

## IS GOSPEL PREACHING REALLY NECESSARY?

*Acts 9:32-43 // September 19, 2021 AM*

I. The apostolic miracles signify the news of Christ's risen triumph.

II. The apostolic miracles seal the news of Christ's risen triumph.

### QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Both stories in our passage present a cycle. What is it? How is it different than the cycle we see in the two stories of Saul just prior?
2. Who is the One healing both Aeneas and Dorcas?
3. How does the way Luke describes the healings (the language he uses) point us to the gospel message?
4. What OT stories does the healing of Dorcas point back to? What story in the life of Jesus does it point back to? What is the significance of these many parallels?
5. Pastor Nick spoke of the miracles being "sacramental"? What does that mean? How do the sacraments signify and seal the truths revealed in the word? How do miracles do the same?
6. Is preaching necessary if the kingdom is going to advance? How would you argue that from this text and what immediately follows in chapters 10-11?

### QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How do many in the charismatic tradition miss the point of the miraculous? What is God's purpose in giving miracles at key points in redemptive history?
2. Could what is said of Dorcas (v.36) be said of me? Am I full of good works and acts of charity? Am I actively seeking to meet needs and minister to people in my church?
3. As the culture grows increasingly hostile, do I find myself wishing there was another way for the kingdom to advance than preaching? Am I ashamed of preaching? Or do I relish in it and desire all to hear it?