



Paul and Lydia

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to share with others.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Saves Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Acts 16:13-15

What He Has Done: God opened Lydia's heart to respond to Paul's message.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "We will share with you."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save." Zephaniah 3:17a

| Unit 3: The Promise of Salvation | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
| 12 | Paul Visits Macedonia, Acts 16:9-10 | The Holy Spirit led Paul to Macedonia. | To respond to calls for help. |
| 13 | Paul and Lydia, Acts 16:13-15 | God opened Lydia's heart to respond to Paul's message. | To know God wants us to share with others. |
| 14 | Paul and Silas in Prison, Acts 16:25-26 | God freed Paul and Silas from prison. | To learn to praise the Lord everywhere, every day in good times and bad times. |
| 15 | The Resurrection: Jesus Lives, John 20:1-18 | Jesus died to save us and was raised from the dead. | To know Jesus died to save us and then rose to life. |
| 16 | Priscilla and Aquila, Acts 18:1-4; Romans 16:3-5a | God gave Paul friends who worked, served, and taught with him. | To know we can work and serve the Lord together. |

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 119:32-40. Please join us in praying, "Thank you Lord, for opening our hearts to want to follow You. Fill the children with Your Holy Spirit so they will respond to Your call and follow You every day. Amen.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 15 | Treasure Chest | Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a gift |
| | | Whisper Verse | Sign language for "We will share with you." |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. | Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "He Is Mighty to Save" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Everyone Who Calls" "How Wide?" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "We Love" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "God Is So Good" "How Great Is Our God" |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | <i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 3, Lesson 13 |
| THE WORD | Up to 10 | Watch the Word: Acts 16:13-15 | Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 16:15 Visual: Piece of purple cloth |
| THE WAY | Up to 25 | Craft: Sharing Hands | Envelope, sturdy paper, crayons or markers |
| | | Game: Know the Need | Four different pictures of people who have a need |
| | | Game: Act Quickly! | Chairs, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "He Is Mighty to Save" |
| | | Snack: Share Your Snack | Individually-wrapped snacks |
| | Circle of Prayer | None | |
| | Final 5 | Final Five | Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 13 Color This Story: "Lydia Shares with Others" |
| GOT TIME? | Up to 10 | Say & Do: Acts 16:13-15 | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Bible Memory Verse Cheer | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: The Lord Is with You! | None |
| | Up to 10 | Story Time | Any story about sharing with others |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



We will share with you **THE WELCOME**

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____ . I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a gift. **Let this stamp or sticker of a gift help you remember to share what you have with others. Today's Whisper Verse is "We will share with you."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "We will share with you."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| "We (will)" | Right index finger points down at the ground with hand beginning at the right shoulder and moving around the front of the chest in a half circle motion to the left shoulder. |
| "share (with)" | Both hands are open with fingers together. Sweep the outside of the right hand pinky finger back and forth along the left hand's index finger and thumb. |
| "you." | The index finger of the right hand points forward as the arm moves forward from body at waist level. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "We will share with you," Numbers 10:32. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who saves us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who saves us. He opens our hearts to help us share with others. That's what He did with Lydia. By inviting Paul and his friends to come and stay at her house, Lydia was sharing her home and her food with them. That reminds me of our Whisper Verse today. Let's try it together. Review Whisper Verse together: "We will share with you." Include sign language.



When we share, we are showing God's love to others. Sing: "Love One Another."

We give our offering to God's house so we can invite many people to come and share what God has given us. Play: "God Is So Good" or "How Wide?" as background music while collecting the offering.

Lydia knew about God. She knew He is with us and He is mighty to save. Let's sing about those two important things about our God. Sing: "He Is Mighty to Save."



Let's see if Delbert and Lello have heard about Lydia. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 3, Lesson 13.



Paul talked to Lydia and her friends about Jesus. Lydia was a very good listener. The Holy Spirit helped Lydia take action and do things God's way. The Bible says Lydia worshiped God. To worship is to praise God and think about His greatness. Let's do that together! Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."



The Lord opens Lydia's heart to share

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

**With my eyes on my teacher;
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.**

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Paul went to help the Macedonians. Today, we will see how God helped Lydia share with Paul and his friends. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 16:15.

WATCH THE WORD: ACTS 16:13-15

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a piece of purple cloth. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **Paul and Silas and Timothy,**
- **Went down to the river to pray.**
- **Lydia, who made purple cloth,**
- **Listened to all that Paul did say.**

- **Lydia decided to share her things;**
- **God opened her heart that day.**
- **So, she asked Paul and his friends,**
- **To come to her house and stay.**



Where did Lydia invite Paul and his friends to go? (Her house.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Acts 16:15 from the teacher's Bible. **Lydia shared her house with Paul and his friends.**

Can you share like Lydia? (Yes.) Our Whisper Verse tells us what we can say. Let's say it together: "We will share with you." Include sign language or hand motions.



We can share as Lydia did

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: SHARING HANDS

Purpose: To remind the children to share their possessions, just as Lydia shared.

Supplies: Envelope, sturdy paper, crayons or markers

Prepare: From sturdy paper, cut out three hand shapes, sized to fit inside the envelope. Open the envelope and lay it in front of you so it is the shape of a house with the flap as the roof. Draw windows and a door on the front of the envelope. On the envelope flap (roof), print: **Lydia shares with others.**

Acts 16:13-15

Option: Instead of using an envelope, cut paper in the shape of a house and tape the hand shapes to the back of the house.

Directions:

1. Color Lydia's house.
2. **What is in your house that you could share with others?** (Children respond.)
3. **On each one of the three hand shapes, draw one thing in your house which you could share with others.**
4. **Place the hand shapes in the house to remind you to share with others.** Children put the hand shapes inside the envelope (house).

