



LESSON 5

REFERENCES: ACTS 9:36-43; *THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES*, PP. 131, 132.

Helping Hands

Have you ever done something really nice for someone? How did you make them feel? How did you feel? Dorcas did many kind deeds for others, and God cared for her in an amazing way.

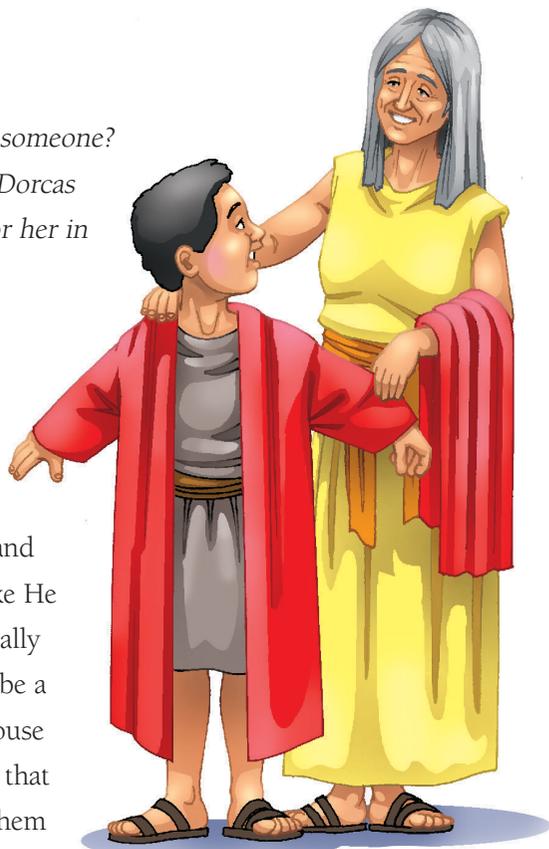
H

ello, young friend. My name is Tabitha. That's my Aramaic name. But some people call me Dorcas, my Greek name.

Since I learned about Jesus and became a Christian, I really want to help people like He did. When someone is sick, I go to see them. I usually take some food and maybe a warm blanket. If their house needs cleaning, I will do that too. I always pray with them and sometimes sing them a happy song about Jesus.

Poor people need my help too. The widows especially. They are the ones without husbands to help them. I love sewing new clothes for them.

I especially love children. The ones who are sick or don't have



Memory Verse

“Being kind to the needy brings happiness.”

PROVERBS 14:21, 1CB.

The Message

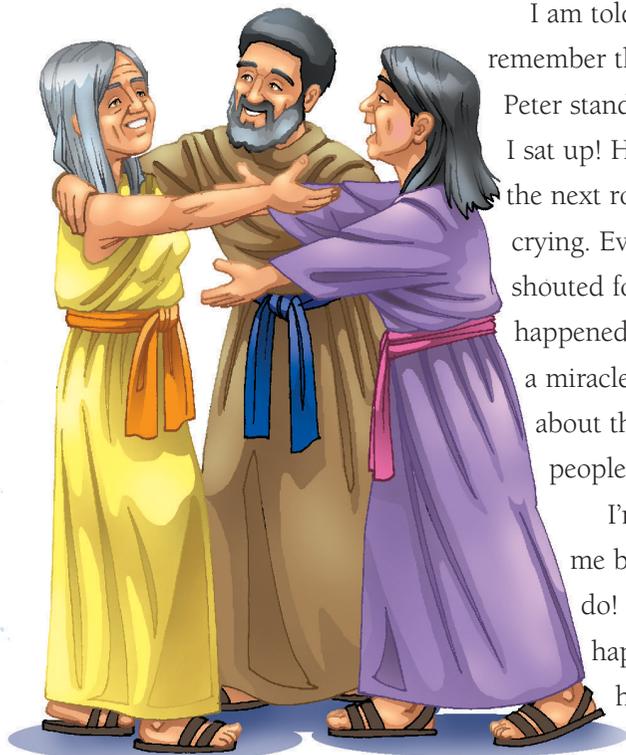
Being kind to others makes us happy too.

parents are the ones I take more time with. I give them a hug and listen to them talk about their troubles. Sometimes I teach them a song or tell them a story about Jesus.

Now I know why Jesus was so busy helping people. When you really look, you will always find someone who needs help. I like bringing happiness to others. By doing so, I get a lot of happiness too.

Some time ago something wonderful happened to me. But it didn't start out wonderful. I was very sick! I was told that I was so sick that I died. My friends were very sad.

Our friend Peter just happened to be in a nearby town. Someone sent for him, and he came quickly. My friends were crying. They showed him the clothes I had made for them. They told him how I had helped them. That was very nice, but I think I would have been embarrassed if I had heard them!



I am told that Peter prayed for me. I don't remember that. I just remember suddenly seeing Peter standing beside me. I was so surprised that I sat up! He took me by the hand and led me into the next room, where many people were crying. Everyone looked up in shock. Then they shouted for joy! I really didn't realize what had happened! But God had used Peter to perform a miracle that brought me back to life. Word about the miracle spread quickly, and many people believed in Jesus because of it.

I'm so happy that God used Peter to bring me back to life. I still have a lot of work to do! I want to continue to bring joy and happiness to others. I'm thankful that God has given me more time to serve Him.

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story and review the memory verse:

Being kind One hand gently strokes the other.

to the needy . . . Hands outstretched as if begging.

brings Smile wide.
happiness.

Proverbs 14:21 . Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to share the “Filled With Happiness” cup they made in Sabbath School with someone and tell them about Dorcas. (Or have them draw a picture of their face on a clear plastic cup and put a picture of a kind deed inside.) Because they are filled with happiness, they can share happiness with others.



MONDAY

Read together Acts 9:36–43. Ask: Why did Dorcas do nice things for others? Who brought her back to life?

If your child brought home a letter about a community service project, start planning your participation.

TUESDAY

With your child, plan and do something today to bring happiness to others.

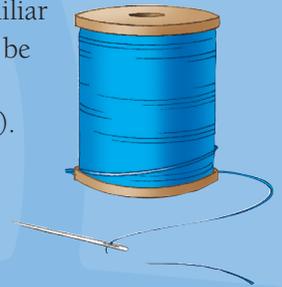
Jump up and down once for every time your child can think of a way to make someone in your home happy today. Then do it together.

Sing a happy song before prayer.

WEDNESDAY

Help your child locate familiar objects and tell how they can be used to help others (hammer, bandage, blanket, thread, etc.).

Sing songs about helping before you pray together.



THURSDAY

Pretend you are sick, and have your child care for you with a bandage, blanket, etc. Then reverse roles.

Sing a caring song; then ask God to help you find ways to care for others.

FRIDAY

Act out the story with your family. Who will be Dorcas? Who will be Peter?

Before prayer, sing songs about caring for others.

Collect things for your child’s Sabbath School’s community service project to take to church tomorrow.