

# “A Measure of Success - Lydia”

Sunday, August 31, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

Acts 16:11-15, 40

**BIG IDEA:** Measure success by God’s standards.

*“Therefore, observe the words of this covenant and follow them,  
so that you will succeed in everything you do.”*

*Deuteronomy 29:9 (CSB)*

## How do you spell success?



**Strategic**



**Unselfish**



**Committed**



**Charismatic**



**Encouraging**



**Skilled**



**Surrendered**

○ **Give God:**

○ **The 1<sup>st</sup> part of every day.**

○ **The 1<sup>st</sup> day of every week.**

○ **The 1<sup>st</sup> portion of your income.**

○ **The 1<sup>st</sup> consideration in your decisions.**

○ **The 1<sup>st</sup> place in your life.**

**BIG IDEA:** Measure success by God’s standards.

**READ:** Read Acts 16:11-15, 40

**THINK:** Reflect on Lydia’s story, then ask yourself these questions: *When you were little, what did you want to be/do when you grew up? What is your first impression of Lydia? Persuasive? Spiritual? Industrious? Hospitable? Impulsive? Friendly? How do the following dynamics of Lydia’s life strike you: Her role as a businesswoman at a time when few women were; Her eager heart to immediately receive the Gospel; Her influence over her household spiritually (baptisms); Her hospitality to Paul & his team & then the early Philippian Church? Lydia was strategic in balancing her business, spiritual life and household. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate yourself in each area: work/financial life, spiritual life, home life? How could you better manage these areas of your life to achieve godly success?*

**DO:** What does surrender look like for you today? How open to the Lord is your heart right now? What would make it, and keep it, more open?