

Acts 9:32-43 \ Turn and Believe

3-3-24 @ RCBC

God is providentially bringing Peter closer and closer to Caesarea, where God will teach Peter about taking the Gospel to the Gentiles. (Acts 10)

All that Jesus had *taught* Peter and all that Jesus had *forgiven* Peter had led him to understand that healing and salvation come only from Jesus Christ.

You were saved to be a walking talking _____ of the power of Jesus.

God is to be praised for Aeneas' healing, and yet the text highlights that its impact on the people in the area *turning to the Lord* is the focus.

Don't underestimate the power of Christ's saving work in your life.

Tabitha was a woman constantly doing good deeds and known for her kindness and charity. Tabitha's gift was as important to the body of Christ as Peter's gifts were.

Every member of the body of Christ is _____ & _____.

- *Whatever giftedness God has blessed you with – use it!*
- *And whatever you do – do it all for His glory.*

"Faith alone saves, but the faith that saves is not alone. It will produce something. After a person believes on the Lord Jesus Christ, he (or she) will want to 'continue in His Word.' The proof of faith is continuing with the Savior. As the pastor of a church, I learned to watch out for the person who is active in the church but is not interested in the study of the Word of God. Such a one is dangerous to a church." - J Vernon McGee

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Mat. 5:16)

Working together, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, the Church will fulfil Jesus'

_____.

[v.40] – *"But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed..."*

There is power in prayer! Do we really believe that?

If people were to look at my life for evidence of this, would they be convinced?

Peter stops to pray because he was dependent on the Lord Jesus – **Are we?**

"I think Peter wanted to be alone with the Lord, knowing that he had no ability in himself to raise Tabitha from the dead. There is a great temptation in this life after experiencing some successes to think we must really have it together. Trust me - we don't! If we don't live in dependency on the Lord, nothing is going to happen in the long run in our lives. If you want God's blessing, you have to be dependent on Him." - David Jeremiah

Prayer acknowledges humble _____ on God.

While Luke doesn't record Peter's prayer itself, clearly his prayer showed his submission to and dependence on God the Giver and Taker of all life.

The dead brought back to life through the power and authority of Jesus! Some might want to argue that Aeneas' faith played a part in his healing, but no one can argue that a dead person had enough faith to bring themselves back to life – that is all of grace!

*Every time a person is saved a miracle takes place,
one which is a greater miracle than even raising the dead.*

Tabitha being raised from physical death became the cause of the resurrection of many from their graves of sin and unbelief.

For both Aeneas and Tabitha, their recovery wasn't just about them.

- The result of Aeneas' healing - *"they turned to the Lord."*
- The result of Tabitha's raising - *"many believed in the Lord."*

Aeneas represents the healing power of Jesus Christ to the spiritually helpless. He had no ability to heal himself.

Tabitha illustrates the power of Jesus Christ over the hopelessness of death in all of its forms. The Savior has conquered sin, sickness, and even death, and it applies to every person who believes on His name.

What might be the effect of your testimony on those around you?

Does your life point to a Savior who transforms?

These two miracles must have taken everyone by surprise. There was no human hope in either situation. But where there was no human hope, God miraculously broke in with His power and accomplished in an instant what no one could ever do. Sometimes we view difficult situations and people from our human perspective & forget that with God, nothing is impossible. (Luke 1:37, Jer. 32:17)

God is mighty to _____.

Additional Notes: _____