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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### The Power and Purpose of Miracles

Acts 9:32-43

- I. Aeneas: Christ heals a man who was paralyzed (Acts 9:32-35).
  - A. The Opportunity – As Peter visited the church to encourage the, he met Aeneas (9:32-33).
  - B. The Miracle – Peter told Aeneas the paralyzed man that Jesus has healed him (9:33-34).
    - Serving for Christ must always point to Christ, not the servant.
  - C. God’s Saving Purpose – God used this healing to bring many people to faith in Christ (9:35).
    - The purpose of apostolic miracles was to confirm the message of the gospel (Mark 16:20; Acts 14:3; Hebrews 2:3-4).
- II. Tabitha/Dorcas: God raises a woman who died (Acts 9:36-43).
  - A. The Opportunity – When the much-loved Dorcas died, some disciples sent for Peter (9:36-39).
    - Our service is our lasting legacy.
    - God responds to “borrowed faith.”
  - B. The Miracle – Peter prayed and God brought Dorcas back to life (9:40-41).
    - The power of God is linked to prayer.
    - Christ knows and shares our grief (John 11:35).
  - C. God’s Saving Purpose – God used the resurrection of Dorcas to bring many to faith in Christ (9:42-43)
    - God resurrected some showing his power to resurrect all (1 Corinthians 15)
    - God uses his power in various ways to draw people to faith in Christ.