Lesson: 24

Caring for God's Creation

Tears for Tabitha

Caring is about the way we treat each other. It is very important to care for individuals in the community who may need help or are less fortunate. In the book of Acts, Tabatha was one of Jesus' disciples who showed concern for others. She used her talents to sew clothing for all who were poor or ill.

Dorcas, a word which means "**gazelle**," was sometimes called **Tabitha**. She was a very kind person who spent her time caring for the widows of **Joppa**. God has always been mindful of the widows and people who are poor.



Dorcas lived in Joppa, a seaport town. She was a loving person who showed kindness to others and especially to the poor. She made **coats** for the widows so they would have something to keep them warm in the winter.

One day she became **ill and died**. Her friends were so sad and upset. Their dear friend was gone. They had heard that **Peter** had been performing miracles of healing sick people. At this time, no apostle had raised anyone from the dead, but Dorcas' friends believed that Peter could do even that, so they sent two men to Lydda, a nearby town where Peter was staying.

Peter went back to Joppa with the men, and when he got there, he was led to an upper room where her friends had laid Dorcas. The room was filled with widows who were crying and showing one another the coats and other clothing which Dorcas had made for them while she was alive. Each stitch showed her faithfulness and the love she had for them.

Peter told them all to leave the room. Then he got down on his knees and **prayed**, asking God to bring life back into her still body. He said to her, "**Tabitha, get up**." She opened her eyes and when she saw Peter, she sat up. He took her by the hand and she stood up. He called for the people to come back into the room, and there they saw their friend, alive again. What joy they felt! The news spread quickly through the town of Joppa. Dorcas is alive again! Because of the miracle, many people believed in the Lord.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Date: _____

Directions Answer the following questions.

1. The word Dorcas, means [1]
(A) gazelle (B) glory (C) Tabitha

2. Which word does NOT describe Dorcas [1]
(A) kind (B) caring (C) angry

3. When Peter went into the room what were the women NOT doing? [1]
(A) eating (B) crying (C) showing their coats

4. What kind of people did Dorcas NOT help? [1]
(A) widows (B) poor (C) rich

5. Because of Peter's miracle many of the people [1]
(A) believed in the Lord
(B) believed in Peter
(C) believed in Dorcas

4. Why were her friends sad? (1)

_____

_____

5. Why did the friends send for Peter? (1)

_____

_____

7. After Peter prayed he said (2)

_____

_____

8. Look at the picture. What was Dorcas occupation? [1]

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LIVEWORKSHEETS