



acts

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

ACTS 9:32-43 / November 18

Welcome! Thank you for joining us in studying through Acts! Today we're studying again in chapter 9.

On Sunday, we learned about Peter taking the Gospel message to Cornelius and his family (Gentiles!). Today, though, we'll go back and finish chapter 9, studying some other ways that God was working in the life of Peter.

Begin today by reading 9:32-35.

- Who all is Peter visiting? What do you think is the reason for his visits to each of these places? Is it encouraging to you for your pastors and church leaders to check on you? Why?
- Who is Aeneas? What are some facts we learn about this man from these verses?
- **Think for a minute, what would have been like to be Aeneas?** Put yourself in his situation: In what ways would life be difficult? How would he have possibly felt every day?
- What does Peter do? What are the results of this, both for Aeneas and the people of Lydda?

Read Acts 9:36-43. Summarize this passage.

- Who is Tabitha? What is said about her her?
- What happens to Tabitha, and how did the people surrounding her react? (*They didn't bury her, but brought her to the upper room and called for Peter.*)
- What does Peter do? What is the outcome of the miracle (verse 42)?

Peter heals a paralyzed man. Peter raises a dead woman to life. Who else in the Bible perform miracles like that? (*If you have time, read Matthew 9:1-8 and Matthew 9:18-26. Note the similarities in the stories of Jesus and the stories from Acts 9 about Peter.*)

- **Re-read verses 35 and 42.** Who gets the glory for what has happened?

God uses Peter to heal these people, not to show us how wonderful or powerful Peter was, but to point us to Jesus, who is the ultimate healer.

- How are we, in a spiritual way, paralyzed like Aeneas and dead like Tabitha? What similarities exist between their physical conditions and our spiritual condition because of sin?

- How does Jesus heal us spiritually and raise us to life spiritually?

In Jesus, we have a healing and resurrection much greater than what we read about in Acts 9. In taking our place on the cross for sin, Jesus provides complete forgiveness for our sins. In raising to life Himself, Jesus offers His resurrection to us now and forever!

- How can we remind ourselves of the miracle of our salvation every day?

Pray.

KIDS FOCUS

Do you remember who Peter is?

Peter was one of Jesus' best friends! And after Jesus went back to heaven, Peter became a leader in the very first church.

Today, we're going to see Peter again, and we'll see how Jesus uses Peter to do a miracle!

Read Acts 9:36-43.

- Who is Tabitha? What is said about her her?
- What happens to Tabitha, and how did the people surrounding her react?
- What does Peter do?

This is an amazing story, isn't it! How would you have felt if you were living in Joppa on that day? Re-read verse 42. What did many people who heard about this miracle do?

The Bible teaches that because we all have sin — we do and say and think things that break God's laws and make Him sad — that we all will die. Our bodies will all die, and our souls also will die, forever away from God, who made us and loves us. This is bad news.

- **But God loves us, and just like Peter went to find Tabitha and made her alive, Jesus, the Son of God, came to find us and make us alive!**
- Jesus died instead of us for our sins! And Jesus then came back to life so that when we believe in Jesus, we can have forever life with God. This is our Good News, also called the Gospel!

Do you need to believe in Jesus today?

Who do you need to tell about Jesus today?