

Teachers, Please Read This!

1. I chose a different approach to our Camp Book this year.
2. In an effort to provide lessons that are easily adapted for all age groups, each lesson takes a “broad approach” to the spiritual topic under consideration. **This is on purpose!**
3. This year, I have left most of the specifics – questions and supplementary activities – up to each individual teacher. **This is on purpose!**
4. Therefore, these lessons serve as a basic outline of study that each teacher must work on and prepare for the group of souls for whom he or she is responsible.
5. My prayer is that each of us will prayerfully strive to engraft the soul-saving Word of God into each precious soul in our charge. **To God be the glory!**

Students and Teachers – PLEASE READ

Introduction to the Lesson Series

Theme: The Power of One in the Hands of God

In our world today, it seems that “one” is often considered an undesirable number. We seem to always want more of anything. More is better; at least that’s what many think. But, have you ever looked closely at stories in the Bible where we see God accomplishing mighty things with only a few or even one? You see, God is all-powerful.

“Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.” (Jeremiah 32:17)

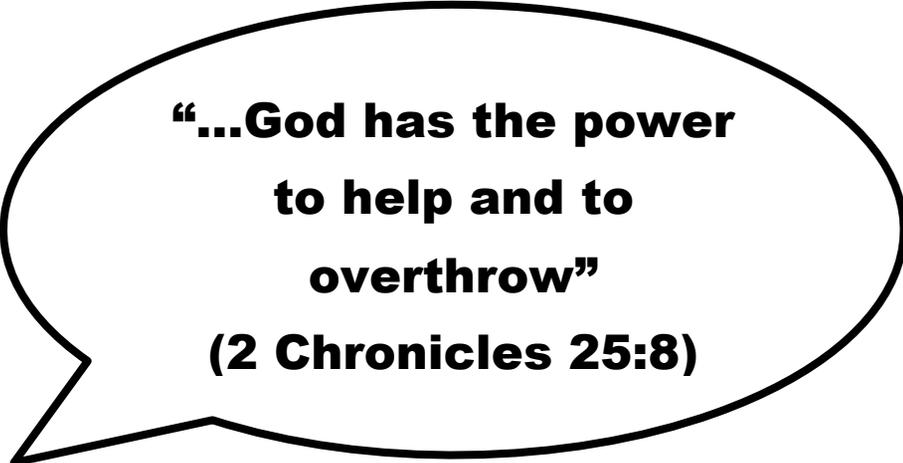
Jeremiah said this to God in one of his prayers. Do you and I understand that God – the God whom we serve and to whom we pray – and yes, the God who is the reason we are at Maywood Christian Camp this week – is a God who has all power? Do we really know and believe that God can do anything He chooses to do and that there is nothing too hard for the God of Heaven?

When Jacob was near the end of his life, he called his sons to him to tell them what they needed to know for the days ahead. Notice what Jacob said about his son Joseph in Genesis 49:22-24.

"Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a well; his branches run over the wall. The archers have bitterly grieved him, shot at him and hated him. But his bow remained in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob..." (Genesis 49:22-24)

I want you to think about what his father said about him. There was a time in his life when he was overwhelmed and overcome by difficult times. Not only did he survive, but he was blessed with success and greatness in the land of Egypt. How was this possible? How did this happen when so many people and so many things seemed to be against Joseph? **He was made strong by the hands of the Mighty God.**

The message of each lesson will be clear: **in the hands of the Mighty God of Heaven, no person is too small, too weak, or too alone to accomplish great things in His service.**



**"...God has the power
to help and to
overthrow"
(2 Chronicles 25:8)**

Lesson 1: **David – The Power of One Heart in the Hands of God**

Focus Scripture: 1 Samuel 17

Focus Thought: God used David's heart to win a great victory against the enemy (17:32).

"Then David said to Saul, 'Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.'"

ACQUIRE: What do we know?

1. King Saul and the Army of Israel faced a powerful enemy (verses 1-10).
2. King Saul and all Israel were terrified and discouraged (verse 11; 24).
3. David was the youngest of the eight sons of Jesse (verses 14-15).
4. David usually took care of his father's sheep, but was sent by Jesse to take food to his three oldest brothers who were soldiers in the Army of Israel (verses 14-20).
5. David heard Goliath defy God and volunteered to go fight (verses 22-31).

6. David went against Goliath in the name of and with the power of the God of Heaven (verses 37-51).

ACHIEVE: What can we learn?

