Preschool–Grade 5

# Lydia Craft

**The Lord opened her heart · Acts 16:11–15 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)**

## What it looks like finished



**Easy and medium**



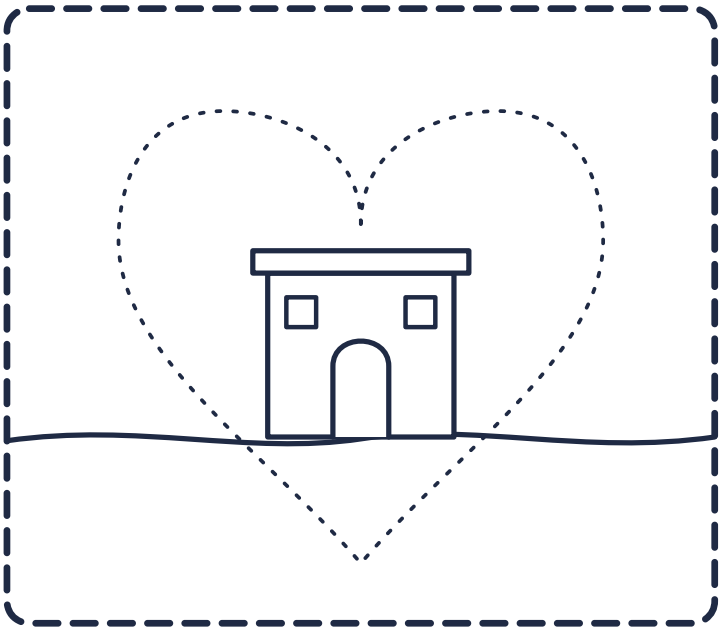
**Harder**

Both levels are a card with a purple heart that lifts up. Under the heart is a little flat-roofed house with an open doorway. Lydia was "a seller of purple," and "the Lord opened" her heart; then she said, "come into my house, and abide there" (Acts 16:14–15). Medium (left): the card, with the heart closed. Harder (right): the same card glued on a river side card with the city wall and gate, a path and the river (16:13).

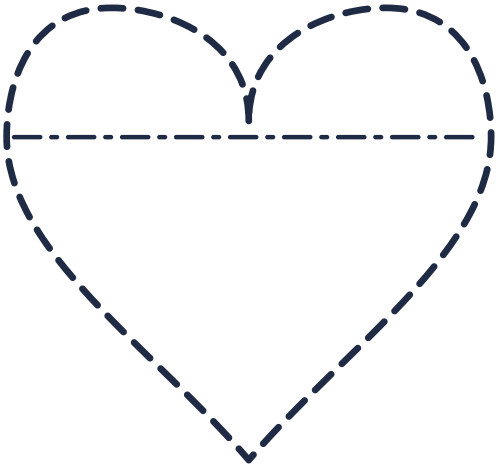

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: color the sky light blue, the house light brown,
the doorway dark brown and the grass green



heart: color it purple
fold on the line (dashes and dots)
glue only the top part, above the line

Glue the top of the heart on the dotted heart on the card, so the heart lifts up like a door.

**And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.**

Acts 16:14 (KJV)

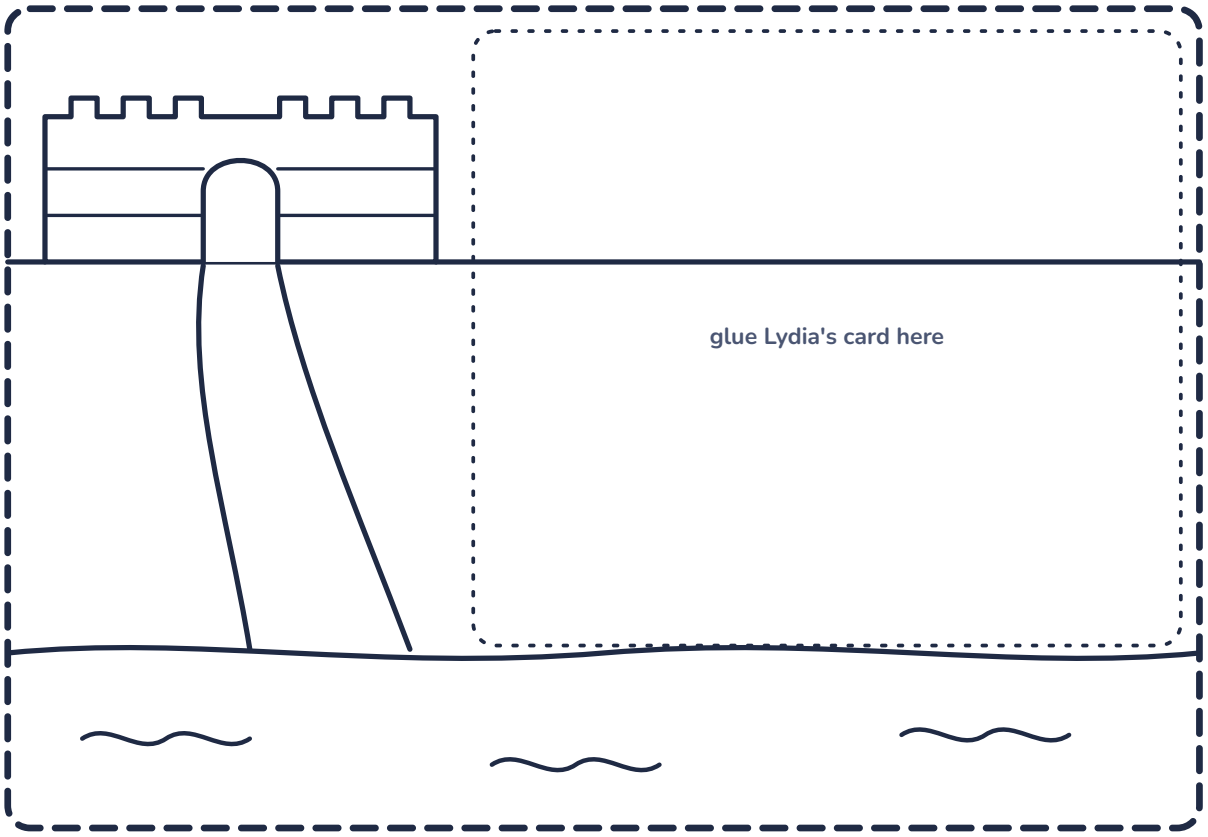
verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color the card and the heart the way the labels say. Cut out the card, the heart and the verse strip. Glue only the top of the heart on the card, so it lifts up to show Lydia's house.

Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

# River side card (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines.




river side card: sky light blue, city wall gray, gateway dark brown, path light brown, grass green, river blue

## How to add the river side card

1. Make Lydia's card from page 2 first: color it, cut it out, and glue the heart and the verse strip on.
2. Color the river side card: the sky light blue, the city wall gray, the gateway dark brown, the path light brown, the grass green and the river blue. Cut it out on the dashed lines.
3. Glue Lydia's card on the dotted box on the right. Don't put glue on the heart.
4. Tell it: Paul and his helpers went out of the city gate, down to the river, "where prayer was wont to be made" (Acts 16:13). There Lydia heard Paul, and the Lord opened her heart (16:14). Lift the heart to see her house (16:15).


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## For the teacher

**See it finished:** a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/lydia-craft
**Time:** 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
**You need:** page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), purple, light blue, light brown, dark brown and green crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, and blue and gray crayons.
**Before class:** for preschoolers, cut out the card, the heart and the verse strip, fold each heart on its fold line, glue the top of the heart on the card, and glue the verse strip on the back.

## Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out and glue each child's card together. Kids color the heart purple, the house light brown and the grass green. Let them lift the heart while you say, "The Lord opened her heart."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out, fold and glue the card themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make Lydia's card like the medium level. Then color and cut out the river side card from page 3, with the city wall and gate, the path and the river, and glue Lydia's card on it. This is the craft in the second photo.

## Steps (medium level)

1. **Heart:** color the heart purple, because Lydia was "a seller of purple" (Acts 16:14).
2. **Card:** color the sky light blue, the house light brown, the doorway dark brown and the grass green.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the heart and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Fold:** fold the heart on the fold line (dashes and dots), so the bottom part of the heart lifts up. Then open it flat again.
5. **Glue:** put glue only on the back of the top part of the heart, above the fold line. Press it on the dotted heart on the card. The bottom part stays loose.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card. Read it together.
7. **Tell it:** lift the heart: "whose heart the Lord opened" (Acts 16:14). Under it is Lydia's house. Say together what she said: "come into my house, and abide there" (16:15).


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## Questions to ask while kids work

- What city did Paul and his helpers come to? *(Philippi, Acts 16:12)*
- On the sabbath, where did they go? *(Out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made, 16:13)*
- What was Lydia's work? *(She was a seller of purple, 16:14)*
- What city was Lydia from? *(Thyatira, 16:14)*
- Lift the heart. Who opened Lydia's heart? *(The Lord, 16:14)*
- What happened next? *(She was baptized, and her household, 16:15)*
- What did Lydia ask Paul and his helpers to do? *("Come into my house, and abide there," 16:15)*
- Where did Paul and Silas go when they came out of prison? *(To the house of Lydia, 16:40)*

## Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: wont** means usual (the usual place to pray); **resorted thither** means came there; **a seller of purple** means her work was selling purple; **attended unto** means listened carefully; **household** means the people of her house; **besought** means begged; **abide** means stay; **constrained** means urged them until they came.
- **What the Bible says:** Acts 16:14 says only that Lydia was "a seller of purple," so the heart is purple and nothing more is added. The Bible does not describe Lydia's house, the river or the city wall, so the house and the river side card are simple pictures. The heart is a reminder of "whose heart the Lord opened," not a picture of anything in the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template.** The card and the river side card show no people.
- **Glue tip:** if kids put glue on the whole heart, it won't lift. Show them where the fold line is, and glue only above it.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Lydia lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/lydia.


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