

Unique Encounters (Part I)

Acts 16:11-18

The birth of the church at Philippi unveils for us four unique encounters.

Encounter #1: Lydia: A Sincere Disciple

Four things about Lydia that demonstrate her sincerity as a disciple:

1. She was a worshipper who was seeking
2. She was a listener who was learning
3. She was a follower who was obeying
4. She was a servant who was serving

Encounter #2: The Slave Girl: A Distracting Deceiver

Beware:

The enemy masquerades as an angel of light and seeks to deceive, distort and destroy!

1. The Slave Girl's Message:

"These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation"

2. The Enemy's Motives:

John 10:10 – He comes to steal, kill and destroy

2 Tim 3:1-9 – He appeals to our Love of self, Love of Money, Love of Power, Love of Pleasure

2 Cor. 11:13-15 - He disguises himself as an angel of light

3. Paul's Response

Three things Paul did:

1. Discerned what was going on
2. Discovered what the truth was
3. Dealt with it: He command the evil spirit to depart

The Challenge for the Church:

1. Keep the main thing the main thing
2. Be a witness, make disciples,
3. Learn to discern

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Encounter #1: Lydia: A

Four things about Lydia that demonstrate her sincerity as a disciple:

1. She was a _____ who was _____
2. She was a _____ who was _____
3. She was a _____ who was _____
4. She was a _____ who was _____

Encounter #2: The Slave Girl: A

Beware:

The enemy masquerades as an angel of light and seeks to _____, _____ and _____!

1. The Slave Girl's _____

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2. The Enemy's _____

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The Challenge for the Church:

1. Keep the main thing the main thing
2. Be a _____, make _____,
3. Learn to _____