

Dorcas and the Poor: Generosity

Scripture Reading — Acts 9:36-42

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. — Acts 9:36

Often mentoring will involve giving to others. When we recognize that every gift we have is from God's hand and not something we have earned or are entitled to, we become more open to sharing our time, talents, and possessions. As we are filled with God's grace, the natural response is to share generously with others.

Dorcas was known for her compassion for the poor in her community. She was known for doing good and investing in those who had needs. Her relationship with God was not just for herself but also for the benefit of others.

The death of Dorcas left her community in distress. Friends searched for Peter to see if there was something he could do. Widows showed him all the clothing Dorcas had made for them—gifts that reminded them of her love. Gifts placed in the hand of someone in need point to the hand of the heavenly Father, who loves us completely and generously supplies all that we need.

Our culture tends to focus on accumulating wealth instead of giving to people in need. Dorcas, described as a disciple, was one who imitated the generosity of God.

How can you show God's generous heart to someone in need this week?

Prayer

Lord, help me to care for others with the love that you show me. Help me to give willingly with a cheerful heart as you have -given to me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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