

## **ACTIVITY TIME!!!**

### **Activity**

In this story, everyone followed God's next step for them, and God used this attentiveness to bring Lydia and Paul together. Lydia became an important church leader, and first, she needed to meet Paul.

Talk through the story and identify the parts where Paul and Lydia were attentive to God. First, Paul listens to the vision and believes. Then, they had to travel far. At any time during these travels, they could have chosen another path, but God was leading them.

Paul and his companions honored the Sabbath—they didn't ignore the holy day because of travels. Lydia, too, honored the Sabbath and went to pray. Then Lydia listened and was open to believing in Paul's message.

When we make big decisions, we usually ask God what to do. It is harder to listen to God's voice in each little moment of our lives.

Let's play a game. Choose one person to be the follower. Have the follower close their eyes and place a small object, such as a ball or a water bottle, across the room. Have someone be the leader. The leader will give the follower verbal instructions on how to find the secret object. Play many rounds, making the game harder or easier. You could also have the leader give instructions while other participants talk to make it harder for the follower to follow their voice.

Discuss how this game is like being open to God. Can you always hear God? Do you always know where God is leading you? How is this game like Paul and Lydia's story? How is this game different from following God? Ultimately, when we are attentive to what God wants us to do right now, in each small decision, we will end up where God wants us to be.

### **Alternate Activity**

In this story, Paul and Lydia both listen to what God is telling them. Because they listened in the little things, they met, and Lydia's life changed forever when she was baptized!

Read through the storybook version, and point out where Paul and Lydia listened to God in the little things. When we listen to God's voice, sometimes we don't hear God like a person, but we hear God in our hearts or minds.

Play this game to show how we follow God. Have one participant close their eyes at the end of the room. Have a leader talk to them and instruct them on how to get around the room and avoid hitting things. Follow the voice! Listen to where the voice is coming from. Play a few rounds. Participants could also take turns being the leader.

Discuss what the game was like and how it was or wasn't like following God. What was it like to listen to know where to go? Were you afraid you were going to run into something? Was it hard or easy? How is this the same or different from following God?