



Open Eyes Look for Open Hearts (LIFT UP YOUR EYES 5)

Acts 16:11-18

OCTOBER 8, 2017

1. Do you see the rich girl?

Do you know any wealthy people who pay little attention to Christ? How does wealth sometimes become an obstacle to someone seeing their need for Christ? How would you start a conversation with a wealthy person about their need for Christ?

Do you think the hearts of people are becoming more open or more closed to the gospel?

What evidence have you seen that human hearts are closed to the following:

- The poverty of the soul
- The exclusivity of worship
- The filthiness of sin

Are you ever frustrated because you are trying to pry open the heart of someone whose heart only God can open?

How would your prayer life change if you truly believed only God can open the human heart?

2. Do you see the poor girl? (v. 11-15)

How have you seen dark spiritual forces at work this week? Have you been engaged in spiritual warfare this week? Have you been victorious?

What unique obstacles does an impoverished or abused person have in trusting Christ? How would you start a conversation with an impoverished or abused person about their need for Christ?

What evidence have you seen that human hearts are closed to the following:

- The cruelty of an owner
- The authority of the Most High God
- The power of Jesus' name
- The way of salvation

3. Do you see the universal problem? (v. 16-18)

Lydia and the slave girl shared the same spiritual needs.

- Spiritual bankruptcy
- Spiritual bondage

Are you able to diagnose those outside of Christ accurately using these terms? Do you have compassion for people who are spiritually bankrupt or in bondage? Or do they just annoy you?



4. Do you see God's remedy?

The slave girl accurately identified Paul and his team as “Servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” Does everyone in your circle of influence know you are a servant of the Most High God? Do you have a reputation as one who proclaims to others the way of salvation?” If not, why not?

5. Do you see yourself?

How are you like Lydia?

How are you like the slave girl?

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE:

Luke 24:45

Acts 4:12

James 2:19

Matt. 8:6

Luke 8:28