



Told You So!

GROWTH GUIDE MAY 11, 2025

*4th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 9:32-43*

AUTHOR

Luke, a Gentile, Greek, doctor, close friend and companion of the Apostle Paul. Luke was a historian who put great emphasis on dates and details. He wrote Acts as a sequel to the Gospel of Luke between A.D. 63 and 70. His purpose in writing was to give an accurate account of the birth and growth of the Christian church. The book of Acts begins where the Gospels left off and reports the actions of the disciples and the work of the Holy Spirit.

CONTEXT

: Jesus has ascended into heaven, Pentecost has taken place with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the church in Jerusalem has been established and is growing quickly every day through the bold witness of Peter and John. There is persecution and Christianity spreads as the believers take the message with them when they flee. In chapter 9, Saul the persecutor is converted to Christianity and preaches boldly in the name of the Lord. As our scripture passage opens, Peter, one of Jesus' original disciples, has been traveling and is visiting the believers in Lydda, a town 25 miles northwest of Jerusalem and an important commercial center.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Acts 9:32-35. What stands out to you in this passage? Is there a word or phrase that speaks to you in particular?
2. How does this Peter compare to the Peter we read about in John 18:15-18 & 25-27?
3. Who does Peter encounter in Lydda and how does Peter respond? What is the outcome – how are the people in the town impacted?
4. There is movement of the Holy Spirit and people are transformed in Peter's ministry. Where do you see the movement of the Holy Spirit in your own faith setting? What transformation do you see?
5. Read Acts 9:36-43. What stands out to you in this passage? Is there a word or phrase that speaks to you in particular?
6. Tabitha (or in Greek, Dorcas) was a believer in Joppa. What impact did she have on her community? What facts do you learn about her? God used Tabitha's gifts to help others. What gifts has God given you?
7. In his ministry, Peter has become known as a healer and is asked to come to Joppa as Tabitha has died. Who do you know as healers in your midst? How do they make a difference?
8. When the people sent for Peter after Tabitha died, what do you think their expectations were? What would you assume about their faith?
9. After Peter cleared the room where Tabitha lay and before he told her to get up or rise, what did he do? What impact did Tabitha being brought back to life have on the town?
10. Jesus continues to transform lives. How are you giving hope and help to those who need to rise again?