

## 10-22-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“God invites us into a larger vision of ourselves, of what we can be or do in the world. God’s words lead us beyond ourselves, beyond the cautious boundaries we have so carefully marked out for our lives. God’s words have a way of opening us up to God’s larger vision for us and for our world”

- David Vryhof



Acts 16:9-15

### Questions for Reflection —

- When have you had the experience of having God speak clearly to you? What was that like? How do you best hear God’s voice? What are some spiritual practices or habits that enhance your ability to listen for and to God? In your attempts to discern and follow God’s will for your life, what has been the role of roadblocks and closed doors? What risks are you willing to take when God unexpectedly opens a door to a new path?
  
- To what larger vision of what you can do or be do you think God is presently inviting you? What are the “cautious boundaries” which you have marked out for your life and which potentially make you less responsive to the nudging’s of the Holy Spirit? What does it look like to instead live with your heart open towards God’s new possibilities? What will help you to be more open and responsive to the presence and movement of the Holy Spirit?
  
- By what means do you think the Holy Spirit speaks into the life of a congregation? How can we as a body of Christ best discern God’s vision for our future? How can we discern whether our hopes and dreams for ourselves align with God’s hopes and dreams for us? How might we enhance our corporate listening skills to better hear God’s voice speaking? What will it take for us as a congregation to be more open to God’s new possibilities for us and for our world?

### Daily Household Prayer

Like the sun that is far away and yet close at hand to warm us, so God’s Spirit is ever present and around us. Come Creator into our lives. We live and move and have our very being in you. Open now the windows of our souls. Amen.