

Dear Children's Church

Welcome to Wednesday. How's your week been so far? Good I hope.

This week we have looked at some mighty men, first Noah then Moses. We learnt about trust, promises that we need to keep and then yesterday believing in our abilities and listening to others.

Today we are looking at a great lady in the New Testament called Lydia!

But first....let's start the day with a song!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gFwpOjF-5o>

Maybe someone in your house would like to read this story? This Paul speaking from the book of Acts

On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate to the river. There we thought we would find a special place for prayer. Some women had gathered there, so we sat down and talked with them. There was a woman named **Lydia** from the city of Thyatira. Her job was selling purple cloth. She worshiped the true God. The Lord opened her mind to pay attention to what Paul was saying. She and all the people in her house were baptized. Then Lydia invited us to her home. She said, "If you think I am truly a believer in the Lord, then come stay in my house." And she persuaded us to stay with her.

Paul and Silas in Jail

Once, while we were going to the place for prayer, a servant girl met us. She had a special spirit in her. She earned a lot of money for her owners by telling fortunes. This girl followed Paul and us. She said loudly, "These men are servants of the Most High God! They are telling you how you can be saved!"

She kept this up for many days. This bothered Paul, so he turned and said to the spirit, "By the power of Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!" Immediately, the spirit came out.

The owners of the servant girl saw this. These men knew that now they could not use her to make money. So they grabbed Paul and Silas and took them to the Roman rulers and said, "These men are Jews and are making trouble in our city. They are teaching things that are not right for us as Romans to do." Paul and Silas were thrown into jail.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God. The other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly, there was a big earthquake. It was so strong that it shook the foundation of the jail. Then all the doors of the jail broke open. All the prisoners were freed from their chains. The jailer woke up and saw that the jail doors were open. He thought that the prisoners had already escaped. So he got his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul shouted, “Don’t hurt yourself! We are all here!”

The jailer told someone to bring a light. Then he ran inside. Shaking with fear, he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, “Men, what must I do to be saved?”

They said to him, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and all the people in your house.” So Paul and Silas told the message of the Lord to the jailer and all the people in his house. Then he and all his people were baptized immediately. After this the jailer took Paul and Silas home and gave them food. He and his family were very happy because they now believed in God. The jailer said to Paul, “The officers have sent an order to let you go free. You can leave now. Go in peace.”

But Paul said to the police, “They beat us in public without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens. And they threw us in jail. Now they want to make us go away quietly. No! Let them come themselves and bring us out!”

The police told the Roman officers what Paul said. When the officers heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were afraid. So they came and told Paul and Silas they were sorry. They took Paul and Silas out of jail and asked them to leave the city. *So when they came out of the jail, they went to Lydia’s house. There they saw some of the believers and encouraged them. Then they left.*

Here’s a video to explain it https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_kSpELCiCs

Lydia was a good and faithful lady. She believed in God and then took Jesus into her heart. She and all her family were baptised and praised God. The story after that of Paul and Silas in prison is great and we will look at that some more tomorrow, but see the end verse. When Paul and Silas got out of prison they went to visit Lydia and there were even more believers to encourage. This tells us Lydia couldn’t keep the joy of Jesus to herself. God used Lydia to help Paul spread the good news about Jesus. That’s what he asks us to do.

Here's a prayer to share

Dear God,

Thank you for the best gift we could ever have. That of your son Jesus Christ. Thank you that you love us so much you chose to share Him with us. Help us now to tell everyone about Him.

Please give us the right words to use, the right way to say them and the right times to share your love, particularly during this time when many people may be anxious and not yet know you

In Jesus name

Amen

Maybe today you could be like Lydia and put a sign in your window to let people know God loves them. Or maybe you'd like to go on a treasure hunt round the house and find all the purple things you can.

Don't forget to upload some pictures to the St Georges facebook page. Wed love to see what you are all up to.

Have fun, see you tomorrow

Liz x

Paul and Silas met Lydia in Philippi.

Circle 12 things in the bottom picture that are different from the top one.





Be joyful

♥ in hope, ♥

patient in

affliction,

faithful

in prayer. ♥

Romans 12:12