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## Beyond the Walls

Acts 9:32-43

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### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



In the second part of Acts chapter 9, Peter is in Joppa and Lydda where he performs two miraculous healings. The first is a man that has been confined to a mattress because he is paralyzed. Peter tells him he has been healed by Jesus Christ, “get up and make your bed.” Amazingly the man rises and is healed. The second one is even more dramatic when Tabitha is raised from the dead. In both cases many people come to know the Lord because of the power that is displayed through the apostle Peter. This week we will talk about what this looks like in our own time and in our own church.

James 5:15-And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick and the Lord will raise him up – and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

## **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)**

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in these passages.

### **Read Acts 9:32-43 (NET)**

<sup>32</sup> Now as Peter was traveling around from place to place, he also came down to the saints who lived in Lydda. <sup>33</sup> He found there a man named Aeneas who had been confined to a mattress for eight years because he was paralyzed. <sup>34</sup> Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Get up and make your own bed!" And immediately he got up.

<sup>35</sup> All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

<sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which in translation means Dorcas). She was continually doing good deeds and acts of charity.

<sup>37</sup> At that time she became sick and died. When they had washed her body, they placed it in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Because Lydda was near Joppa,

when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived they brought him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him, crying and showing him the tunics and other clothing Dorcas used to make while she was with them.

<sup>40</sup> But Peter sent them all outside, knelt down, and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her get up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> So Peter stayed many days in Joppa with a man named Simon, a tanner.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.

2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.

3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.

4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. What is in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

## 🕒 **EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)**

What does God MEAN?

8. In verse 34, who heals Aeneas?

9. How do you think Peter knew that Jesus was going to heal Aeneas?

10. Why do you think they sent for Peter when Tabitha died?

11. Why would Peter send everyone out of the room before he prayed for Tabitha?

12. Why do you think that Jesus chose to heal both Aeneas and Tabitha?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)**

**Why does this MATTER to me?**

13. Can God perform these types of miraculous healings today? Why or why not?

14. What should we expect from God as far as miraculous healing in today's world?

15. Why does God choose to heal some and not others?

**Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

**SERMON NOTES**