

GOD TURNS THINGS AROUND

Acts 9.32-42 March 19, 2023

SERVING GOD WELL

Tabitha was a very beloved woman in the church. She served God and God's people well, and it was a tremendous loss to have her pass away. It no doubt brought not only a great sadness but also a lot of confusion and despair. When unexpected tragedies and trials happen, it is easy for us to become disillusioned and embittered towards the Lord and others.

**Resentment is a common and special temptation
reserved for people who serve God well.**

-Colin Smith

Resentments manifest in our complaints, feeling like others owe us, unmet expectations, not rejoicing in others' successes, or the attitude that accompanies sentiments such as declaring "I'm so over it."

EXPECTANT AND OPEN

While it may be true that things aren't going well in life, and that we are seeing tremendous degradation in our world, we are also never to abandon hope. We are to always carry with us an openness and expectancy that God can and will be glorified somehow. We don't give up, but we press in.

Ephesians 2.10

Life in this world is not a machine; it is an unfolding drama.

Life is not mechanical. It is not predictable. It is not like a series of dominoes that just gets pushed into a chain reaction. Rather, life is a drama, with our good and heavenly Father as the Author of this drama. We ought to expect not only dramatic low moments, but also shocking surprises and plot twists that bring great joy and amazement.

WHEN GOD DOESN'T HEAL

There are times, however, when God doesn't turn things around in the way that we had hoped. Here in this story, Tabitha was raised! But this is usually not the case. And while we may not have answers for every hardship we go through, we can know that one day all of these questions will be answered, and that one answer is universal for them all: they are all intended to bring glory to God and work for our good.

John 11.4

**God is glorified when people are made well,
and He is glorified when people die well.**

NOTES:

Announcements:

Prayer and Worship Night: We will be having a night of worship and praying together on **Wednesday, March 29th** at **7pm**.

This Week's Call to Worship Psalm:

Psalm 25

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

1 Peter 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart
phone camera at
the QR Code to
access a virtual
Connection Card

MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church
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San Marcos, CA 92079

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Open the evening by reading the **Call to Worship Psalm** and reciting the **Memory Verse** together. Then pray the Psalm and the Memory Verse to open up discussion.

Read **Acts 9.32-42**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday or the past few Sundays?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

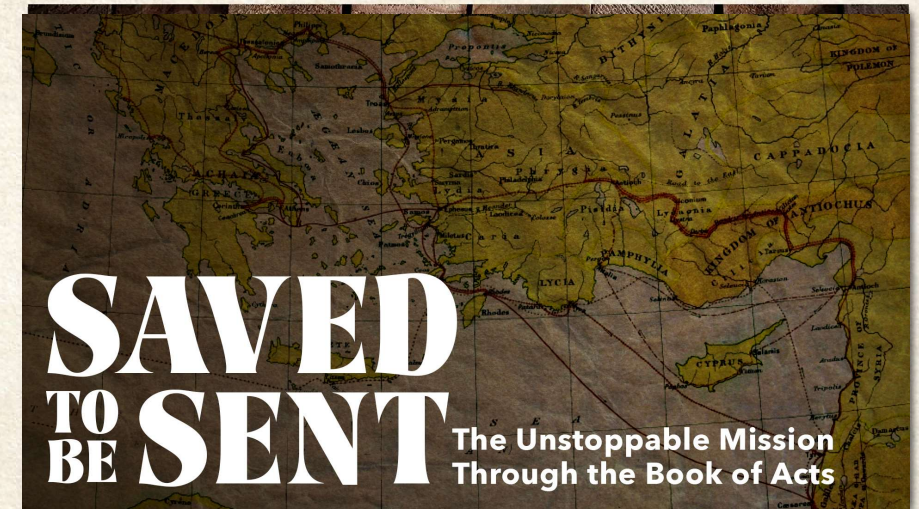
The story of Saul being converted and Tabitha being raised reminds us that we can expect the unexpected from God. What particular Scriptures or truths do you remind yourself of when you are facing circumstances that are discouraging or deflating or that seem hopeless? In what ways do you enable yourself to bring these truths to mind (e.g. regular fellowship with those who remind you, Scripture memory, reading books on the topic you are dealing with, etc.)?

Your Life Mission

We have been sent into our particular context for a particular reason. We don't have the option to be "so over it." We are missionaries and pilgrims in this world, and this world is not our home. We are placed around difficult people and hard circumstances. What relationships or situations have you become "over it" that you need prayer for from others that you can instead put off resentments and cynicism and put on Christ and His love and patience?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
 - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess** (Matthew 6.12)
 - Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision** (Matthew 6.11-13)
 - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
 - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

