

# Discussion Questions

## INTRODUCTION

Throughout this series, we've looked at some of the most well-known followers in Scripture: Peter, Paul, Timothy, Stephen, etc. What about the lesser known ones—the sometimes nameless "supporting players" in the story? What can we learn from them? This week, we'll look at the story of "a certain woman" and what she did to set the bar for followers for many years to come.

## GETTING STARTED

1. History is full of little-known people who had a positive impact on the world. Name a few and describe what they did. In your own life, who are some "supporting players" who've had a significant impact on you?
2. Lydia isn't the most famous follower but she made a big impact. Most of us will not become famous. Have you been in a situation or with certain people where you feel sometimes insignificant?

## BIBLE IDEA

3. Read Acts 16:11-15, 40. While some followers left home to serve God, Lydia made an impact by staying home. What inspired you the most of Lydia's story and situation?
4. Lydia leveraged her wealth, influence, and opportunities. Which of these do you have experience using for God's purposes? Which have you leveraged the least? What other resources do you have that weren't mentioned in these categories?
5. To what degree are you leveraging the resources God has given you? Give yourself a rating from 1 to 5 with 5 being the most effective and generous use of resources. Why did you give yourself this rating?
6. Do you desire to be more effective with your resources? If so, what could you do differently to leverage them more effectively?

## NEXT STEPS

7. Ask the group to give feedback to one another. What do you see in each other and opportunities to be more effective for God's purposes?
8. Identify a resource you'd like to leverage for God's purpose this week. What is it and how will you leverage it?

## "A Certain Woman"

### The Followers #6

#### Featured Follower: Lydia

Acts 16: 11-15, 40

11 From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. 12 From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. 13 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. 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. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. 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.

**Followers \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ for  
God's purposes.**

Matthew 6:19-21

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 18:22-25; Luke 16:10-12; 1 Timothy 6:17-18; Matthew 25:28-29

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:6-8

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 6:9-10; Ephesians 5:15-18