your obedience?
- 4. In what situations is it easy and hard for you to discern the Spirit's leading. How do you know when it's God's plan and not your own.
- 5. Pray: As you make plans for the fall spend time asking God what He would like to do through you this fall.