



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 5

Law/Gospel

By nature, I seek glory for myself in all that I do, even my outward good works. **When Christ shines His forgiveness on me, I am transformed to live for others to the glory of God.**

Bible Words

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

Sing

Oh, that the Lord would guide
my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me
grace
To know and do His will!
Order my footsteps by Thy Word
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.
Make me to walk in Thy
commands—
'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or
hands
Offend against my God.

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways,"
stanzas 1, 2, 4, by Isaac Watts, *Lutheran
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Dorcas

Acts 9:36–43

She wasn't well-known. She didn't do miracles or seek attention. No one wrote a book about her. This believer in Christ lived a quiet life in Joppa, a first-century seaside town.

Dorcas, a kind believer in Jesus, was full of good works and helped the poor. Dorcas used her time and talents to sew clothing for people. She loved others as Jesus loved her and forgave her sins. (Dorcas was her Greek name; Tabitha was her Aramaic name.)

Sadly, Dorcas became ill and died. Family and friends prepared her body for burial and laid it in an upper room. Hearing that the apostle Peter was in a nearby village, the disciples sent messengers to ask him to come to Joppa, and he did.

When Peter arrived, they took him to Dorcas's body in the upper room. Widows who loved Dorcas wept and showed him garments she made. Peter asked them to go outside. He knelt and prayed. Turning to Dorcas's body, Peter called her name and commanded her to rise. Dorcas opened her eyes and sat up. Peter took her hand and helped her stand. He called the widows and disciples to come in and see Dorcas.

As news about Dorcas's resurrection spread, many people believed in Jesus. Dorcas and the new Joppa believers were saved by grace through faith in Christ, just as we are. Their actions did not save them, but Jesus re-created them to do good works, just as He does to us.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:8–10)

Prayer

Lord, thank You for saving us by grace through faith in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

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