

# Acts 9:32-43

## September 14, 2025



### **CONVERSATION STARTERS**

- What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?
- What Scripture has been shaping you recently?
- Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?
- What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?
- What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?
- What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?
- What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

### **INTRODUCTION**

*As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.*

#### **"Get Up!" Game**

Objective:

Be the last student still "asleep" without moving!

Setup:

- Choose two students to be "awake."
- Everyone else will be "sleeping."

How to Play:

- The "sleeping" students have one minute to spread out and pretend they are sleeping anywhere in the room. Once the minute is up, the game begins!
- The "awake" students will walk around trying to catch "sleeping" students moving, twitching, or reacting. They can tell jokes, make silly sounds, or talk—but no touching allowed. If a student is caught moving, they join the "awake" team and help catch others.
- The last student still "asleep" without getting caught is the winner!

Teaching Moment:

Today we played a fun game where our “awake” students had to wake up our “sleeping” students. In our study of Acts today, we are going to read a story about Peter telling someone to get up from bed, but she wasn’t asleep—she had died, and Christ raised her.

**How do you think we are called to live in community today? What type of impact should we be making on our community?**

**Who is someone in your Christian community who has made a big impact on you personally? Why?**

## ***DISCUSSION***

 ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ ACTS 9:32-43.

**What does Peter’s activity tell us about his priority of others knowing Christ?**

**How did Peter model Jesus’s ministry in verses 32-35?**

**What was the outcome of Peter’s ministry efforts in Lydda?**

**How did the disciples in Joppa show faith in these verses? How did Peter?**

**What does the text say about Tabitha, and what impressions do you get about her character?**

**What was the result of the miracle God used Peter to perform?**

## ***GOING DEEPER***

**How are you seeking to follow the model of Jesus’s ministry in daily life?**

**Why should this necessarily involve others and not be pursued in isolation?**

## ***APPLICATION***

**What are some ways we learned both Peter and Tabitha modeled Christ in today’s study?**

**How are you using your God-given gifts to serve our church and community? How can we support one another in this?**

**What connection is there in today's passage about ministering in Jesus's name and others coming to know Him?**

### **PRAYER**

Thank God for how He has gifted you in ways that are meant to be used in your local community and church. Ask for His help as you consider how to use your gifts to better serve those God has placed in your life.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

*Encourage your group to look ahead as we continue the series on Acts next week.*

**September 21, 2025 --- Acts 10:1-48**

### **COMMENTARY**

**Acts 9:32-43**

**9:32** The saints at Lydda may have been there since Pentecost and the time of persecution that had scattered believers throughout Judea (8:1). It is also possible that they traced their origins to Philip's ministry (8:40).

**9:33-35** Again we see that the apostles never hesitated to give all credit for healing miracles to Jesus Christ (3:6). Indirect evidence for this is found in the fact that the people in Lydda and Sharon turned in faith to the Lord rather than his apostolic messengers when they witnessed the healing of Aeneas.

**9:36** Tabitha (Gk Dorcas, lit gazelle) is called a disciple. She was not one of the twelve apostles, but she was clearly an active follower of Jesus.

**9:37-38** So powerfully had God worked wonders through Peter and the other apostles that even when Dorcas died and had been ceremonially washed and placed ... in a room upstairs for viewing, Christians in Joppa did not give up hope but instead sent for Peter.

**9:39-42** Peter's words to the dead woman were almost identical to the words Jesus spoke to Jairus's daughter, Talitha koum (Mk 5:41).

**9:43** Tanners were often considered impure because of their contact with dead animals. This indicates that either Jewish law on this practice had relaxed by this era, or else that Peter was already enjoying freedom from the Jewish law because of his liberty in Christ (10:6, 32)