

2 Peter 1:4^{NLT} says, "And because of His glory and excellence, He has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share His divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires."

Did you get what that verse is saying? We can share God's nature – that is we can become like God, rather than naturally, selfish human beings.

In his book Steps to Personal Revival which is available for free from steps-to-personal-revival.info, the author, Pr Helmut Haubell, talks about using God's promises – Bible verses – when praying, and especially making a point to pray for the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, claiming Luke 11:13 which says, "So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him."

Helmut Haubell, explains that Holy Spirit will influence every aspect of our lives. It will improve our relationships with the people around us, the Holy Spirit helps us to be kind and caring, rather than critical. The Holy Spirit will guide our plans, our choices, and our witnessing. The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.

Do you need help in any areas of your life? Ask for the Holy Spirit to work in your life and help with these areas and you will be amazed with what happens.

A Testimony:

My relationship with my father was always somewhat complicated. My wishes and prayers during my childhood and youth were always that I would have a better relationship with my father. But it got progressively worse. Another six to seven years went by. God filled the great emptiness in my heart. While studying and praying for the Holy Spirit my wife and I had a lot of big experiences with God. We prayed for our family and especially for my father. During this time, I received new power to love my father. I was able to forgive him for everything that hadn't gone well in our relationship since my childhood. My father and I are now friends. He also started to become more spiritual, and also started telling other people about God. Now, two years later, the relationship to my father is still very good. I thank God for this experience. I used to feel so powerless and often alone. But since I have started to pray daily for the Holy Spirit, I am experiencing a new and wonderful type of life and relationship with God.

A Special Lady

Sabbath

Do you ever look at people and think that they must be Christians?

Draw an arrow to the left or right to show if you would think the person was a Christian or not.

CHRISTIAN

NOT CHRISTIAN

Someone who does not swear
Returns a phone they found – very honest
Wears tonnes of jewellery
Smiles a lot
Goes to Church
Uses God's name as a swear word
Always looks grumpy
Looks for ways to help other people
Always ready to talk – very friendly
Carries a grudge – will not forgive
Likes to do things to make people happy
Makes gifts for people
Is nice even when others are not
Always looks sad
Always finds something to be thankful for
Likes to sing happy songs
They try and find good things about everyone



Year 3, Quarter 3, Week 12, Level: "Teens"

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Refer: Acts 9:26-43 NLT; The Acts of the Apostles p131, 132; The Bible Story vol10 p47-51

Sunday

The apostle Peter was travelling from place to place, preaching about Jesus, when he came to the town of Lydda. There he met a man named Aeneas, who had been paralysed and unable to walk for eight years.

Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and roll up your sleeping mat!" Aeneas was healed instantly.

Then the whole town of Lydda saw Aeneas walking around, and they believed in the Lord.

In the nearby town of Joppa there was a believer named Dorcas. Dorcas was always doing kind things for other people and helping the poor, but about this time, she became very ill and died. Her body was prepared for burial and laid in an upstairs room. The believers had heard that Peter was at Lydda, so they sent two men to beg him, "Please come as soon as possible!"

So Peter returned with them and they took him to the upstairs room where Dorcas lay. The room was filled with widows who were weeping, they showed him the coats and other clothes Dorcas had made for them.



Peter asked them all to leave the room and he knelt and prayed. Turning to the body he said, "Get up, Dorcas." And she opened

her eyes! When she saw Peter, she sat up! He helped her up and then called in the widows and all the believers.

The news spread through the whole town, many believed in the Lord, and Peter stayed a long time in Joppa.



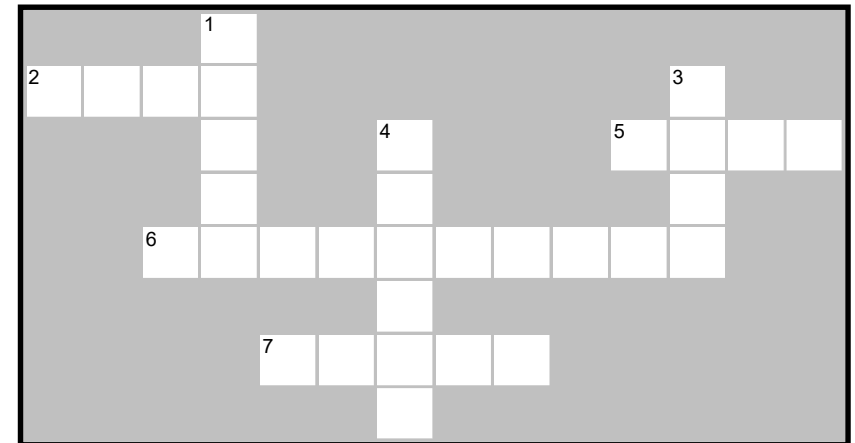
Friday

We all fail at times, but as Christians, we should be growing more and more like Christ. Look up these verses and use the missing words to fill in the crossword.

Even the apostle Paul failed at times, he says in Romans 7:15^{NLT}

"I don't really _____ 6a myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I _____ 2a."

But good news is also shared by Paul in Philippians 1:6^{NLT}, "I am certain that God, who _____ 1d the _____ 3d _____ 5a within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when _____ 4d _____ 7a returns."