Craft Discussion:

- **Who did Paul meet at the river?** (Lydia and her friends.)
- **Did Lydia listen to Paul's message?** (Yes.)
- **Lydia knew Jesus wanted her to share with others.**
- **Who remembers our Whisper Verse? Let's say it with our motions now!** Say Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **Did Lydia share her house with Paul and his friends?** (Yes.)
- **Hold up the pictures on your paper hand shapes so I can see what you will share!** Ask each child to tell about one picture with the class.

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: KNOW THE NEED

Purpose: Children will practice identifying a need and what they can share to meet that need.

Supplies: Four different pictures of people who have a need (samples below)

Prepare: On the back of each picture, print one problem that person needs solved. For example:

| Picture | Need |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Person who is working hard | This person is thirsty. |
| Child who is hurt | This child is hurt. |
| Sad person | This person is sad. |
| Sad person or someone who is hungry | This person is hungry. |

Paul needed a place to stay. Lydia shared her house with Paul and his friends. You can listen closely to find out what people need. Then, you can share what you have to help them!

Directions:

1. Divide into four groups. Have the groups sit together.
2. Choose one child from the first group to pick a picture.
3. Read the need listed on the back of the picture.
4. The children in the first group offer suggestions on how they could share to meet the person's need. (Example: Give the person who is working a glass of water. Give the sad person a hug.)
5. The children in the first group say and sign, **"We will share with you."**
6. Repeat steps 2-5 with each group.
7. **When someone is in need, what should we do?** (Share.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us what to say. Let's say it together: "We will share with you."**

GAME: ACT QUICKLY!

Purpose: Children will play a sharing version of musical chairs to practice acting quickly to share.

Supplies: Chairs, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "He Is Mighty to Save"

Prepare: Place one chair for each child in a circle, less one chair. Make as large a circle as possible so there is room between the chairs.

When someone needs you to share with them, can you act fast and share right away? (Yes.) Let's practice acting fast! As soon as the music stops, sit down in a chair. If someone near you is missing a chair, be sure to share your chair as fast as you can!

Directions:

1. Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song. The children walk in a circle inside the chairs.
2. Stop the music. Children "act fast" to find a chair.
3. One child will be left without a chair. Encourage the other children to offer to share their chair as quickly as possible by saying and signing the Whisper Verse to that child.
4. Play several times.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: SHARE YOUR SNACK

Purpose: Children will pretend to be Lydia and practice sharing their snack with Paul and his friends.

Snack Suggestion: Individually-wrapped snacks

Today, let's share our food with each other, just like Lydia shared her home with Paul and his friends. Help children find partners and sit down before singing the blessing.

Directions:

1. Serve the drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - Give each child a snack for their partner. Have the children face their partners and give them their snack as they say and sign the Whisper Verse, **"We will share with you."**
 - **Thank you for sharing! You have things at home right now that you could share with someone else. Can you share your food? (Yes.) Can you share your toys? (Yes.)**
 - **What is something you would like to share with a friend? (Children respond.)**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Sharing Hands" craft. Tell someone how Lydia shared with Paul.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how you can share, just like Lydia did!**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Lydia Shares with Others." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "He Is Mighty to Save," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: ACTS 16:13-15

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Paul and Silas and Timothy,** (Hold up three fingers.)
- **Went down to the river to pray.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **Lydia, who made purple cloth,** (Pretend to sew.)
- **Listened to all that Paul did say.** (Cup hand at ear as if listening.)

- **Lydia decided to share her things;** (Reach palms forward as if giving.)
- **God opened her heart that day.** (Place hands on heart.)
- **So, she asked Paul and his friends,** (Cup hands around mouth as if whispering.)
- **To come to her house and stay.** (Make beckoning motion.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save." Zephaniah 3:17a

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHEER

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Directions:

1. Practice the Bible Memory Verse together.
2. Divide children into two groups. Each group stands on opposite ends of the play area.
3. Group 1 whispers, "**The Lord your God is with you.**"
4. Group 2 whispers back, "**He is mighty to save.**"
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 three more times, getting louder each time, until the children are using their strongest voices.
6. Have the groups switch phrases and play again.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: THE LORD IS WITH YOU

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Directions:

1. Practice the Bible Memory Verse together.
2. Divide children into two groups. Each group stands on opposite sides of the play area and holds hands. A teacher or helper should be with each group.
3. Group 1 says to Group 2, "**The Lord your God is with** Group 1 teacher or helper names a child in Group 2."
4. That child runs to Group 1, says, "**He is mighty to save,**" and joins the group.
5. Group 2 then says to Group 1, "**The Lord your God is with** Group 2 teacher or helper names a child in Group 1."
6. The child runs to Group 2, says, "**He is mighty to save,**" and joins the group.
7. Repeat until every child has switched groups.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about sharing with others.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 3, Lesson 13: Paul and Lydia

PONDER! Read Acts 16:13-15 with your family. Why did Paul and his friends go to the river? Who did they meet? What did Lydia do after Paul talked about following Jesus? Lydia invited Paul and his friends to stay in her home. She shared with Paul and his friends.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, help us share with others, as Lydia did. We promise to act fast when someone needs our help. Amen."

PLAY! "Caring and Sharing!" Invite someone to your house to show you care about them, just as Lydia did! Ask your family who you can invite. Maybe you have a new friend or a lonely neighbor. Decide what you can do for them. Can you invite your friend over to play? Can your family invite a neighbor over for dinner? Make that person feel very special while they are in your home.

Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse:

"The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save." Zephaniah 3:17a