



LESSON 7

REFERENCES: ACTS 16:6-15; THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PP. 211, 212, 218.

Come to My House

Do you like to visit other people's homes? Do you like to have people come to your house? When Lydia found out about Jesus, she invited some new friends to stay with her. It may have happened like this:

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aul's eyes popped open. "Hey, you sleepyheads!" he called to his friends Silas, Timothy, and Luke. "Get up! We are going to Macedonia!"

Silas and Timothy and Luke rubbed their sleepy eyes. "Where did you say

we are going?"

Timothy asked.

"God gave me a vision last night,"

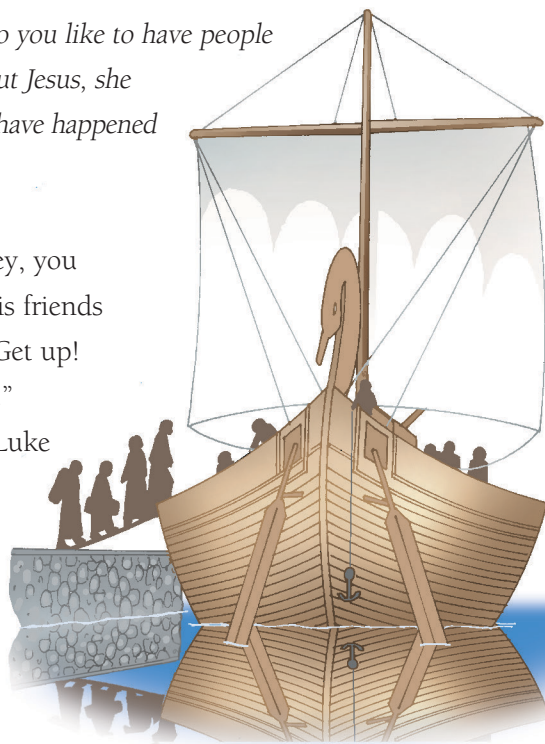
Paul explained

energetically. "I saw a

man who begged me to come to

Macedonia and teach the good news about Jesus in his country."

Paul and his friends boarded a big sailboat. It was a long way to Macedonia, but God sent strong winds to push the boat along



Memory Verse

"Come and stay at my house."

ACTS 16:15, NIV.

The Message

We serve God when we take care of others.

quickly. After five days the boat docked in Macedonia. Paul and his friends walked to a big, busy, important city named Philippi. On Sabbath they hiked along the river. They had heard that some people met beside the river every Sabbath to pray and worship together.

As they walked along they saw a group of women. Many people in those days thought women were not important at all. But Paul knew better. He knew that Jesus loves everyone: men and women.

The men sat down to visit with the women. And the women were thrilled to hear what Paul and his friends had to tell them. The women already believed in and worshiped the God of heaven. And now they learned about God's Son, Jesus.

The women understood and believed the wonderful message they heard. "I want to be baptized," Lydia exclaimed. "And then I want to go home and tell everyone this good news!" So she and her family were baptized.

Lydia was a rich businesswoman. She sold very expensive purple cloth, the kind that kings and queens used in those days. "Would you like to come and stay in my home while you are teaching in Philippi?" Lydia asked Paul and his friends.

Lydia knew that Paul and Timothy and Silas and Luke were serving God by coming to her country and telling her people about Jesus. Lydia wanted to serve God by helping to take care of Paul and his friends while they were there.

Paul and Silas and Timothy and Luke preached in Philippi for many days. Many people believed the good news about Jesus and were baptized because of the work of the four missionaries and the care Lydia gave them.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story, and review the memory verse:

Come and stay. . . Move hand toward chest.

at my Point to self.

house. Put fingertips together to make a “house roof.”

Acts 16:15 Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Help your child invite a friend home to play, or invite someone to dinner. Let your child hang their Welcome Friends door hanger on your front door before their guests arrive.

Ask: What do others do to take care of you? What can you do to take care of others?

MONDAY

Read together Acts 16:6–15. Ask: How did Lydia help Paul and his friends? How did Paul help Lydia? Do you need a big house to have people visit you?

Consider taking your child to your Community Services Center to help this week. Collect things for your Sabbath School’s community service project to take on Sabbath.

TUESDAY

Talk about how to treat a guest. Have your child practice by greeting a family member at the door. (Teach your child whatever is appropriate in your culture.)

WEDNESDAY

Find and count all the purple things in your home or neighborhood.

Have your child make the color purple by either coloring red crayon over blue crayon or mixing red and blue food coloring in some water. Talk about how kings and queens wore purple clothing. If possible, wear something purple today.



THURSDAY

Sing the following to the tune of “With Jesus in the Family”. “When friends come to see us, happy, happy home.” Use friends’ names. Look at a Bible map, and show your child where Paul traveled. Pretend you are Paul traveling, and take a walk around your house or neighborhood.

FRIDAY

Set the table for supper tonight using purple napkins or tablecloth. Serve at least one purple food or drink.

Sing a sharing song together.

Help your child use props to tell the story (box for a boat, purple for Lydia’s clothes, etc.) during family worship.

