

# ACTS: To the Ends of the Earth

---

## Study 22: Hope Rising

**READ** Acts 9:32-43 and **LISTEN** to the [sermon](#) by Pastor Craig.

The mission to the Gentiles is moving at an ever-increasing pace. After persecution scattered believers from Jerusalem (Acts 8:1), the gospel has moved into Gentile territory: first through Philip, as he preached in Samaria and to an Ethiopian Eunuch, and now through Peter as he preaches in the cities of the North-Western coastal plain. Through Peter's pastoral ministry the ongoing work of Christ is manifest through the healing of Aeneas and the raising of Tabitha. The result is that many turn to the Lord for salvation.

**Big idea:** Jesus' ongoing power to raise the disabled and the dead confirm that He is alive and active and that He continues to transform lives and give His people hope.

### Questions:

1. In Acts 9:32-43 Luke records two miracles. What do these teach us about Christ and His kingdom?
2. Raising the dead is not a common occurrence in Scripture and it was often met with skepticism (See Mark 5:35; John 11:21, 39, 44). How did raising the dead show an immense amount of faith from Peter?

In both miracles what confirms that Peter was entirely dependent upon Jesus? How was this different to previous times? See Matt 8:26; 26:35.

How does Peter's example both encourage you and convict you in your own service for the Lord? See also Paul's considerations: 1 Cor 2:3-5; 2 Cor 3:5; 4:7.

3. What part did "good works and acts of charity" (v. 36) play in the life of Tabitha, a disciple of Jesus?

What role do faith and good works play for a believer? Write against each verse.

Heb 11:6

Eph 2:8-10

James 2:26

1 Cor 15:58

4. Notice Tabitha's ministry was simple and very impactful (so much so that Jesus actually raised her to continue!). What do you think your spiritual gifts are and how will you use these to serve Hills Bible Church?
5. Where do you think Tabitha was when her body was lying in the upper room (2 Cor 5:8)? From John 11:25-26 explain the importance of the resurrection of Jesus as it relates to you?
6. If you died tonight are you 100% certain that you will go to heaven? Why or why not?

### STOP AND PRAY:

**Praise:** God for the revelation of Himself through the pages of Scripture

**Thank:** the Lord that we do not live in a fatalistic world, but in one under His reign

**Pray:** that you might use your gifts in a clear and definitive way at HBC