



# THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

## THIS WEEK AT THF

- ▶ **TUESDAY**  
THF COLLEGE - Worship & Small Groups  
7:00pm-9:00pm ~ Meets at Sarah's House (5006 94<sup>th</sup> St.)
- ▶ **WEDNESDAY**  
THF STUDENTS - Worship & Small Groups  
7:00pm-8:30pm ~ Doors open at 6:30pm
- ▶ **THURSDAY**  
THF Men's Ministry - Bible Study & Fellowship  
6:30am-7:30am

## UPCOMING AT THF

- ▶ **AUGUST 31** - ONE Worship Service  
9:30am
- ▶ **SEPTEMBER 14 & 17** - LIFEGROUPS BEGIN

August 24, 2025

Please continue to check all  
of our social media outlets  
and our website for updates to  
weekly activities and Sunday Services.  
[www.theheightsfellowship.org](http://www.theheightsfellowship.org)

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### August 17, 2025

BUDGET GIVING:	\$20,581.00
BUDGET NEEDS:	\$19,346.00

### YEAR TO DATE

BUDGET GIVING:	\$584,346.26
BUDGET NEEDS:	\$630,128.00

## Acts | 9:32-43

### THE ACTS OF PETER

"Never before has the world been so desperately asking for answers to crucial questions, and never before has the world been so frantically committed to the idea that no answers are possible."

Edmund P. Clowny

President Westminster Theological Seminary



#### Strange Transition

Acts 9:32-43 is in a weird division in our Bibles. It fits with the events of Chapter 10 more than the narrative of chapter 9. The focus shifts from Saul back to Peter.

**GOD WAS ABOUT TO USE PETER TO UNLOCK THE LAST DOOR IN THE WORLD**

#### The guy with the keys...

<sup>18</sup> I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:18-19 esv

This is not Jesus telling Peter he would be **POPE** !

This is Jesus telling Peter he would be involved in the opening the **KINGDOM** of God in all kinds of places

**KEY #1** - Acts 1-2 - Peter integral in the founding of the church in **JERUSALEM** among the Jews from all over the world

**KEY #2** - Acts 8 - Peter and John are the apostles present in the OPENING of the church to the **SAMARITANS**

**KEY #3** - Acts 10 - Peter is the apostle that first preaches to the first **GENTILES**

*It is noteworthy that after these three key areas are opened, Peter mostly disappears in the narrative history of the New Testament*

#### THE MIRACLE AT LYDDA vv32-35

- Peter was not **'SET UP'** in some *hierarchical* post in Jerusalem. He was **INVESTED** in the preaching ministry
- Lydda (Lod) was an important **CROSSROAD** city located 25 miles west of Jerusalem. **JOPPA-JERUSALEM-BEYOND X EGYPT-SYRIA**
- When Peter came to Lydda there were already **SAINTS** there! v32

**HOW?**

Series: Acts

The **saints** in Lydda were probably the result of **PHILIP'S** evangelism  
**LYDDA IS ON THE ROAD FROM AZOTUS (ASHDOD) TO CAESAREA**  
*But Philip found himself at Azotus; and as he passed through he kept preaching the gospel to all the cities, until he came to Caesarea. Acts 8:40*  
**(I.E. CERTAIN MAN V. CERTAIN DISCIPLE V36)**

- Aeneas probably **NOT** a believer...appears to be a **RANDOM** encounter
- Peter's appeal to Aeneas was to his **WILL** **CHOOSE TO TRUST JESUS**
- **JESUS'** power was on display...not Peters!
- In Lydda and the surrounding countryside **"ALL"** turned to the LORD

#### THE RESURRECTION AT JOPPA vv36-41

- **Joppa** was coastal town about 12 miles from Lydda
- **Dorcas** (*Tabitha* which means *gazelle*) a beloved disciple, died
- Rather than **BURY** her, the disciples **READIED** her for a miracle!
- Peter prompted a resurrection similar to **Elijah, Elisha, and Jesus!**
- The miracle at Joppa brought many to faith in **JESUS**

#### WHY ARE THESE TWO MIRACLES INCLUDED RIGHT HERE IN ACTS?

- It **DEMONSTRATED** the **POWER** of Jesus
  - It **AUTHENTICATED** the **Apostleship** of Peter
  - It provided a stage for people to **COME TO SALVATION** vv35,42
    - It readied Peter for **'WHAT'S NEXT'** v43
      - Peter was in motion doing what he was made to do
      - He was not 'big game' Peter; he was 'everyman Peter'
- TANNER WAS AN UNFAVORABLE PROFESSION TO A DEVOUT JEW**  
**"The gospel was about to shatter an antigospel tradition in the apostle's heart!"**

#### APPLICATIONS AND INSIGHTS...

1. **Principle of ENGAGEMENT:** If you want to be used by God...don't wait, **GET INVOLVED** in what He is doing already!
2. **Principle of ABIDING** : you don't do stuff for God; He does stuff in you and through you!  
*If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. CF JOHN 15:4-5*  
1 Peter 4:11 niv
3. **Principle of AVAILABILITY:** God's opportunities most often come **WHEN YOU'RE DOING SOMTHING ELSE**