

“Miracles of Peter”
Acts 9:32-43
August 31, 2025

Acts 9:32-43

[32] As Peter was traveling from place to place, he also came down to the saints who lived in Lydda. [33] There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. [34] Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed,” and immediately he got up. [35] So all who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

[36] In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which is translated Dorcas). She was always doing good works and acts of charity. [37] About that time she became sick and died. After washing her, they placed her in a room upstairs. [38] Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples heard that Peter was there and sent two men to him who urged him, “Don’t delay in coming with us.” [39] Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him to the room upstairs. And all the widows approached him, weeping and showing him the robes and clothes that Dorcas had made while she was with them. [40] Peter sent them all out of the room. He knelt down, prayed, and turning toward the body said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. [41] He gave her his hand and helped her stand up. He called the saints and widows and presented her alive. [42] This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. [43] Peter stayed for some time in Joppa with Simon, a leather tanner.

Main Idea - In Christ, we are given a new life and a new mission.

Peter arrives in Lydda, and by the power of Jesus he heals Aeneas.

Mark 2:1-11

[1] When he entered Capernaum again after some days, it was reported that he was at home. [2] So many people gathered together that there was no more room, not even in the doorway, and he was speaking the word to them. [3] They came to him bringing a paralytic, carried by four of them. [4] Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after digging through it, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying. [5] Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” [6] But some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts: [7] “Why does he speak like this? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” [8] Right away, Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were thinking like this within themselves and said to them, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? [9] Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat, and walk?’ [10] But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,”—he told the paralytic— [11] “I tell you: get up, take your mat, and go home.”

Peter is an echo of Jesus.

It is not about the what happened to Tabitha that is important; rather, it is important what it points to.

Luke 8:40-42

[40] When Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. [41] Just then, a man named Jairus came. He was a leader of the synagogue. He fell down at Jesus's feet and pleaded with him to come to his house, [42] because he had an only daughter about twelve years old, and she was dying.

Luke 8:49-56

[49] While he was still speaking, someone came from the synagogue leader's house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Don't bother the teacher anymore." [50] When Jesus heard it, he answered him, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be saved." [51] After he came to the house, he let no one enter with him except Peter, John, James, and the child's father and mother. [52] Everyone was crying and mourning for her. But he said, "Stop crying, because she is not dead but asleep." [53] They laughed at him, because they knew she was dead. [54] So he took her by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" [55] Her spirit returned, and she got up at once. Then he gave orders that she be given something to eat. [56] Her parents were astounded, but he instructed them to tell no one what had happened.

Luke wants us to see Jesus.

We are reminded to be like Jesus—that's the life.

While the healing is incredible, don't miss how the story ends—many believed!

Joppa reminds us of the prophet Jonah. Jonah fled to Joppa to run from ministry. For Peter, this was a place to go into ministry.

What is Peter thinking about? Who or what is just beyond your horizon?

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through the Scripture during our Sunday gathering?
- Where is somewhere you enjoyed but originally didn't want to go?
- What about Peter's ministry in this passage strikes you as interesting or encouraging?
- Can you talk about something you now do in your Christian walk that used to seem too difficult to imagine doing?
- Who do you go to when you aren't sure what to do or need a miracle?
- Have you ever witnessed something you would consider a miracle? How did it impact your life and your faith?
- Why is the greater miracle new life in Christ and not physically being raised from the dead?
- What do you think about when you look out at the horizon? Who or what is out there for you?
- From your Life Group time, what is an idea or two from your discussion that you can work to apply this week?