1. Enemies who fight against God's people are powerful and dangerous (verses 1-10).
2. God's people can become so discouraged and afraid that they stop doing what's right and even run away (verse 11; 24).
3. You don't have to be a "grown-up" to know what is right or to do what is right (verses 14-15 with verses 32-37).
4. When David heard and saw something that was wrong (an enemy defying God), he was the first to want to do what was right – even though he was surrounded by older soldiers who knew better and should have already acted (verses 20-31).
5. David volunteered to serve God in this situation even though his brother criticized him, he seemed to be outmatched, and he walked onto the battlefield completely alone (verses 28-43).
6. David faced Goliath (1) by using the natural talent that God had given him, (2) by submitting himself completely to the authority and control of God, and (3) by acting with courage founded in complete faith that God will be

victorious over His enemies (verses 45-54) (compare Romans 8:31 and 1 John 5:4).

APPLY: How can we live what we've learned?

1. We have a spiritual enemy who is powerful and dangerous (1 Peter 5:8; Luke 22:31-32).
2. God does not want us to be afraid and cowardly in our service to Him and in our battle against the spiritual enemy (2 Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 12:3) (Suggestion: consider and study the context of Hebrews 12:1-16 with older groups)
3. Right now – no matter your age – is the time for each of us to serve God (1 Timothy 4:12 with 2 Timothy 3:14-15).
4. With Christ as our strength, we can serve God with our lives no matter how big or fierce the giants we may face (Galatians 2:20; 1 Timothy 6:12; Philippians 4:13).

ACT: Now, let's do something!

- ✓ This is a great time for teacher-made questions, lesson review, and focused discussions.
- ✓ As a class, answer and discuss the following question:
How did God use David's heart to defeat Goliath and the Philistines?

✓ **Memory Work Challenge:** I challenge you to complete three important tasks with at least two of the lesson verses listed below.

- First, learn the verses (commit them to memory).
- Second, learn exactly what the verses mean – what they teach you.
- Third, find a camp director (or other person designated by your teacher) and say your verses **AND** explain what they mean.
- Lesson Verses
 - 1 Samuel 17:4-6
 - 1 Samuel 17:32
 - 1 Samuel 17:40
 - Romans 8:31
 - 1 John 5:4

✓ **Giant Project Challenge:** Teachers, this challenge is for you. I challenge you to create a “Goliath project” to complete with your students. This could involve anything from coloring pages to puzzles to deep discussions about overcoming the spiritual giants we all face.

Lesson 2: **Rahab – The Power of One Soul in the Hands of God**

Focus Scripture: Joshua 2:1-24; 6:22-25

Focus Thought: God used one soul to save an entire household and win a great victory for God’s people (Hebrews 11:31).

“By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.”

ACQUIRE: What do we know?

1. Joshua was about to lead God’s people into the Promised Land (1:1-6).
2. Joshua secretly sent two men to spy out the city of Jericho (2:1).
3. These two spies stayed in the house of a woman named Rahab, who hid them when the king of Jericho sent men to search for them (2:2-7).
4. Rahab had heard of the great things God has done and had learned to have obedient faith in the God of Heaven (2:8-11 with Hebrews 11:31).

5. Because she believed in God and protected them, the two spies promised Rahab that she and her family would be spared when Israel destroyed Jericho (2:12-20).
6. Following the spies' instructions, Rahab placed a scarlet cord in the window of her house and kept her family inside. Everyone in the house was spared during the attack (2:17-24; 6:17, 23-25).

ACHIEVE: What can we learn?

1. God will keep His promises (1:1-6).
2. Someone has to be willing to go and serve God – do what God wants done (2:1).
3. Service to God requires courage; sometimes there is risk involved in doing what is right (2:2-7).
4. When a person learns of and believes in the God of Heaven, he or she will act – obey (2:8-16 with James 2:25).
5. God will save the obedient from destruction (2:17-24; 6:17, 23-25 with 1 Corinthians 6:9-11).
6. Rahab and her family would have perished in Jericho if Rahab had refused to tie the scarlet cord in the window or if any of them had left the house (2:17-21 with 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 and James 1:21).

