

Lydia

Bible Verse

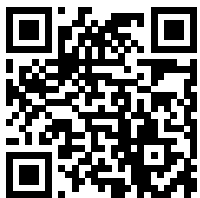
Change your hearts and lives. (Acts 2:38)

Did You Know?

While Paul certainly met many people on his missionary journeys, there are a limited number whom we know by name. Although Lydia was only mentioned in a few verses in Acts, we are told her name. We also are told that Lydia was a dealer of purple cloth. Purple dye was made from a special kind of sea shell. Because of this, purple cloth was not common, and was for the rich and royal in Roman society where it symbolized wealth and power. It is likely, then, that Lydia was fairly well-to-do. She owned her own business and her own home.

Paul met Lydia in a “place of prayer” by the river. This probably means that there was no synagogue in the city. Although Lydia was a God-worshiper, she was Greek rather than Jewish. She was a Gentile, the very people God said Paul was to preach to. We are told that as Paul preached, Lydia believed, because the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul’s message. This is an important point as we consider our role in sharing God’s message. It is not our responsibility to make people respond to the message; that is God’s job. Our job is to go and tell.

After Lydia became a believer, she was baptized along with her whole household. She then extended hospitality to Paul and the other disciples. Lydia’s house became a spiritual center in Philippi. As we read the story of Paul and Lydia from our modern perspective, the easy interaction between Paul and Lydia may not seem unusual. At the time, the interaction between a Jewish religious leader, such as Paul, and a female outsider, such as Lydia, would have been countercultural. Like Jesus, Paul was not afraid to do things a different way in order to bring glory to God.



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Bible Story

Acts 16:11-15

Anchor Point

Knowing Jesus changes your heart and life.

Your Lesson

JUMP IN:

- ☐ Welcome
- ☐ Lydia
- ☐ Purple
- ☐ Just the Bible

DIVE DEEPER:

- ☐ Deep Blue Bible Adventure

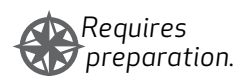
- ☐ Lydia

GROW STRONGER:

- ☐ How We Serve
- ☐ Learn & Serve with the Deep Blue Kids
- ☐ Prayer Doodles

WORSHIP:

- ☐ Prayer and Praise
- ☐ Bible Stories & Stuff





JUMP IN!

After welcoming the children, lead them into the Bible story with at least one of the following activities.



≈ TIP ≈

Model hospitality for your class by welcoming the children into the classroom.

WELCOME

Supplies: Class Stuff—pp. 2 & 31, Deep Blue Adventure DVD; DVD player; offering basket



Hang the Attendance Chart (Class Stuff—pp. 2 & 31) at eye level.

- Play, “Changing Hearts, Changing Minds” (Adventure DVD, as you welcome each child.
- Show the children where to place their offerings and ask them to record their attendance on the chart.

LYDIA

Supplies: Kids Stuff—p. 21, pens or pencils

- Hand out “Lydia” (p. 21) and pens or pencils. Encourage each child to complete the puzzle.



PURPLE

Supplies: Kids Stuff—p. 22, pens or pencils

- Hand out “Purple” (p. 22) and pens or pencils. Encourage each child to complete the puzzle.

JUST THE BIBLE

Supplies: Class Stuff—pp. 8 & 25, 22



Hang the “Unit 3 Bible Verse” and the “Unit 3 Bible Verse Signs” posters (pp. 8 & 25, 22).

- Read the verse together and teach the children the signs for the verse.
- Have the children sign and say the Bible verse with you several times.

DIVE DEEPER

DEEP BLUE BIBLE ADVENTURE

Supplies: Bible Stories and Stuff—“Songbook,” Deep Blue Adventure DVD, DVD player, TV or projector and screen


- Hand out the “Songbook” (Bible Stories & Stuff). Using the “Songbook,” invite the children to sing along with “Changing Hearts, Changing Minds” (Adventure DVD).

SAY: Aurora tells the Deep Blue Kids her favorite color is purple. Asia shares the story of Lydia with the kids. Let’s see the video.

- Show the children the Adventure DVD for today’s session.

LYDIA

Supplies: CEB Kids Bibles, Class Stuff—pp. 20 & 13

 Hang the poster “Change Your Hearts Collage” (pp. 20 & 13).

SAY: Our Scripture reading for today is Acts 16:11-15. As we read the story, think about your own faith in God.

ASK: I wonder:

- How do you think Lydia felt when she met Paul?
- If we all know what hospitality means?
- How we can show hospitality at church?
- How God is working in this story?

GROW STRONGER

HOW WE SERVE

Supplies: whiteboard and dry-erase marker

SAY: In our Scripture reading today, after Lydia had heard Paul speak about Jesus, she responded by offering hospitality to Paul and his friends. When we learn of God’s love, our response is to offer love and service to those around us. Let’s make a list of the different ways we can serve others and help them. Then we will choose one thing to do this week. Let’s put our list up on the board.

