



# Bible Character Study



from Godly Pearls

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



## A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Character Study.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:

Dorcas – an example of selfless service.



Read the Bible References: The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goals of Lesson:

- To encourage students to love and serve one another.



Lesson Takeaway:

When we serve one another, it shows that we love one another.



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Date:



Topic:

Dorcas – an example of selfless service.



Bible References:

Acts 9:36 – 43.



Who was Dorcas?

Dorcas was described as a disciple who lived in Joppa. She was a follower of Jesus. She was also called Tabitha. The bible describes her as a “woman full of good works and charitable deeds which she did” (Acts 9:36).



What did Dorcas do?

Dorcas was sick and died. She was washed and laid in an upper room. Some disciples from Joppa where Dorcas lived heard that Peter was in a nearby place called Lydda, so they sent two men to Peter. The men asked Peter to come to Joppa as soon as possible. Peter immediately went with them.

When Peter got to Joppa, they took him to the upper room where they laid the body of Dorcas. In Acts 9:39b, we read of the widows crying and showing the different beautiful clothes that Dorcas made for them while she was still alive. So, we see the character of Dorcas here.

Let's look at some points in the text for today.

First, Dorcas loved the Lord, and she loved other people too. She was described as a disciple, that is, someone who follows the Lord. Her love for God flowed on to love for others.



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## What did Dorcas do? - Continued

Next, Dorcas was a woman who served others with her gift. For example, she was concerned about the welfare of the widows around her. The widows have lost their husbands and might not have had much money to take care of themselves. Dorcas knew how to sew clothes and she made clothes for the widows. That was not the only thing she did because the bible said she was full of good works and charitable deeds. Dorcas served many more people with her gifts.

Also, Dorcas had a good testimony among the disciples and believers in Joppa. When she died, they were not willing to bury her. They spoke very good about her. They wanted her back alive with them.

Peter prayed for Dorcas and said to her, "Tabitha, arise". She opened her eyes and sat up. She came back to life! When the widows and believers saw her, they were very happy. As a result of this miracle, many more people believed that Jesus is the Lord.



## What can we learn from Dorcas?

Your love for God should flow on to your love for other people. The bible says, "if someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also (1 John 4:20-21).

Dorcas served many people with her gifts. You too can serve others around you with your gifts. Look around you. What do you have that can be of help to your family and friends? What can you give? Someone might need your time, wisdom, smile, laughter, good advice, or words of encouragement.



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## What can we learn from Dorcas? - Continued

Perhaps it is your gift of speaking, writing, drawing, painting, singing, dancing, or playing musical instrument. Be ready and willing to serve with your gift whenever someone needs it. It shows that you love them, and you also love God.

A thought from the story of Dorcas is how do people see you? What do people say about you when you are not there? Do people speak good or bad of the way you do and act? Do you have a good testimony?



## Memorize:

1 John 4:21 - "And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also".



## Scenario review:

Your Mum packed an extra lunch for you because you would be staying to play cricket after school. When you got to school, you learnt that the cricket session has been cancelled.

During lunchtime, Haswell had an accident with his lunchbox. As he tried to open it, the lid popped, and he tipped over the food in the lunchbox. Now, he has got nothing to eat for lunch. You are already eating your lunch and have got an extra one in your bag.

What will you do? Why did you make that choice?





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 **Remember:** When we serve one another, it shows that we love one another.

 **Let us pray:** Dear God, thank You for my family and my friends at school and in church. Please help me to use my gifts to serve those You have put around me. Help me to be a source of blessing to everyone I meet. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen!



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We will like to hear from you.

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