

FBC Sebring Wednesday Prayer Meeting – Pastor Matt Crawford

February 10, 2016

Prayer in the Book of Acts (Part 6)

Acts 9:36-43 (ESV)

36 Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity.

37 In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.

38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay."

39 So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

41 And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

42 And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

43 And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner.

Prayer points:

- Pray that we would follow Dorcas's example in lovingly caring for one another, and that, as a result, unbelievers would be drawn to Christ (John 13:34-35).
- Ask God for a spirit of boldness and faith in your own prayer life.
- Praise God for His power in overcoming death, both in this story and in an ultimate way through Jesus' resurrection!
- Pray that our community and world would see God's power at work through the lives, faith, and prayers of believers, causing many to believe in the Lord (verse 42).

Acts 10:1-8 (ESV)

1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort,

2 a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God.

3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius."

4 And he stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God.

*5 And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter.
6 He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.”
7 When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him,
8 and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.*

[We'll continue with more in Cornelius' story next week.]

Prayer points:

- Thank God for His work in the lives of unbelievers even before we interact with them. Pray that He would work powerfully around us today, leading to hearts ready for our sharing of the gospel.
- Thank God for hearing our prayers, as He mercifully did for Cornelius.
- Thank God for His mercy on us Gentiles, and for His sending of the gospel to us!
- Ask God for an obedient spirit, like Cornelius demonstrated in this passage.