

# ACTS

LIVING ON MISSION

Acts 9:31–43

October 8, 2023

## BELONG

Get to Know One Another

Take a **few minutes** to hear about your group members' week.

- What's the one thing in your daily routine that you wish you could eliminate?
- What do you want to try for the first time in the year ahead?

## BELIEVE

Read this Week's Scripture

Last week, we focused on Saul's remarkable conversion. In **Acts 9:31**, Luke shares that Saul's transformation seemed to signal the end of the early church's problems: ***"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied."***

However, it's important to recognize that the church still faced the challenges of sin and living in a fallen world. In today's Scripture, we'll see that Jesus Christ continues to display His power. He's not absent, powerless, or disinterested in the world, its progress, or your life. He is alive and what he began to do in his earthly life he is continuing to do including - healing the sick and raising the dead. As a result of His work, people turn to the Lord for salvation. **Have someone in your group read Acts 9:31-43.**

## BUILD

Engage the Scripture

In this section of verses, what two details do we learn about Aeneas? **[Acts 9:33]**

- Who is responsible for healing Aeneas?
- Why do you think Peter "declares" Aeneas to be healed *rather* than asking Jesus to heal him? **[have someone look up Luke 9:1 to help you with your answer.]**

What was the result of the healing of Aeneas? [**Acts 9:34-35**]

- What do you think was the primary focus of Aeneas – his healing OR all the residents turning to the Lord?

Look up **Luke 8:49-56**. In what ways was the raising of Tabitha similar to the raising of Jairus's daughter? *Why do you think these parallels are significant?*

What was the result of raising Tabitha from the dead? [**Acts 9:42**]

- What is the difference between Aeneas and Tabitha's healing?

## BECOME

Apply the Scripture

Why are the signs and wonders of the early church largely absent from the Christian community today?

Why do some Christians suffer and die, while others are healed of their sickness?

[Have someone read **John 5:1-9**. *What does this Scripture reveal about healing?*]

How does suffering – either our suffering OR the suffering of someone we love – relate to hope in terms of the Gospel?

In what ways would you like to follow the example of Dorcas?

If Peter were visiting your church, whom would you ask him to help? Why?

Have someone read **Galatians 6:2**. How can we bear one another's burdens for the sake of the Gospel?

## BEGIN

Response and Prayer

**How should it change the way you pray, think, speak or act this week?**

**At the end of the conversation, spend some time praying as a group. Here are some prompts:**

- Spend some group time-sharing requests and praying specifically for them.
- Spend some time praying for FBC and how God is working in and through FBC Portland.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Blue Letter Bible:** [Acts 9](#): Check out the QR code to learn more.

**Precept Austin:** [Acts 9](#): Check out the QR code to learn more.

