

Lydia's Wise Decision

There was a woman named Lydia who lived in Philippi. She dedicated her life to selling a very special kind of fabric that was purple.

One of Paul's friends said, "There is no synagogue here and it's the day of rest. Where should we praise and worship God?" Paul answered, "In cities that don't have a synagogue, the people go to the river to praise Him. Perhaps we could find one near here to worship."

They all left the city and went to the shore of the river to join with other Jews to praise God. They hoped to teach them the truths about Jesus, the Messiah that all the Jews waited patiently on who had already come and gone.

"There! There is a group; it looks like we came to the perfect place!" said one of Paul's disciples.

Paul and his friends sat near a group of women; they wanted to hear what Paul and his friends said. One of them was Lydia, a business woman from the city of Thyatira (she sold very expensive purple cloth). Lydia and her friends listened to Paul's words while he told about how Jesus came to earth and died on the cross. Also, how God resurrected him on the third day.

Lydia thought about it. "It's possible that the Messiah has already come! It's everything I have been hoping for forever! I believe in Jesus! Can I be baptized? Also, I want my friends and my family to know about Him." When her family heard the message, they also believed and they were baptized.

Lydia didn't want Paul and his friends to leave because she wanted to know more about Jesus Christ. So, they stayed for quite a while at Lydia's house.