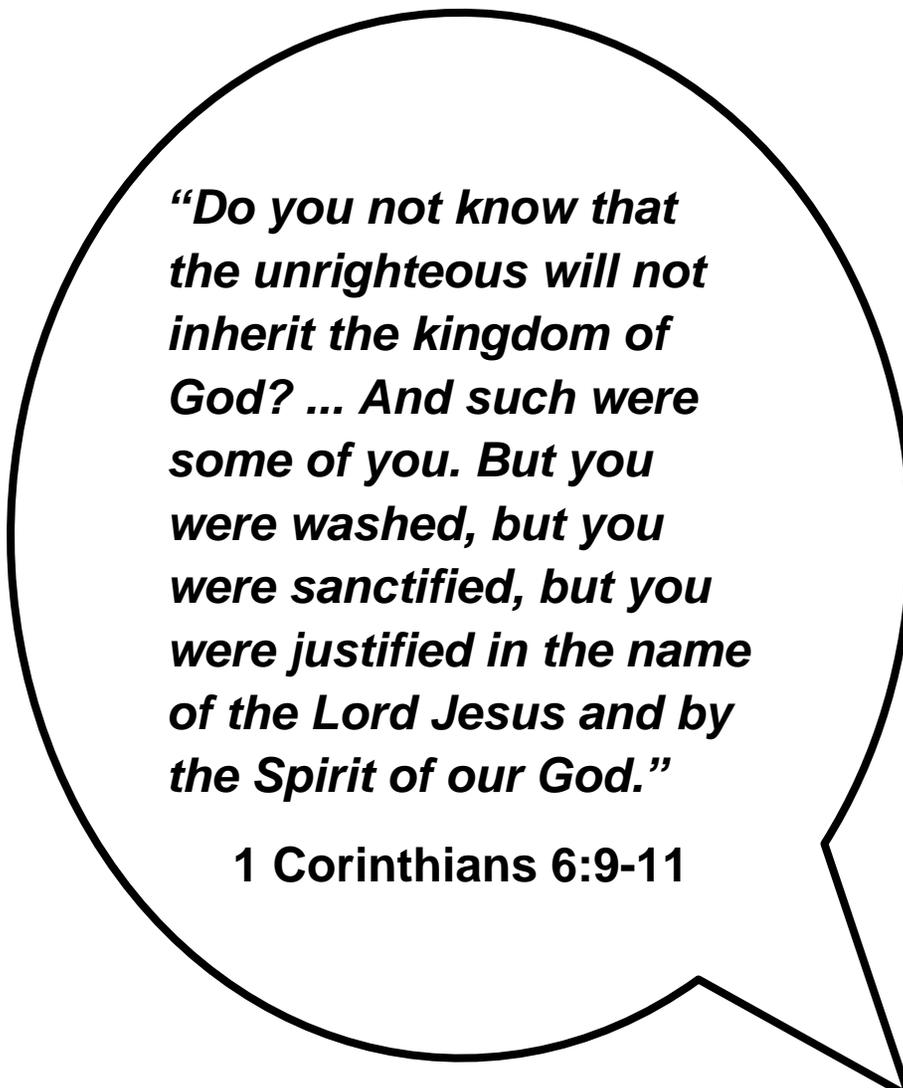
APPLY: How can we live what we've learned?

1. To serve God, we must obey God. Obeying God requires strength and courage.
 - a. Joshua had the courage to obey God and lead His people (1:6-7).
 - b. Rahab had the courage to act on her faith in the God of Heaven and go against the King of Jericho (2:3-6 with Hebrews 11:31).
 - c. What about us?
2. We live in a wicked world, but God will deliver us if we are His (6:17 with Colossians 1:13-14 and 1 John 5:18-20).
3. Rahab was a sinner, but she obeyed God and changed her life.
 - a. Now, she lived as one of God's people (6:25).
 - b. Being in Christ means living a new life (1 Corinthians 6:11 and 2 Corinthians 5:17).

ACT: Now, let's do something!

- ✓ This is a great time for teacher-made questions, lesson review, and focused discussions.
- ✓ As a class, answer and discuss the following question:
How did God use Rahab's soul to save her entire household and win a great victory for His people?
- ✓ **Memory Work Challenge:** I challenge you to complete three important tasks with at least two of the lesson verses listed below.
 - First, learn the verses (commit them to memory).
 - Second, learn exactly what the verses mean – what they teach you.
 - Third, find a camp director (or other person designated by your teacher) and say your verses **AND** explain what they mean.
 - Lesson Verses
 - Joshua 2:14-15
 - Joshua 2:21
 - Joshua 6:17
 - Hebrews 11:31
 - James 2:25

- ✓ **Rahab Jericho Project Challenge:** Teachers, this challenge is for you. I challenge you to create a “Rahab Jericho project” to complete with your students. This could involve anything from coloring pages to puzzles to deep discussions about the courage it takes to recognize God, obey God, and do what is right even though we live in a “Jericho” world.



