



July 2020

Heaven in the Ordinary

(For Rural Mission Sunday)

**St Paul and Lydia**

Read the story below.

*Acts 16:12-17*

***12****From there we travelled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts.16.12-Acts.17.15&version=NIV&src=tools#fen-NIV-27496a)*] of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.*

***13****On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.****14****One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.****15****When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.*

**Questions**

How does God act to tell people the good news of his love whilst they are doing ordinary things?

Can you think of a time you have told a friend or family member about God when you were doing something very ordinary?

What did you say? How did they respond?

Can you think of a time you saw Gods work in something very ordinary?

**Prayer**

Loving Father God, help us to see you in the ordinary things of life,

in our getting dressed, helping with washing up and school work.

Help us to talk naturally about Jesus and our love for you wherever we are.

We pray for all those today who are upset, ill or worried about anything. Be with them and show them you are always with them wherever they are.

*Say the Lord’s Prayer together*

**Activities**

1. Draw and cut out the **shapes of clothes** you hang on a washing line, colour them in but leave room to write a prayer. *(We would like to hang them on a washing line in our Churches – can we have them?)*
2. Make a **collage** of the story above or to your own design *– (can we have it for church?)*
3. **Dress your favourite toy** in something purple *(take a picture)*
4. **Go on a Treasure hunt** around your house and garden and record – perhaps with a camera all the purple things you can find or make a list We will see how many you have on your list
5. **Thyatira** was a city in modern day Turkey – we often think **of kebabs** from Turkey and so can you make a kebab with any purple fruits or? *(take a picture)*

ENJOY!