

Lydia Meets Paul

Bible Point: God wants us to share the good news about Jesus.

Bible Verse

“Believe in the Lord Jesus” (Acts 16:31a).

Prayer

- Read John 4:39, Acts 16:11-15
- How are you influencing people in your own circle of influence with the good news of Jesus Christ?
- Pray: Lord, help me today to share my faith with my children I teach and with others by...

Say: Our Bible verse for today is from Acts 16:31a. Let's take a quick look at it: “Believe in the Lord Jesus.” The good news we're talking about is Jesus! When Lydia went to the river to pray, she met some people who shared with her about Jesus, and she caught the good news! Today we'll learn what happened to Lydia and everyone who lived in her house. We'll discover that God wants us to share the good news about Jesus.

Hold up the Bible and say: Our story this week comes from the book of Acts in the Bible. It's a story about a man we've been learning about. Who can tell me the man's name we have been learning about?

(Saul) Do you remember how he came to follow God? That's right. After Saul decided to follow God, he traveled to many different cities telling the people there about Jesus. Saul also used a different name. His new friends called him Paul. Paul wanted everyone to know that he had changed and was now a follower of Jesus.

Then say: Paul went to the city of Philippi. Let's pretend we're traveling in a boat to Philippi. Have children pretend to row. When Paul reached Philippi, he met a woman named Lydia. She was worked in a business that sold cloth. Purple cloth was very expensive and she worked to dye the cloth. Lydia was a worshipper of God! Paul spoke with Lydia and shared the gospel with her and do you know what happened? Her and her whole household was baptized and believed in Jesus!

■ Do the Bible Story

Have children stand together in a circle. Say: God wants us to share the good news about Jesus. In our great big world, there are many men, women, and children just like you who don't know about Jesus. It's important that they hear the good news, too! What places in our great big world can you think of where we can tell others about Jesus? Let the children take turns naming a place. Make suggestions as needed until everyone has named a place. Ask children to remember the place they named as you play the following game.

Toss a ball around the circle (or back and forth) and think of who needs to hear about Jesus. When you name a person, say a quick prayer for them!

When you have completed the game, Say: Who needs to hear about Jesus? (My friend next door; my grandma; everyone in the world needs to hear the good news.)

Craft:

Mix red and blue to make purple!

Cut out the butterfly stencil below. Paint blue on one side and red on the other. Fold the butterfly in half and open to see the beautiful color that was made! Let the butterfly dry, add antennae, eyes and the memory verse. Remind them that purple dye comes from special shells and was very expensive. Lydia was a seller of purple cloth and she came to love Jesus and use her money to help people learn about God's great love.

