



Loving Acts

(based on Act 9:36–43)

Vary the tone of your voice to convey the emotions in this story: bold teaching, sadness, kindness, and joy.

Peter journeyed all over. Peter went here and there. But everywhere Peter went he preached boldly about Jesus and the good news of Easter. Peter also healed people in the name of Jesus. In Lydda he healed a man named Aeneas, who could not walk.

Not far from Lydda in a town called Joppa lived a disciple of Jesus named Tabitha. Day after day she did loving acts to help others. While Peter was in Lydda, Tabitha became very sick and died.

Some of the disciples in Joppa knew that Peter was in nearby Lydda. They sent two disciples to get Peter. When they found him, they said, "Our good friend Tabitha is very sick. Please come with us right away."

On the way to Joppa, the disciples probably told Peter about all the loving and caring things that Tabitha did for other people.

When they got to Joppa, they immediately took Peter to the upstairs room where Tabitha was. In the room with her were women who were crying for their friend. They showed Peter clothing that Tabitha made for people who were poor.

Peter looked at Tabitha. "Everyone, please go downstairs. I want to be alone with Tabitha."

After everyone had left the room, Peter knelt beside Tabitha and prayed to God. Then he stood and looked at Tabitha. "Tabitha, get up."

Tabitha opened her eyes. When she saw Peter, she sat up. Peter took her hand and helped her stand. Then he called downstairs, "Come, say hello to Tabitha."

The story of Tabitha and Peter quickly spread all over Joppa. Many people became believers in Jesus the Christ after they heard it. Peter stayed in Joppa to teach and heal people there. Tabitha continued to do many loving acts and to help many more people.