



JEFFREY ROSARIO
speaker

PREACH LIKE DORCAS

FROM JOPPA, A SEAPORT town about 35 miles from Jerusalem, the world has been introduced to one of the giants of the Christian faith in the New Testament.

No, I'm not thinking of an eloquent preacher or evangelist, in the traditional sense of the word. But I'm definitely thinking of a preacher—evangelist.

Her name is Tabitha, or Dorcas (in the Greek version).

Luke the historian has preserved her legacy in eight short verses found in Acts 9:36-43. Her story begins in tragedy:

"HER SKILLFUL FINGERS WERE MORE ACTIVE THAN HER TONGUE"

"But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room" (Acts 9:37).

It was a devastating blow to the local church and the community. Luke tells us that she was "full of good works and charitable deeds"

(v. 36). This was her preaching ministry. She preached with her fingers! Ellen White describes how "...her life was filled with acts of kindness. She knew who needed comfortable clothing and who needed sympathy, and she freely ministered to the poor and the sorrowful. Her skillful fingers were more active than her tongue" (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 131).

She was definitely a preacher and evangelist!

So in desperation from the loss, the church sent two members to look for Peter in a nearby city and compel him to come to their help. When Peter entered the room where she was, "all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments" that she had made (Acts 9:39).

It would have been a very touching moment. Peter asked them for some privacy and "knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And

she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up" (v. 40).

After the other members and widows came back in, Peter presented her alive and returned a mighty giant in the faith to her local

"YOU MAY NOT BE AN ELOQUENT TV EVANGELIST. BUT YOU CAN BE A DORCAS—AN IRREPLACEABLE CONTRIBUTION AT A LOCAL CHURCH AND IN THE COMMUNITY."

church and community. As you can imagine, these kinds of things can't be kept quiet:

"And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord" (v. 42).

Her name has been immortalized by the department of 'Dorcas' in local churches around the world. She will not be forgotten. What a beautiful example of how the church needs every member to bring their unique contribution to the table.

You may not be an eloquent TV evangelist. But you can be a Dorcas—an irreplaceable

continued on page 4...

BILL ROSS
missionary

MUNGU IBARIKI AFRIKA!

[God Bless Africa!]

Here at Kibidula Farm in Tanzania, we were very happy to receive a container of Bible studies from Light Bearers in October of last year. Since then, we have been working hard to distribute them to the people. The Word of God is going out all over the country, from Arusha in the north to Mbeya in the south; from Dar es Salaam in the east, to Sumbawanga in the west. We are daily receiving phone calls from pastors, laymen, and missionaries requesting boxes. It is exciting! These Bible studies are truly a wonderful ministry. Just last week one of our leading evangelists told me how happy people are to know that these studies are available in Tanzania. Their influence is far

FIRST THE SEED

"Our publications are now sowing the gospel seed, and are instrumental in bringing as many souls to Christ as the preached word. Whole churches have been raised up as the result of their circulation."

Ellen White
Christian Service, p. 146

reaching. In fact, there are several students attending our school of evangelism this semester who cite that their first contact with our precious message was through Light Bearers Bible studies. God is good! Seed is being sown!

Please allow me to share with you this story from a lay missionary:

A REPORT FROM THE FRONT

Kindly find a brief report regarding the leaflets you gave to me to facilitate the effort done at Ishenga village, which is located at Singida rural area in Kiomboi district.

This village consists of 1,000 villagers who are mainly small-scale farmers with a few livestock to

THE VALUE OF A SOUL

"Our publications should be printed in different languages and sent to every civilized country, at any cost. What is the value of money at this time, in comparison with the value of souls? Every dollar of our means should be considered as the Lord's, not ours . . ."

Ellen White
Life Sketches, p. 214

GOD BLESS AFRICA!

sustain their living.

It is a village which had no Seventh-day Adventist believers until the evangelists landed there this year. The nearest SDA church is located 40km from Ishenga village.

The evangelism campaign lasted four weeks, of which the first week

"WE ARE DAILY RECEIVING PHONE CALLS FROM PASTORS, LAYMEN, AND MISSIONARIES REQUESTING BOXES."

was door to door visitation whereby the *Yachunguze Maandiko* and *Gundua Vijuzuu* (Bible studies from Light Bearers) played a vital role to open classes.

Because of them, 32 people accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior and were ready to be baptized. Due to transport

NOBODY WAS NEGLECTED

"Jesus did not neglect the villages. The record declares that 'He went throughout every city and village, preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God.'"

Ellen White
Evangelism, p. 52



“IT IS A VILLAGE WHICH HAD NO SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST BELIEVERS UNTIL THE EVANGELISTS LANDED THERE THIS YEAR.”

logistics and an unconfirmed day of baptism, 10 managed to be baptized the first day and another six the second day.

A full-time evangelist has been appointed to mentor the new members and help keep their faith in Jesus strong. We plan to go again next year to continue with the program.

I hope you will be in a position to extend more support for the Vijuzuu again because we will also try to reach the remaining part of the village and other nearby villages as well. Evangelism efforts are being conducted in many other locations and the studies play a very important part. We held an effort in the village of Madibira in

November and I remember visiting shop owners around the area where we were staying. One lady already had a study on her desk. It had been lent from another person and had her name written on it to ensure its return. The written word is precious here. People don't take it for granted.

Another time we were building One-Day Churches in the mountains to the east of Iringa. I had to return to the area several weeks later to do some repairs. I thought I would bring some Bibles, books, and Bible studies to give away. When we made it to the most remote village of the trip, perched upon a steep ridge, we discovered an effort was to begin in several days.

When I showed the missionary the materials I had brought he was so happy! Here is a picture of several of the ladies from that village.

Friends, we know that time is short. The door is still open in this country to receive God's Word. People very much want to know and understand the Bible. They are eager and willing. What a wonderful opportunity! Please help us to continue providing Light Bearers Bible studies and other gospel materials to the people of Tanzania.

In His service,
Bill Ross
Kibidula

COME SEE US!

JULY 2-6

Light Bearers Convocation
Jasper, OR
541.988.3333 / www.lightbearers.org
Ty Gibson, James Rafferty, David
Asscherick, Jeffrey Rosario & Risë Rafferty

JULY 8-13

Global Youth Impact
Pretoria, South Africa
<http://gcyouthministries.org>
David Asscherick

JULY 20

Oregon Conference Campmeeting
Gladstone, OR
orgccampmeeting.adventistnw.org
Jeffrey Rosario

JULY 29-AUGUST 2

British Columbia Conference Campmeeting
Hope, BC, Canada
604.853.5451 x331 / bcadventist.com
Ty Gibson & James Rafferty

AUGUST 7-10

ASI National Convention
Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Center
Orlando, FL
301.680.6450 / www.asiministries.org
Ty Gibson


LIGHT BEARERS

... PREACH LIKE DORCAS *(continued from page 1)*

contribution at a local church and in the community. I know many of these. They are real people. They're not famous. They may not be noticeable, but their absence becomes painfully so to many once they're gone.

God help us all to be like that. May we all make our contribution with a heart full of humility and love for the gospel!

How Jesus Was Like Us

by James Rafferty

Without question, the human nature of Christ is one of the hot buttons in theological dialogue among Seventh-day Adventists. What this debate needs is not more debate, but the power of simplicity. In this little booklet, James Rafferty lays out a fresh perspective, a new angle, on the human nature of Christ. The answer he offers is surprisingly simple and yet extremely powerful and clarifying.



Available for preorder today!