

II. BE FAITHFUL TO FAMILY

- A. Lydia provided a spiritual example to her family.
“And when she...” Acts 16:15a
*“5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
6 “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.
7 You shall teach them diligently to your children,...”* Deuteronomy 6:5-7a
- B. Lydia led her family to salvation and baptism.
“...and her household were baptized,...”
Acts 16:15b

III. BE FAITHFUL TO CHURCH

- A. Lydia was faithful to the leaders of the church.
*“...she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.”
So she persuaded us.”* Acts 16:15c

“Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.”
I Peter 4:9
- B. Lydia was faithful to the location of the church.
“So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.”
Acts 16:40

More than likely Lydia’s home became a “church in her house” like other New Testament saints (Romans 16:3-5; I Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 1:2).

“...For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required;...” Luke 12:48b

ARE YOU WINNING AT FAITHFULNESS?

WOMEN WHO WIN

Lydia: Winning At Faithfulness

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. Women in the Bible played a vital role. They did important and heroic things. They were winners!

“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.” I Corinthians 9:24
- B. In this series we will study nine women that were winners. We will learn what they did to win and how we can do the same thing.

The messages include:
May 9 Eve: Winning At Creation
May 16 Rahab: Winning At Faith
May 23 Hannah: Winning At Prayer
May 30 Esther: Winning At Courage
June 6 Mary Magdelene: Winning At Deliverance
TODAY Lydia: Winning At Faithfulness
June 20 Priscilla & Aquila: Winning At Teamwork
June 27 Eunice & Lois: Winning At Parenting And Grandparenting

- C. **TEXT:** Acts 16:6-15, 40

Very little is said about Lydia in the Bible. There are only two mentions of her name and they are both in this passage.

However, she is a notable women because she was the first convert in Europe. Paul received the “Macedonian Vision” (Acts 16:9) where God sent him into Macedonia and Lydia heard the gospel and was saved.

“Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul”
Acts 16:14

LYDIA: WINNING AT FAITHFULNESS

- Lydia was a wealthy business woman.
“Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple”
Acts 16:14a
Dyes during that time were natural, not synthetic. The dye for purple was made from a juice found in very small quantities in certain shellfish. It took thousands of these shellfish to make a yard or two of purple cloth. Therefore it was very expensive and a statement of status and wealth.
- Lydia was from Thyatira.
“...from the city of Thyatira, ...”
Acts 16:14b
Thyatira and Philippi are 250 miles apart. She most likely moved to Philippi to expand her business.

“And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, ‘These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:’”
Revelation 2:18
We have no record of Paul or anyone else establishing a church in Thyatira. We do not know for sure, but perhaps Lydia brought the gospel back to her hometown and helped establish a church.
- Lydia was a religious Jew.
“...who worshiped God....”
Acts 16:14c
She was a worshipper of God, and when Paul met her, she was honoring the Sabbath, which means she was likely a Jew.
- Lydia heard Paul preach the gospel and God opened up her heart to receive it.
“...The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”
Acts 16:14d

HOW LYDIA WON AT FAITHFULNESS

I. BE FAITHFUL TO GOD

A. Lydia was faithful to God in salvation.

“13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there.

14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”
Acts 16:13-14

“Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,”
Acts 17:2

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”
Romans 1:16

“This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, ‘These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.’”
Acts 16:17

B. Lydia was faithful to God in baptism.

“And when she and her household were baptized, ...”
Acts 16:15a

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
Romans 6:4