Do you have Christian friends at Church? (Adults can also be Christian friends) **Yes / No**

Do you regularly spend time thinking of things to be thankful for? **Yes / No**

Do you try to do what is right? **Yes / No**

Do you praise God in song or some other way? **Yes / No**

Do you talk to God several times every day? **Yes / No**

Do you read your Bible every day? **Yes / No**

Do you regularly think about what God has done for you? **Yes/No**
(These last three are very important – they will help make the others easier)

Thursday

Can people say this about you?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



Below are some suggestions of things you can do for other people. Tick the things you already do, and underline the things that you plan to try soon.

- ☐ Take someone a drink of water
- ☐ Share your lunch
- ☐ Smile and welcome everyone
- ☐ Talk to someone who is shy
- ☐ Invite them to your house
- ☐ Give them a card
- ☐ Invite them to dinner
- ☐ Draw them a picture
- ☐ Offer to help
- ☐ Take them a small present
- ☐ Help with school work
- ☐ Do your chores without being asked
- ☐ Pray for them
- ☐ Include them when you do things with your friends

Monday

It is easy to see that both Peter and Dorcas loved Jesus; their love for Him was shown through the things that they did and the way that they did them.

Unfortunately, as sinful human beings we are naturally selfish. Even our kindness is often motivated by selfishness - we give gifts because we want ones in return; we do the right things when someone is watching, and we are on our best behaviour when we want others to like us. In fact, we are all born with a sinful nature, and it is only our acceptance of Jesus' victory on the cross that sets us free.

This does not mean that we instantly become perfect. It does mean that Jesus has taken away our guilt. When we realise just how much Jesus loves us, what He went through leaving heaven and coming to this earth - just for us - then we are motivated by love to want to do what Jesus wants.

Here are some things that God wants us to do that will help us to grow as Christians:

Meet together as Christians to encourage each other - Hebrews 10:24, 25

Be joyful; never stop praying; be thankful and try to do good - 1Thessalonians 5:15

Sing and make music to the Lord; give thanks - Ephesians 5:15

Grow in grace and the fruit of the Spirit - 2Peter 3:18 and Galatians 5:22-23



Tuesday

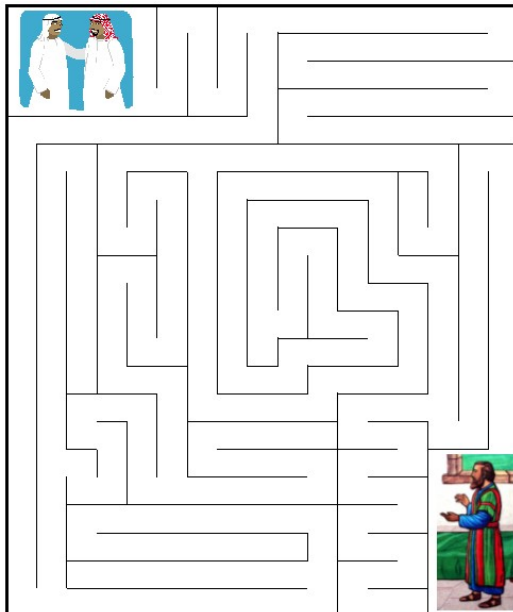
Find these things that Dorcas might have given to help people, in the grid below.

Baby
clothes,
blankets,
dresses,
sandals,
tunics, shirts,
coats,
socks,
money,
robes, food,
hats, soup,
stew, hugs.

D	O	R	C	A	S	W	A	F	O	O	D	S	A	L
W	A	Y	S	D	O	I	N	G	K	I	R	N	D	T
H	I	B	A	B	Y	C	L	O	T	H	E	S	N	G
S	F	L	O	R	O	O	T	H	U	E	S	R	S	D
O	R	A	C	A	S	A	W	A	N	S	S	O	U	P
M	O	N	E	Y	A	T	L	W	I	A	E	Y	S	D
O	I	K	N	G	K	S	I	N	C	D	S	T	E	W
T	H	E	I	N	G	S	F	O	S	R	O	T	H	E
R	S	T	D	O	R	H	C	A	S	W	A	S	A	L
W	A	S	A	N	D	A	L	S	Y	S	D	O	I	N
G	K	I	N	D	T	T	H	H	I	N	G	S	F	O
R	O	T	H	U	G	S	H	I	E	R	S	D	O	R
C	A	S	W	A	S	A	L	R	O	B	E	S	W	A
Y	S	D	O	I	N	G	K	T	I	N	D	T	H	I
N	G	S	F	O	R	O	T	S	O	C	K	S	H	E



When the believers heard that Peter was nearby at the town of Lydda, they sent two men to beg him, "Please come as soon as possible!" Help the two men find a way to Peter.



Wednesday

Hebrews 10:24, 25^{NLT} – "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of **love** and **good works**. And let us not neglect our **meeting together**, as some people do, but **encourage** one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

1 Thessalonians 5:15^{NLT} – "See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people. Always be **joyful**. Never stop **praying**. Be **thankful** in all circumstances."

Ephesians 5:15^{NLT} – "**Singing** psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making **music** to the Lord in your hearts. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Fit the underlined words into the grid below. Hint: start with the longest word.

