



STUDY GUIDE

VOYAGE 07.17.2016

[set up]

What does it mean to be submissive?

What does it mean to be submissive to Christ?

What prevents us from being more submissive to Christ and His mission like we know we should?

[digging deeper]

As we study the book of Acts and look at the admirable lives of the men and women of the early church, it is clear that God empowered them to be effective on their mission through the Holy Spirit. They also had to be willing to be submissive to the Lord in order to learn, grow, and be used.

Read the following passages and look at the following four examples of submission from Acts 16 and 17. This will be a chance to dialogue as a LifeGroup from the content of last Sunday's message.

Acts 16:1-5. Timothy was willing to submit in a sacrificial and self-denying way for the mission of Christ. What is something that you have had to sacrifice or deny yourself to be more effective for Christ's mission?

Acts 16:6-10. Paul and his companions were willing to shift from their plans, willing to be flexible to God's leading for the mission of Christ. How well do you sense God's leading in your life? How willing are you to shift from your plans and be flexible for the cause of Christ? Do you have an example?

Acts 17:10-12. Paul had to submit himself to much study in order to connect the Gospel to his audience, in order to present Jesus as the Christ. The Jews in Berea eagerly took up the study of the Scriptures to see if Paul's preaching of Christ was right. What excites you and motivates you to eagerly study God's Word? How do we best connect our study to the actions of reaching the lost and growing the found?

Acts 17:16-34. God stirred Paul's spirit in Athens by the intense presence of pagan worship. Paul couldn't help but begin sharing Christ in the synagogues, the market place, and Mars Hill. What examples of submission do you see in Paul's life while he is in Athens? What stirs your spirit and provokes you to begin to share Christ more boldly?

What additional lessons can we learn from these verses about submission to God?

Psalms 81:11-13

Prov. 3:5-6

Romans 8:7

Romans 10:3

James 4:7

[living it out]

Looking at the four actions of submission mentioned above, underline one that you feel strong in – that you would consider yourself most submitted to as you live on mission for Christ. Now circle the one you feel weakest in – an area that you need more submission in to be more effective for Christ's mission.

Sacrificing

Shifting

Studying

Sharing

What is one tangible and practical action step you can take to be more submitted in this area in the week to come? Ask your LifeGroup to pray this for you as you close in prayer.

Other Prayer ideas:

Let the themes of your prayer time come from the insights and verses in today's study. Pray for God's people to increase in their "mission of submission" for the kingdom of Christ. Please continue to pray for our nation and the issues causing unrest – pray for God to move and heal.

Pray especially for Cleveland during the Republican National Convention this week.

In the spirit of shifting, here are the opportunities to pray with others over Cleveland this week during the RNC: www.cvconline.org/prayforCleveland