

Positioning Yourself for a Miracle

Acts 9:36-43

Introduction

Tabitha was a committed disciple of Christ. This word “disciple,” used in the passage, indicates that she functioned under the lordship of Jesus Christ. Tabitha was not only a committed follower of Christ, but she was also compassionate. This woman was full of good works and was serving the needs of others. Her lifestyle of good works demonstrated a commitment to loving others and the fact that Tabitha did it “continually” gives us a picture of her character.

But Tabitha had a crisis; she fell sick and died (verse 37). Even though this woman had lived a good life, she had a negative set of circumstances occur. Having heard that Peter was nearby, other disciples went to tell Peter about the situation with Tabitha and implored him to come. Peter arrived at the scene where those who loved Tabitha and had been blessed by her ministry, stood mourning. Peter prays for Tabitha and she rises from the dead!

There are many followers of Jesus Christ today that are putting God “first” and loving others well by placing them “second” in their lives. But when it comes to themselves as the “third” priority, they find themselves in a set of negative circumstances. As a believer you may be committed and doing what you are supposed to do yet something still dies - a dream or a desire. Believers need to understand that when they are following the command to love God well and to do the same for others, God sees, He knows, He cares, and He can do something about the situations they find themselves in. The commitment to following His commands can position the believer to receive a miracle from God. It can also set the believer up for experiencing God’s inexplicable comfort and joy while you wait for the resurrection of a dream or a desire or in the event that God doesn’t choose to revive something that has died.

Getting Started

1. What did you do to celebrate Mother’s Day? Share how you celebrated your own mother or how others celebrated you!
2. Mother’s Day can be a difficult time for many. Was Mother’s Day difficult for you? Take a moment to share.

Let’s Get Personal

1. Tabitha was positioned for a miracle because she was actively putting God first and others second. Are you doing the same? Are you positioned for God to work a miracle in your life? Why or why not?
2. Do you have dreams or desires that have died? Share those with your group?
3. Has God provided comfort while you are waiting on those dreams and desires to be fulfilled? How so?

Take the Next Step

1. Do you consider yourself committed in your walk with God? Why or why not? What is one practical thing you can do that will increase your active commitment to following God, loving Him well, and putting Him first?
2. Tabitha was committed to loving God first. She was also compassionate in serving others and at the time of her death, she was surrounded by people she had touched during her life. Do you have people in your life who share your pain when you are facing a hopeless situation? In what practical ways can you be more intentional about showing compassion to others and/or to cultivating community in your life?
3. Want to dig deeper? Take a look at 1 Samuel 1:1-28, 2 Kings 4:1-7, and 2 Corinthians 1:1-11.

Renew Your Mind

“..He will yet deliver us.” 2 Corinthians 1:10