

WOMEN OF OUR FAITH: VBS@HOME WEEK 4:

Tabitha Serves

Each week, physical resources will be available by 4 PM on Monday afternoon, and a copy of this guide will be sent to your email. Plan to join us on Zoom at 10 AM on Wednesday this week for an interactive time to kick off the week of learning. Here is the blog post:

<https://familygodtime.wordpress.com/tag/vbshome/>

Check out this resource reveal video for a walk-through of the whole resource:

<https://youtu.be/ZrmDCPRiNDk>

Zoom Link: 10 AM on Zoom July 1

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88501116369?pwd=QzRTNkhsMFg2RHZFaTh6UIJSb2dYZz09>

Join Pastor Breen each Wednesday morning (Thursday this week) for a kick-off of this week's Bible School story. Make sure that you have room to move! If you miss the Zoom, check out this YouTube playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0V-IJaYUW4J7MxGhy44X27fc_sHYsi4p

Women of Our Faith Theme verse: Ephesians 3:20 ERV

This is the theme verse for the whole month. You can find it on the back of your Women of Our Faith Bible Friend Card. Practice this verse, repeat-after-me style, each time you gather to engage the resources.

With God's power working in us,
God can do much, much more
than anything we can ask or imagine.

Women of Our Faith Theme song: Ephesians 3:20 song Saddleback Kids

This is the theme song for the whole month. This song helps you to learn the verse through music and motions. Watch it together and sing along. <https://youtu.be/OzAEeH5VBTM>

EXPLORE THE STORY

This is the "meat" of VBS@ Home. Pastor Breen will introduce the story at our Zoom meeting, and each family is asked to also engage in the story, through reading, devotions, and videos, at home. Complete this section first, and then choose activities from the Mix & Match Bible Stations below to reinforce the theme.

Theme Verse: 1 Peter 4:10 ERV

This is the theme verse for the week. You can find it on the back of your Deborah Bible friend card and on the front of your family devotion. Practice this verse, repeat-after-me style, each time you gather to engage the resources this week.

God has shown you grace
in many different ways.
So be good servants
and use whatever gift God has given you
in a way that will best serve each other.

Bible Story: Peter & Tabitha (Acts 9:36-43)

Read this story from your Spark Story Bible as a family. You can use your Women of Faith Bible friend card as a bookmark, to easily find the story again later. If you have multiple readers in your family, you might take turns reading by page, paragraph, or sentence. Answer the question at the end of the story as a family.

Spark Story Bible page 520

Get your own Spark Story Bible here:

<https://www.wearesparkhouse.org/store/product/9780806670492/SparkStory-Bible-Sunday-School-Edition>

Family Devotion: Tabitha Serves

Each learner will have their own copy of Week 4 Devos. After you have read the story from your Spark Story Bible, color the provided picture as you discuss the two sets of questions as a family. In “Understanding the Story,” you can find the answers to the questions by looking back at the story in the Spark Story Bible. In “God’s Story, My Story,” there are no wrong answers (as long as you are telling the truth 😊). If these questions spark questions that you do not know the answers to, please reach out to Pastor Breen. She loves to wrestle with hard questions alongside you!

Bible Story Videos:

Another way to engage this story is in video form. You can reinforce what you learned during your family devotion time during the week by offering these videos to your children and youth, or watch them as a family.

Spark Story Bible Read Along: Tabitha <https://youtu.be/aB5uEQIPIk4>

Slapstick Theater: Tabitha <https://youtu.be/UPr0O6hnwQ4>

Tabitha Bible Story: Life Kids <https://youtu.be/QhIRtne06es>

MIX & MATCH BIBLE STATIONS

Read through these stations, and decide which ones you would like to engage as a family. You might choose only one, or a couple, or one each day! Each activity is intended to reinforce the theme of the Bible story for the week in a concrete, memorable way.

Song: God’s Work, Our Hands (a song by Pastor Breen)

We will learn this song during our Zoom gathering. You can use the video to lead you during the week.

Song Video: <https://youtu.be/DkWAJJvimJI>

Refrain: God’s Work, Our Hands;

God’s Work, Our Hands;

God’s Work, Our Hands;

God’s Work with Our Hands.

Verse 1: Beautiful are the feet that bring good news,

Beautiful are the lips that tell the truth,

Beautiful are the hearts open to you,

We do God’s Work with Our Hands. (refrain)

Verse 2: Beautiful are the eyes that see the need,

Beautiful are the ears that hear the plea,

Beautiful are the lives that follow thee,

We do God’s Work with Our Hands. (refrain)

Game: Costume Obstacle Race

Tabitha made clothing for others and worked hard to give everyone what they needed. Play this game to remember Tabitha’s work, as well as the obstacles we face when we work to help others.

Kids love obstacle races and this one has a Tabitha twist by making them dress up as they go along. After each obstacle (use what you have, like a frisbee toss, baseball bat twirl, tunnel scoot, etc.) place a piece of clothing (hats, gloves and tunics work well) that must be worn. Talk about how we all need clothing and how we choose what we wear to reflect who we are.

From <https://www.jesus-without-language.net/tabitha-dorcas-acts-9-play/>

Outdoor Activity: Blanket Flip

Tabitha made clothing and blankets for others, and her example inspired the community. This activity is a team-building game that we often do at Confirmation Camp. It is even more fun if you play it in rounds, making the blanket smaller and smaller to make it more challenging each time. Encourage everyone to be gentle with one another, and to talk to one another.

Have the group of children stand on a blanket and challenge them to flip it over without anyone stepping off of it. Fold the blanket in a manner that challenges the group adequately. The blanket must be flipped over completely without any of the participants stepping off of it.

From <https://fitkidshealthykids.ca/node/41> (there is a helpful video here, if you need help with the instructions)

Snack: Servant Snack

Tabitha served others; now it is time for the children to serve the adults. Choose a snack that your children can prepare, from start to finish. It might be chips and dip, or a veggie plate, or a sweet popcorn mix. Encourage them to work together to make and serve the snack, complete with dishes, silverware, napkins, and drinks. While you eat together, talk about how it feels to serve someone else, and think together about ways that you can do this for others.

Craft: Comfort Cross

Tabitha made clothing and blankets which helped and comforted others. She loved to serve and share. Each learner has enough materials to make two comfort crosses; one to keep and one to share. Think of someone you know who could use the help and comfort of God, and give one away!

Materials needed: 1 square of fleece, 1 craft foam cross, glue (tacky glue works really well), 1 pair of scissors



Step 1: Glue the foam cross to the center of the square of fleece. Allow to dry completely (you can stop here and enjoy the cross this way if you don't want to use scissors).



Step 2: Cut out the cross, going right up to the edge of it. One side of your cross will be foam, the other will be fleece. Enjoy!



Prayer Practice: Comfort Cross

Tabitha comforted others, especially when they were in need. This week, we will pray for others. Hold the cross in your hand as you take turns praying for someone who needs God's help and comfort. Sometimes, it is easier to concentrate on your prayers if your hands are moving and engaged, so feel free to trace your fingers over the cross, or rub the fleece side as you pray. In between each prayer, you can say, "God of mercy, hold us in love." When everyone has had a chance to pray, pray the Lord's Prayer together.

