

Year 6: Tuesday: RE: Worksheet 6

Servicing: Witnesses

Start by reflecting on the word *faith*. Write out the word. What does it mean to you? Where have you seen examples of faith? Can you think of examples which begin with each letter of the word faith?

Then read about Lydia, a witness to her faith from the time of St Paul. Answer the questions.

Biblical Witness:

In one of Paul's many journeys, he met Lydia, who was a successful trader involved in the business of purple cloth, the imperial colour of Rome, worn only by the emperor and those of rank and authority. Lydia, was a successful business woman. She would have been well known in the city. She listened carefully to Paul as he preached the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Despite knowing many people were against "Christians", Lydia invited Paul and his companions to stay at her home.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16: 11-15

In Acts 16:40, it is mentioned that on their release from prison, Lydia welcomed Paul and Silas as well. She was a woman **proud to be associated with the name of Christ**. Like Paul himself, she witnessed to her faith in Christ, even though it might have been a risk to her business. She put her faith before all else.

Key questions -

- What do you think appealed to Lydia in Paul's preaching?
- What do you think is meant by the phrase 'the Lord opened her heart'?
- Why do you think Lydia invited Paul and his companions to her house?
- What do you think were the risks that Lydia took in witnessing to her faith in Christ?



Here is an icon of Lydia.

Using what you learnt during our Icon topic, answer these questions: What do you notice about the **colours** and the **items** she is holding? Reflecting on what you know about Lydia, suggest reasons why the iconographer made these choices.

End by exploring – through a word cloud, reflection, artwork or prayer – how you can be a witness to your faith.

It will be different to the examples you've seen over the last few weeks in RE, but the values and beliefs are likely to be very similar.