“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? ... And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Lesson 3: **Philip – The Power of One Message in the Hands of God #1**

Focus Scripture: Acts 8:1-12

Focus Thought: God used one message and a faithful messenger to save many souls in a city (Acts 8:5).

“Then Phillip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.”

ACQUIRE: What do we know?

1. There was a great persecution that drove many Christians from the city of Jerusalem (8:1-3).
2. Instead of running away to hide, the Christians who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word of God (8:4).
3. Philip went to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to those who would listen (8:5).
4. When many people in Samaria saw the miracles that Philip did, they knew that the Gospel of Jesus that they were hearing was from God (8:6-13).
5. When Philip preached the things concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, many men and women were baptized (8:12).

ACHIEVE: What can we learn?

1. Those who live for Jesus will be persecuted (8:1-3 and 2 Timothy 3:12).
2. Christians will grow stronger through persecutions and hardships (8:4 with 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 and James 1:2-6).
3. Only the Gospel of Jesus will save souls and change lives (8:1-5 with 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 and James 1:21).
4. The Gospel tells us exactly what we need to know about the Kingdom of God and how to obey God (8:5-12 with Matthew 16:18-19, Colossians 1:13-14, Romans 6:16-23).

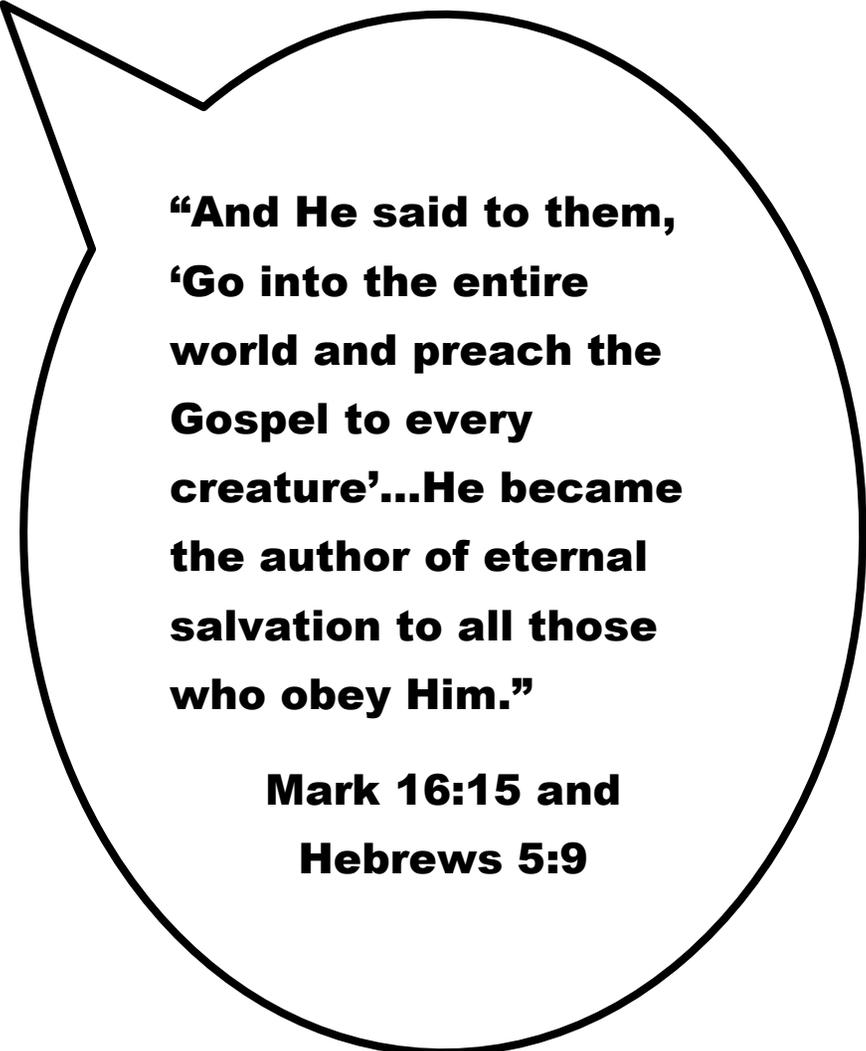
APPLY: How can we live what we've learned?

