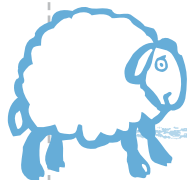




# Lesson Thirteen

## *Dorcas Is a Faithful Worker*



### Nourishing Your Heart

#### Scripture

Acts 9:36–42

#### Bible Truth

Dorcas was known for her good works, and when she died, God raised her from the dead, giving her back to the church.

#### Lesson Aim

To love and serve our powerful Lord as Dorcas did.

In the Bible, Dorcas is named as a disciple of Jesus (Acts 9:36). Yet she did not stand out in a leadership role; her commitment was one of humble, faithful service, particularly in caring for the needs of the poor and looking after those around her. It is fitting, then, to conclude this quarter on faithful servants by learning from Dorcas's life. She is truly a wonderful example of someone who served others in love and humility.

Known for her many good works, Dorcas served her local church fellowship in Joppa. It is assumed that Dorcas was a wealthy widow because, even though no family is mentioned in the Bible story, she was able to do so much to help others.

When Dorcas fell ill and died, it so affected her church community that they sent for Peter, urging him to come at once. When he arrived, the widows stood around crying, eager to show the apostle some of the robes and other clothing Dorcas had made for them when she was alive.

Through Peter, God raised Dorcas from the dead. He chose to honor Dorcas and demonstrate his power and love to the Christians in Joppa by giving her back to the church as his special gift. Through this miracle, many people came to trust in the Lord.

As we marvel at this wonderful event, let us not miss the even greater miracle that had been performed in her life. Dorcas was a humble, giving servant by God's grace. He had saved her from sin, so she was able to serve him. That same grace is also at work in the lives of believers today, enabling us to do good works.

God promises that all who believe in him will have everlasting life!

And, yes, the Lord still honors his faithful workers. He may not raise us from the dead, like Dorcas, to do more service for him. He may not call us to fight a giant or lead an army. But each of his children is called to faithfully serve the Lord in the local church.

And God does promise that all who believe in him will have everlasting life. What a mighty God we serve!

As you conclude this quarter, pray for each of your children by name. Thank God for the special talents and abilities that he has given to each. Ask him to keep his guiding hand on their lives so that, as they grow and mature, they will be ever mindful of ways they can use those gifts to further his kingdom.

#### Memory Verse

##### REVIEW:

MATTHEW 5:16  
PHILIPPIANS 2:13  
EPHESIANS 2:8–10  
JOHN 3:30  
TITUS 3:4–5a