LEARN AND SERVE

Supplies: Bible Stories & Stuff—session 10, sand, sticks, trays

SAY: In Alaska, the children learn about their faith from those who are older and wiser. The stories of the Native people and the stories of faith are shared with the children and others through stick figures. Stick figures are actually drawn in the sand or dirt using a stick. The figures are rough drawings of the characters in the story and the action.

- Read Bible Stories & Stuff session 10.
- Give each child a tray of sand and a stick.
- Invite the children to draw the Bible story in the sand.
- Invite willing volunteers to share.

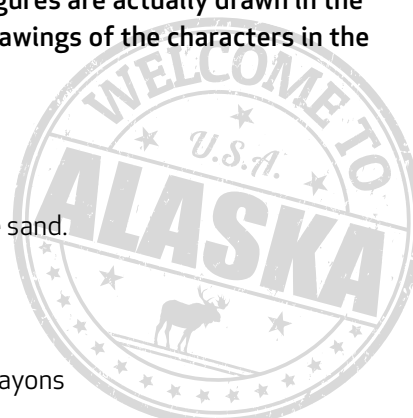
PRAYER DOODLES

Supplies: Leader Guide—p. 65, colored pencils or crayons

 Copy “Prayer Doodles” (p. 65) for each child.

SAY: Paul, Lydia, and others spent time in prayer. Sometimes prayer is very organized and planned. Sometimes it is what we are thinking at that immediate moment. Prayer is talking with God.

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≈ TIP ≈

If the weather permits, do this activity outside.

- Give each child a copy of the handout “Prayer Doodles.”
- Invite children to begin by writing names of people or situations they wish to pray for in the open spaces.
- Continue coloring the doodles as you pray.

WORSHIP

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Supplies: CEB Kids Bible, Leader Guide—p. 66, Adventure DVD, Bible Stories and Stuff—“Songbook,” DVD player, TV or projector and screen, table, fabric for covering table, candle, cross on the table



Copy “Serving Each Other” (p. 66) for each child.

- Sing together “Changing Hearts, Changing Minds” (Adventure DVD).

SAY: As we gather together for worship, let’s remember our anchor point today is “Knowing Jesus changes your heart and life.” Our anchor point helps us to remember we need to tell the world about the Resurrection. While thinking about what it means to tell the world about Jesus, let’s light our candle for worship.

(Light the candle.)



SAY: Lydia heard Paul teach about God’s love and she responded. How we serve others is important. People learn about God’s love from us and how we live our lives. As we close in worship today, we have a responsive reading called “Serving Each Other.” We will have two groups speaking to each other. After we finish our responsive reading, we will close in prayer.

ASK: Are there any prayer requests for this week?

- Read together, “Serving Each Other.”

PRAY: God of Lydia and Paul, God of all of us, help us to respond to your love by serving others. Amen.

SAY: Remember to take home your Bible Stories & Stuff for session 10.



