**Genuine Disciple**

**Acts 9:36-43**

**Five Unlikely Heroes of the Early Church**

**1. Peter**

*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.* Acts 4:13

**2. John**

**3. Paul**

**4. Stephen**

*And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.*Acts 6:8

**5. Philip**

***36****Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity.****37****In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.****38****Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, “Please come to us without delay.”* ***39****So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.* ***40****But Peter put them all outside, 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.* Acts 9:36-40

*But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.”* Mark 5:40-41

***41****And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.****42****And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.* Acts 9:41-42

I. The PURPOSE Of God - MISSIONS

*She was full of good works and acts of charity.*

***5****Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,****6****who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,****7****but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.* ***8****And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*  Philippians 2:5-8

**A. DEVOTED to the WORDS of Jesus**

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.*John 6:63

**B. DEMONSTRATED the WORK of Jesus**

*And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.* Acts 2:45

***32****Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.* ***34****There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.* Acts 4:32, 34

*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Ephesians 2:10

II. The POWER Of God - MIRACLES

*…and turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes…*

**A. WALK in submission to the Spirit**

***5****For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.****6****For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.* Romans 8:5-6

**B. WATCH God work through you**

*For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.* Philippians 2:13

III. The PROMISE Of God - MAJESTY

*And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.*

**So What?**

*The greatest way to KNOW the glory of God is to SHOW the glory of God.*

***14****For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;****15****and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.* ***18****All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.* 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 18

**Last Thought:** As we SUBMIT to God we can watch Him CHANGE the world around us.