

Acts 9:36-43

Called to live

A disciple called Dorcas demonstrated her faith by befriending vulnerable widows in her city of Joppa. When she dies, the apostle Peter is sent for. Peter prays and calls for her to live and she is raised from the dead.

Read this week's passage:



CREATE

Try out some craft activities such as finger knitting, loom bands, friendship bracelets or learn a new skill like knitting, crochet or sewing – and make something for someone else.



Give This week is Christian Aid Week – how can you get involved? There are lots of resources and ideas on their website www.christianaid.org.uk. Are there activities you could do as a household, or with friends, to raise money for those in need?

A A D F N Z L U C
H B S E A R C H K
G A J B N R P H O

Look through your clothes. Do you have an item that was handmade or gifted to you? How does seeing it or wearing it make you feel? Pray, thanking God for the giver, and perhaps send the person a note/message of thanks.

Find more free Roots resources to reflect on this week's theme:



Living Scripture

'She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.' Acts 9:36

'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.' (Maya Angelou). When Dorcas died, the widows of Lydda remembered the huge difference she had made in their lives. Beyond the tunics she made, their grief demonstrated they felt included, special, cared for and loved. For widows at the time, who would have had no legal or financial protection, Dorcas had been a source of hope, and her home was a place they came for friendship.

Who has made you feel cared for, safe and included? Whose home do you enjoy spending time in? Dorcas brought life to these women through her faith and Peter calls her back to life through the power of Christ. It is God's life in us that gives us the energy for good works. Our kindness, generosity, love and good works can bring life to those around us.

When and with whom do you feel most alive? When have you experienced the energising power of Jesus? What acts of kindness and generosity could you do this week in through the power of Jesus?

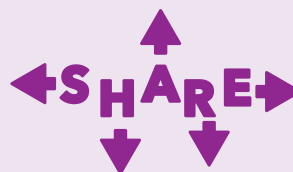
First impressions

- What does 'life in all its fullness' mean to you?
- What hobbies and activities are life-giving to you?
- How does your church minister to widows and widowers?



Pray

Loving God,
we thank you for giving us the gift of life.
Sometimes people get sick,
so we ask you now to restore their health
and offer them comfort in their time of pain.
Help us to bring life to those in our community
who are in need, in whatever way we can.
Amen.



This week usually marks the start of exams for young people. Could you create a care package to encourage someone who is studying, or coordinate with your church/ a local school to give exam care packages for young people who might not usually receive little luxuries?