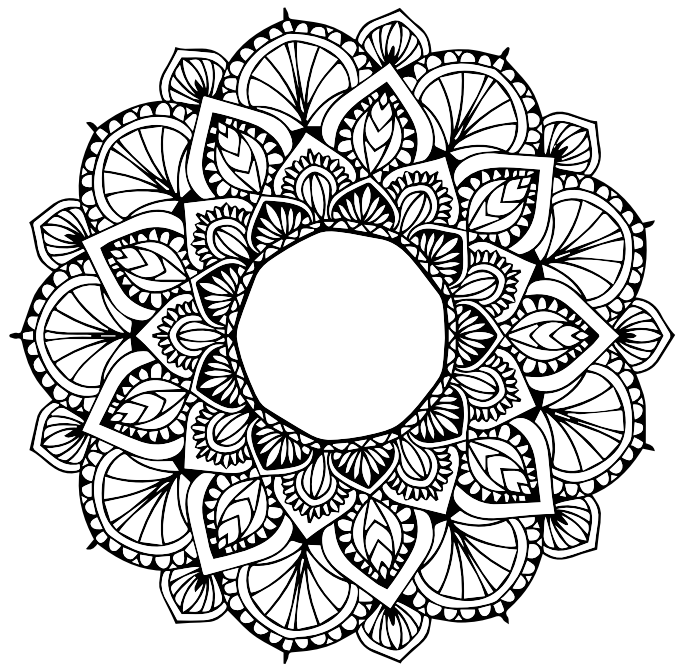
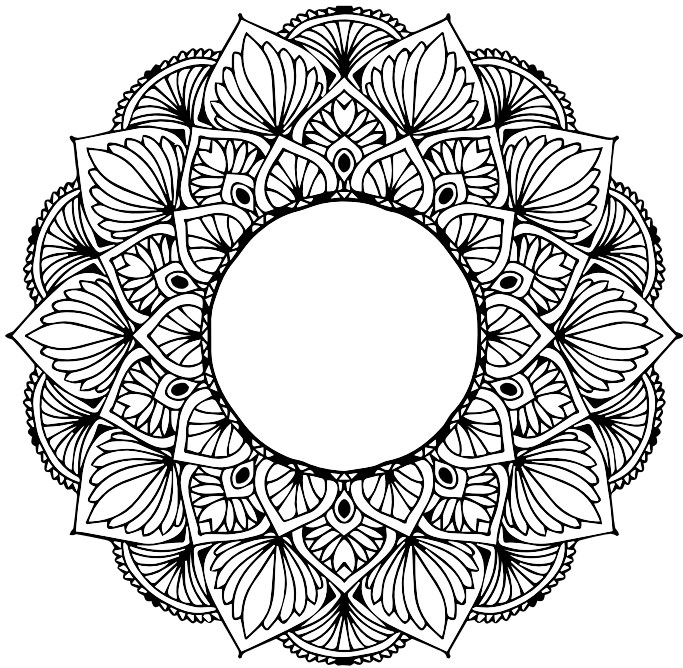
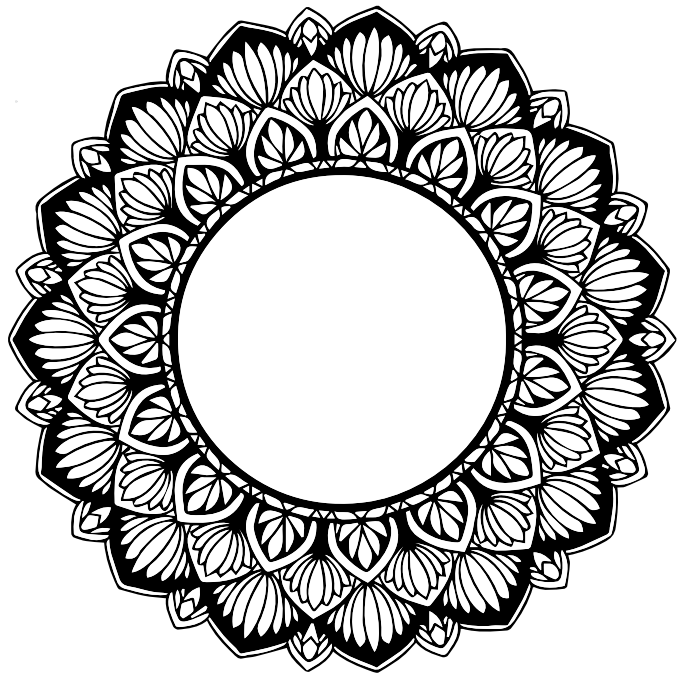
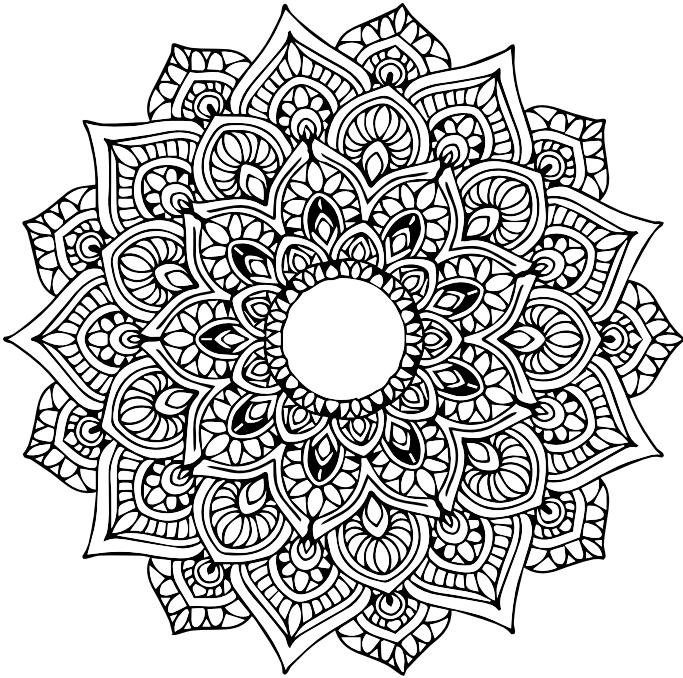
TIP

Do you have children waiting at the end of class? Check out the Deep Blue app at the QR code below.



Prayer Doodles

Write the names of people or situations you wish to pray for in the centers of the doodles.
Color the doodles as you pray.



Serving Each Other

Group 1 Lydia learned of God's love.

Group 2 Lydia invited Paul to her house.

Group 1 We can all respond to God's love.

Group 2 We can all show love to others.

Group 1 God loves us all.

Group 2 God's love is for all.

Group 1 Showing God's love is serving others.

Group 2 Responding to God is serving others.

All We can serve each other.

