

Readings for the week of May 11, 2025 (Mother's Day):

Acts 9:36-43

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

Upon reflection of the readings assigned for this week, I was drawn to the reading of Acts 9:36-43, where we read about Tabitha, or Dorcas in Greek.

She had just passed away, and the people of Joppa were grieving deeply. Verse 6 of that passage, says of her, that *"She was devoted to good works and acts of charity."*

Scripture doesn't tell us if she was a mother or not, but that description of her seems fitting for the day which we have reserved for celebrating mothers. She was clearly very "motherly".

My own mother passed away in March 2016, and I miss her terribly every day. The void that her death has left in my life is huge. The description that we are given of Tabitha, makes me think of Mom, and it is no surprise to me that Tabitha's death had a profound impact on those who knew her.

This reminds me of Matthew 5:14-16, which says, *"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."*

Also, John 13:34-35, tells us, *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

Tabitha's life was a demonstration of her devotion to Jesus, and her love for people. The Lord asks us to live that way also.

May the desire of our hearts be to do as the Lord's Prayer says in Matthew 6:10, *"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

I have never given birth to any children of my own, but I do know the blessing that comes from lovingly participating in the lives of others as a spiritual mother, an aunt/great aunt who is loved and treated like a second mother, and a Godmother.

I hope that when the time of my death comes, that I will be remembered as a woman who “*was devoted to good works and acts of charity.*”