



# CITY OF JOPPA: PREPARED BY A GODLY EXAMPLE

ACTS 9:36-43

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • July 24 & 25, 2021 • Acts, week 48 • Msg. 21-27

1. Appreciate \_\_\_\_\_ (v.36)

**Acts 9:36** Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. **37** In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.

**38** Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay."

**39** So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.

**40** But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

**41** And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then, calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. **42** And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

**43** And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner. (ESV)

2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.37-39)

3. Make \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.40-43)

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Philippians 2:3-5** and **2:19-22**. Timothy and Paul served together "in the gospel" as selfless and caring missionaries, loving and serving their hearers as they called them to repentance and faith. Who most closely served in that role in your testimony? Who persuasively demonstrated Christ's love in your pre-Christian days?
2. Read **Galatians 6:9-10** and **Proverbs 31:16-20**. Tabitha reflected the hardworking and sacrificial attributes of the Proverbs 31 woman, who practically cared for those beyond the borders of her own household. What specifically challenges you about her kind of sacrifice, which ended up reaping an evangelistic harvest?
3. Read **Matthew 5:14-16** and **Philippians 2:14-15**. What are some of the things that need to be present (and absent) in your life right now, so that you can do a better job fulfilling the calling of these verses?
4. Read **Ephesians 2:8-10**. With all this talk of "good works," how would you respond to someone who states that this emphasis is nothing more than "works righteousness" and "earning your salvation"?
5. Read **Titus 2:7-14**. What will you do this week to increase your zeal for adorning the doctrine we teach and preach?

## *This Week's Bible Reading Schedule*

**July 24<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 41-43 & Ac. 24*

**July 25<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 44-46 & Ac. 25*

**July 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 47-49 & Ac. 26*

**July 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 50-52 & Ac. 27:1-25*

**July 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 53-55 & Ac. 27:26-44*

**July 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 56-58 & Ac. 28:1-15*

**July 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Ps. 59-61 & Ac. 28:16-31*

**July 31<sup>st</sup>**

*Ps. 62-64 & Ro. 1*

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 07-33 – **Sacrifice Instead of Selfishness**

Msg. 14-02 – **Exceptional Love with Exceptional Motives**

Msg. 11-07 – **Excelling in Generosity**

Msg. 14-40 – **Reflecting the Incarnational Love of Christ**

Msg. 16-01 – **The Fear of Not Having Enough**

Msg. 04-27 – 04-31 – **Life's Last Enemy** (a five-part series on death and resurrection)

Msg. 19-03 – 19-07 – **The Defeat of Death** (a five-part series on Christ's resurrection)

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**PastorMike**

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Alcorn, Randy. **Money, Possessions, and Eternity**. Tyndale House, 2003.

Carmichael, Liz. **Friendship: Interpreting Christian Love**. T&T Clark, 2004.

Edwards, Jonathan. **Charity and Its Fruits**. Banner of Truth, 1969.

Fabarez, Mike. **10 Mistakes People Make About Heaven, Hell, and the Afterlife**. Harvest House, 2018.

Fernando, Ajith. **Reclaiming Friendship**. Herald Press, 1993.

Getz, Gene. **Real Prosperity: Biblical Principles of Material Possessions**. Moody Press, 1990.

Hendricks, Howard G. **Say It with Love**. Victor Books, 1972.

Henry, Matthew. **The Pleasantness of a Religious Life: A Puritan's View of the Good Life**. Christian Focus, 1998.

Kroll, Woodrow. **Struggling with Selfishness: Choosing to Look Past Yourself**. Back to the Bible, 1996.

Lutzer, Erwin. **The Vanishing Power of Death**. Moody, 2004.

Ryken, Philip Graham, ed. **The Communion of the Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God**. P & R, 2001.

Smith, Christian. **Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money**. Oxford Press, 2008.

Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Reprint. Word, 2002.

Whitney, Donald. **Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church: Participating Fully in the Body of Christ**. Moody, 1996.