

# Church of God Sunday School

## AENEAS AND DORCAS ARE HEALED

Acts 9:32-43

Peter was traveling from city to city, preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, and encouraging the "saints" (Christians). When Peter came to the city of Lydda (*LIH-duh*), he found a man named Aeneas (*uh-NEE-uhs*), who was sick with the palsy (unable to feel or move parts of his body). Aeneas had been unable to get out of his bed for eight years!

Peter said to the palsied man, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed." Peter was giving the glory to God, for God is the One who gives healing. Immediately, Aeneas was healed! This miracle was a witness to the people of Lydda and also Saron (a nearby country, also called the Plain of Sharon). These people saw Aeneas' healing, and they gave their hearts to God.

While Peter was in the city of Lydda, two men came to find him. They were from Joppa, a city on the Mediterranean Sea, and they had been sent by the disciples (followers of Jesus) in Joppa who had heard that Peter was nearby. They asked Peter to "not delay to come to" their city. So, Peter traveled to Joppa with the two messengers.



In Joppa there lived a woman whose name was Tabitha. She was also known as Dorcas. (Tabitha was her Hebrew name, and Dorcas was her Greek name.) She was a kind woman who

often helped others, especially the widows and the poor people. The Bible says that she "was full of good works and almsdeeds" (giving to the poor).

Dorcas became very sick, and she died! This is why the two men had traveled to Lydda, asking Peter to come. When Peter arrived in Joppa, he was taken to the upper room of the house where Dorcas' body was laid out and prepared for burial. He found many widows

there, weeping because Dorcas had been so special.

The widows showed Peter the coats and other garments Dorcas had made for them and their families. After this, Peter made everyone leave the room. Once everyone was gone, he got down on his knees and prayed. We do not know the exact words Peter prayed, but God heard Peter's prayer! When Peter turned toward the dead woman's body and said, "Tabitha, arise," she opened her eyes.

Dorcas saw Peter, and she sat up in the bed. What a miracle! Dorcas had been dead, but God (working through Peter) had brought her back to life! Peter helped Dorcas to stand up, and then he called for the "saints and widows." Can you imagine the great rejoicing when they saw Dorcas was alive?

Soon all the people of Joppa had heard of this miracle, and many "believed in the Lord." Not only was the faith of the saints in Joppa encouraged, but many more people became Christians. Peter was in Joppa for many days, staying with Simon the tanner.

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

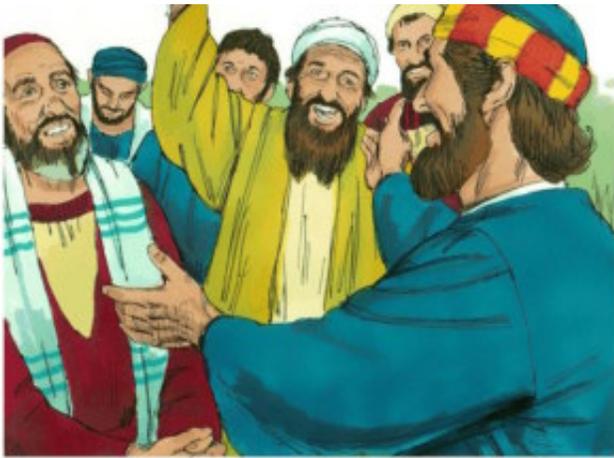
*"Peter . . . said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up."*

—Acts 9:40

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# Answer the Questions



**How long was Aeneas unable to get out of his bed?**

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**What did Dorcas make for the widows and the poor?**

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**What happened to Dorcas?**

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**How many men were sent to find Peter?**

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**What did the widows show Peter?**

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**After telling everyone to leave the room, what did Peter do?**

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**What did Peter say to the dead woman?**

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**After helping Dorcas to stand up, whom did Peter call for?**

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# Dorcas



Raised From the Dead