

A BIBLE STUDY FOR PRETEENS

LYDIA

Acts 16



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Lydia

This Bible Study is a great first in-depth Bible Study. It takes preteens through a small portion of Scripture, leaving them with a feeling of success and training them how to study their own Bibles. The reading passages are divided into manageable and content appropriate chunks with relevant and thoughtful questions throughout. In addition, short answer versus long writing assignments make this study fun and not overwhelming.

Kids use their own Bibles in any version they choose.

A Prayer Journal is included at the end of this booklet.

For more Bible studies, go to
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This Book Belongs to:

Hey!

Do you know how special you are? God made you and says you're His masterpiece! He knows everything about you. He even knows how many hairs are on your head right at this very minute!

But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

Matthew 10:30, ESV

Read some other truths about you from the Bible below.

You are...

Loved.

But now thus says the Lord, He who created you..."Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine." Isaiah 43:1, ESV

Worthy.

You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. 1 Corinthians 7:23, ESV

Understood.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15, ESV

Helped.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1, ESV

Known.

O Lord, You have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. Psalm 139:1-4, ESV

Not Alone.

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10, ESV

Day 1

Read Acts 16:9-12.

What made Paul change his plans?

Read Acts 16:13.

Paul began preaching. In what ways was this a different experience than your church service?

Paul wasn't standing and there wasn't a pulpit in sight. Do you think a pastor has to preach behind a pulpit or on a stage? Circle one.

YES NO

God had lined everything up just perfectly, so that Paul and Lydia would be where they were at that moment.

Take a moment to thank God for your church. List some specific things you're glad about and use the list as you pray.

Day 2

Read Acts 16:13.

Where was Lydia from?

Where was she sitting when Paul met her?

It was custom during this time that there must be 10 Jewish men who were heads of households in order to start a synagogue. If there were not 10, then it was customary to meet outside near a river or by the sea. Knowing this, Paul knew where to look when it came time for church.

Who did Paul find by the river?

Does this verse mention any men? _____

Read Acts 16:14-15.

Lydia wasn't a Christian at first, but she went to the church service.

Pray about starting a small group Bible study with your friends. Maybe they could meet at your house. If you feel this is something God is leading you to do, make a plan.

Day 3

Read Acts 16:14.

Lydia was a seller of _____.

This city was known for skilled merchants. One of those skills was dying cloth. The water near this area was perfect for dying. In fact, this area was known for its dyes. Lydia had learned this skill. She was diligent with this skill and used it to start a business.

Fill in the blank from verse 14. “The Lord opened her heart to

_____ the things spoken by Paul.” This word means respond. She heard the message of salvation, understood she was a sinner, and responded to accept Christ as her Savior. If you’ve never responded to that message, turn to the back of this book and read the page entitled, “Have you ever wondered why Jesus had to die on the cross?”

Read Acts 16:15.

After Lydia was baptized, who did she tell?

_____ (they also became Christians)

Do you know of a business woman that you could share the gospel with? (maybe your hairdresser or a store owner)

List their names on the next page. Try to find a way to share the gospel with them this year.

Day 4

Read Acts 16:15.

Does it sound like Lydia was someone who would take “no” for an answer? Circle one.

YES NO

Would you say Lydia was diligent in everything she did? Circle one.

YES NO

Do you think Lydia had a big house? Write Y or N. _____

Why do you think Lydia really wanted them to come to her house?

Are there things you can do for the pastors or leaders at your church? (such as volunteer to babysit, clean their offices, bake cookies) Make a plan to do something special for a pastor at your church.

Day 5

Read Acts 16:40.

After Paul and Silas got out of prison, where did they go?

What does this tell you about the type of person Lydia was?

Did others join them at Lydia's house? Write Y or N _____

Some have said that this was the beginning of one of the first New Testament churches. The term "New Testament church" means a church that wasn't like the traditional synagogue

After Jesus died, the disciples and Paul began going all around preaching about Jesus, Groups would gather to worship and pray.

These groups became the first churches created after Jesus' death and were based on the message that Jesus was God's Son who came to die on the cross to pay the wage for sin.

They taught Jesus, not law keeping, was the way of salvation.

Gospel Message

Have you ever wondered why Jesus had to die on the cross?

When God created the very first people, He made a garden for them to live in. He would visit them there and actually walk with them. (Genesis 3:8)

Later, God instructed Moses to build a tabernacle so He could come dwell there. God wanted to be with people.

He wanted to spend time with people here on earth, but He didn't want it to stop here.

God loves us and He wants us to live with Him in Heaven forever when we die.

God gave people some rules so we could know the right things to do. Those rules are known as the Ten Commandments. When we break one of these rules or commandments, we sin. The consequence or price we must pay for sinning is death and separation from God. (Romans 6:23) That means when we die, we won't be able to live in Heaven with Him. Heaven is a perfect place and sin cannot be there. Instead, the place we will be sent is a place called Hell and it is a terrible place.

The Bible says that all people sin. (Romans 3:23) That means we all deserve the consequences for our sin - death and separation from God.

But, remember, God loves you so much. He wants you to live in Heaven with Him forever.

Way back when the very first people sinned, God made a plan to save them from their sin. His plan was to one day send His one and only Son, Jesus, to face the consequence or pay the price for our sin. Remember, the consequence is death. (John 3:16)

Jesus' death on the cross paid the price for our sin. Three days later, He arose. There was no reason for Him to stay dead. He had paid in full. It was finished!

If you believe this and are moved to accept this special thing that Jesus did for you, you need talk to Him and tell Him. Your prayer could sound something like this, "Dear God, I realize that I have sinned and I am sorry. I know that Your Son, Jesus, died to pay the price for my sins. I trust in Him now as my Lord and Savior."

Tell your parents that you prayed this prayer. They will be so happy!

WEEKLY PRAYER JOURNAL

Week of _____

Prayer List (Return here every day to pray for the people listed here.)

Family

Name

Specific Prayer Need

Friends and Others

Name

Specific Prayer Need

Answers to Prayers & Praises

Day 1

Here is a simple way to organize your prayer using the word ACTS.

A-dore God (Tell God that you love Him and list some good things about Him.)

C-onfess (Tell God you're sorry for anything you've done wrong today. When you tell Him, you should mean it. If you don't, spend some time thinking about it first.)

T-hank (Tell God thank you for all the good things that He has done to/for you. Did you eat today? Did you have clothes to wear? There are lots of things to be thankful for.

S-upplication (Ask God for what you need/want. As you make your list, think about if what you're writing is something that He'd want too.)

Day 2

Spend some time today praying for your FAMILY.

List some things that you could pray for each one or just sit and pray for each one listed.

Daddy -

Mama -

Brothers -

Sisters -

Yourself -

Day 3

Spend some time today praying for your CHURCH.

List some things that you could pray for each one or just sit and pray for each person(s) listed.

Preacher -

Church Staff -

Preschool Director -

Children's Minister -

Youth Minister -

Musicians -

Technical Department -

Sunday School Teachers -

Members -

Day 4

Spend some time today praying for MISSIONARIES.

List some things that you could pray for each one or just sit and pray for each person(s) listed.

Missionaries from your church -

Mission trips your church is planning -

Local Missionaries -

Missionaries around the world -

Day 5

Spend some time today praying for your LEADERS.

List some things that you could pray for each one or just sit and pray for each person(s) listed.

Local leaders - (Mayor, City Council, Police Chief, School Board, etc.)

State leaders - (Governor, Representatives, Lawmakers, etc.)

National leaders - (President, Vice President, Senators, Representatives, etc.)

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