



DGM Message Title: Tabitha

Theme: The Generosity Series

Sermon Date: 5/27/2018

Message Summary: Sometimes bad things happen to good people. Life is not promised to be perfect by God. Through our trials we grow and through our victories we influence those around us with the miracle working power and wonders of God. Our testimony requires a trial, but don't give up. Stay steadfast and let the Glory of God shine through.

Scripture References (NKJV):

- Acts 9:36
- Ecclesiastes 3:1
- Luke 8:33

Key Points:

- Acts 9:36
 - Disciple = student, follower.
 - During this time, they lived with the Rabi's and memorized text
 - Goal = you can imitate the Rabi
 - Billy Graham says salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you everything
 - Tabitha wanted to serve and love the Lord
 - Full of good works. Very involved
- Acts 9:37
 - Tabitha became sick and died
 - Service did not insulate or protect her
 - God promises it will be worth it, not that it won't hurt
 - How could this happen to such a good person
 - Gospel does not guarantee a perfect life, but perfect eternity
 - They washed her and laid her in upper room...delaying her burial
- Acts 9:38
 - They sent for Peter
 - They asked him to not delay, but to come quickly
 - You have to go when God says Go. He gives us limited windows of opportunities
 - Even an opportunity of a lifetime, only lasts the lifetime of the opportunity
 - Procrastination makes easy things hard, hard things harder
- Luke 8:23-24
 - Jesus asleep in the boat and storm arises

- Sometimes you feel like you are sinking even though you love/serve Jesus
- Do you still come to Jesus even when you are sinking?
- It wasn't the storm that woke the Jesus, but the prayer of the disciples
- The voice of the disciples woke Jesus
- It's not the size of the storm that gets Jesus' attention
- Acts 9:39
 - Ask for 100% of what you want, 100% of the time
 - They took Peter to the upper room
 - She was well off to have a 2nd floor and house this number of people
 - Her wealth was in her generosity
 - What if you aren't here tomorrow? What has been your contribution?
 - Tabitha was a difference maker
- Acts 9:40
 - Peter had them leave, got the negative out, so he could pray
 - There are some things you have to put out to be successful
 - He looked to God, then turned to the body
 - Get the negative out so you can rise
 - Be on the look out for one who can lead and deliver
 - Her solution to her problem was not in her....it was someone else
 - Every part of the body has a purpose
 - His plan for your life will include others
 - She sat up when she saw Peter. Like she couldn't believe it
 - What God will do next in your life will put you in a daze and you will be amazed
- Acts 9:41
 - It's important to have people pulling for you.
 - You can't do it all by yourself
 - He presented her alive
 - I present, new hope, new life, new purpose
 - It's not done until God says it's done
 - You may fight the fight of faith and still end up with disappointments, but don't judge yourself by the past. You don't live there anymore.
- Acts 9:42
 - The miracle became known all over the region
 - Victory requires an enemy
 - Testimony requires a trial
 - If I was Jesus, there would not have been a cross....or even a tree
 - That's not what Jesus did
 - The reason I love Jesus is because of what he went through
 - I love him, I love him
- Sometimes God waits until you are so dead that no explanation but God will do
 - That's the hard part. Waiting for God to show up
 - If we wrote our stories, we'd mess it up
 - God wants to write the story
 - Don't put a period where God wants to put a comma. Hang on, Hang in
 - Because she died and came back....Many believed the Lord
 - Your solution is what will influence people to trust God
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