

LIFE GIVERS







Acts 9 v 32-43

32 As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda.

33 There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years.





34 "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. 35 All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. 36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.



37 About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. 38 Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"





39 Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. 40 Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed.



Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up.

41 He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive.





42 This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. 43 Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.







EXTREME TRANSFORMATION POSSIBLE





PETER

Passionate disciple

Completely denied Jesus

Restored to serve community

Powerful preacher

Healing Hands





TABITHA a.k.a. DORCAS

Disciple in Joppa

Generous community servant

Falls ill and dies

Miraculously raised to life

Restored to serve community





Psalm146: 9 'The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.'

Psalm 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

James 1: 27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.





LIFE GIVERS

Empowered by their encounters with Jesus, the ultimate life-giver.

Give back generously in the communities where God had called them to serve.

God's spirit multiplies their efforts to impact other individuals, communities and nations.





LIFE GIVER = ME?









EXTREME TRANSFORMATION POSSIBLE