1. We must be willing to take the Gospel of Christ to other people the way Philip did (8:5-6; 12 with Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16).
2. Those who hear the preaching of the Gospel must be willing to obey it (8:12 with Hebrews 5:9, Acts 2:36-47, 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 1 Peter 4:17).

ACT: Now, let's do something!

- ✓ This is a great time for teacher-made questions, lesson review, and focused discussions.
- ✓ As a class, answer and discuss the following question:
How did God use Philip as a messenger to the city of Samaria?
- ✓ **Memory Work Challenge:** I challenge you to complete three important tasks with at least two of the lesson verses listed below.
 - First, learn the verses (commit them to memory).
 - Second, learn exactly what the verses mean – what they teach you.
 - Third, find a camp director (or other person designated by your teacher) and say your verses **AND** explain what they mean.
 - Lesson Verses
 - Acts 8:4-5
 - Acts 8:12
 - Matthew 28:18-20
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18
 - James 1:21

- ✓ **Philip in Samaria Project Challenge:** Teachers, this challenge is for you. I challenge you to create a “Philip, God’s Messenger to the City of Samaria Project” to complete with your students. This could involve anything from coloring pages to puzzles to deep discussions about how God can use us to take the Gospel Message of Jesus to those around us.



**“And He said to them,
‘Go into the entire
world and preach the
Gospel to every
creature’...He became
the author of eternal
salvation to all those
who obey Him.”**

**Mark 16:15 and
Hebrews 5:9**

Lesson 4: **Philip – The Power of One Message in the Hands of God #2**

Focus Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

Focus Thought: God used one message and a faithful messenger to save a single soul on an empty road (Acts 8:35).

“Then Phillip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.”

ACQUIRE: What do we know?

1. God sent Philip down the road from Jerusalem, where he met a man from Ethiopia who was reading Isaiah the prophet (8:26-28).
2. The Ethiopian man was reading about the Lamb of God, but he didn't understand what he was reading (8:28-34).
3. Philip began with this Scripture and taught this man about Jesus (8:35).
4. After Philip taught him about Jesus, this man from Ethiopia confessed that he believed that Jesus is the Son of God, and Philip baptized him (8:36-39).

ACHIEVE: What can we learn?

1. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that Jesus is the Lamb of God (8:35 with Isaiah 53:7-8 and John 1:29).
2. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that Jesus – and only Jesus – has complete authority over a person's life (if that person wants to please God) (8:35 with Matthew 28:18-19 and Colossians 3:17).
3. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that in order to be saved, a person must believe that Jesus is the Son of God (8:35-37 with John 8:24 and John 3:16).
4. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that in order to be saved, a person must repent of his or her sins (8:35-37 with Luke 13:3 and Acts 17:30-31).
5. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that in order to be saved, a person must confess that Jesus is the Son of God (8:37 with Matthew 10:32-33 and Romans 10:9-10).
6. When Philip preached Jesus to this man, he explained that in order to be saved, a person must be baptized to have his or her sins washed away (8:35-38 with Mark 15:15-16, Acts 2:38, and Acts 22:16).

7. When the man from Ethiopia obeyed the Gospel of Jesus that Philip had preached to him, he came up from the water after being baptized and continued his journey rejoicing (8:38-39).

APPLY: How can we live what we've learned?

1. Use Acts 8:26-40 and the Scriptures above to make a chart that explains what a person learns when Jesus is preached to him or her. Include in your chart what this person will do when he or she learns about Jesus the way the man from Ethiopia did.

ACT: Now, let's do something!

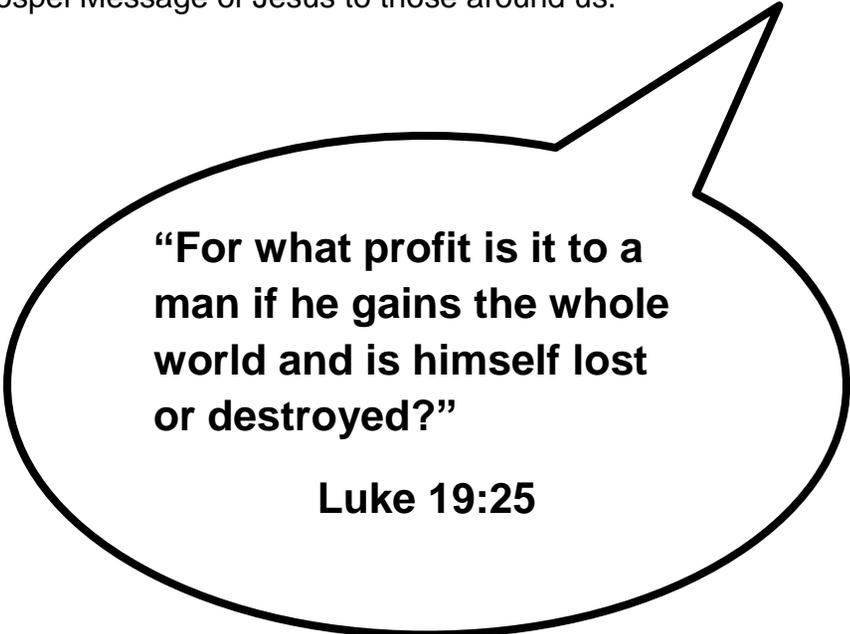
- ✓ This is a great time for teacher-made questions, lesson review, and focused discussions.
- ✓ As a class, answer and discuss the following question:
How did God use Philip as a messenger to the man from Ethiopia?
- ✓ **Memory Work Challenge:** I challenge you to complete three important tasks with at least two of the lesson verses listed below.
 - First, learn the verses (commit them to memory).
 - Second, learn exactly what the verses mean – what they teach you.

- Third, find a camp director (or other person designated by your teacher) and say your verses **AND** explain what they mean.

- Lesson Verses

- Acts 8:32-33
- Acts 8:35
- Acts 8:36
- Acts 8:37-38
- Acts 8:39

- ✓ **Philip and the Man from Ethiopia Project Challenge:** Teachers, this challenge is for you. I challenge you to create a “Philip, God’s Messenger to the Man from Ethiopia Project” to complete with your students. This could involve anything from coloring pages to puzzles to deep discussions about how God can use us to take the Gospel Message of Jesus to those around us.



“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and is himself lost or destroyed?”

Luke 19:25

Lesson 5: Dorcas – The Power of One Life in the Hands of God

Focus Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

Focus Thought: God used one life to influence others by doing good to those around her (Acts 9:36).

“At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.”

ACQUIRE: What do we know?

1. Dorcas was a disciple of Jesus (a Christian, Acts 11:26) who lived in the city of Joppa (9:36).
2. Dorcas served Jesus by doing many good works and acts of kindness to those around her (9:36).
3. Dorcas became sick and died; her friends and family prepared her body for a funeral (9:37).
4. Other Christians heard that Peter was in a nearby town and called for him to come quickly (9:38).
5. The widows showed Peter the many items of clothing that Dorcas had made for them (9:39).

ACHIEVE: What can we learn?

1. We, as Christians, should go back home and live so that others know we are followers of Christ (9:36 with Matthew 5:14-16 and Galatians 6:10).
2. Even good people get sick and die (9:37 with Hebrews 9:27).
3. We, as Christians, should live as faithful followers of Jesus who impact the lives of those around us (9:39 with Revelation 14:13 and Ephesians 2:10).

APPLY: How can we live what we've learned?

1. Using the example of Dorcas in Acts 9:36 make a chart that outlines and describes specific ways and specific things you will do to live a “Dorcas Kind of Life” once you get back home. Use Matthew 5:14-16 and Galatians 6:10 to help you.

ACT: Now, let's do something!

- ✓ This is a great time for teacher-made questions, lesson review, and focused discussions.
- ✓ As a class, answer and discuss the following question:
How did God use Dorcas's life to serve Him and influence others?

✓ **Memory Work Challenge:** I challenge you to complete three important tasks with at least two of the lesson verses listed below.

- First, learn the verses (commit them to memory).
- Second, learn exactly what the verses mean – what they teach you.
- Third, find a camp director (or other person designated by your teacher) and say your verses **AND** explain what they mean.
- Lesson Verses
 - Acts 9:36
 - Acts 9:39
 - Matthew 5:14-16
 - Galatians 6:10
 - Ephesians 2:10

✓ **Dorcas Project Challenge:** Teachers, this challenge is for you. I challenge you to create a “Dorcas” project to complete with your students. This could involve anything from coloring pages to puzzles to deep discussions about how God can use our individual lives to do good and influence those around us.

Review and Take Home Challenge

I challenge you to list at least ONE important lesson that you learned from each time you studied God’s Word this week, AND I challenge you to apply each of those lessons in your life as a Christian all through the year until God blesses us to meet again at Maywood next year.



Lesson 1



Lesson 2



Lesson 3



Lesson 4



Lesson 5
