

The word "WITNESSES" is written in a glowing, golden, serif font against a dark background. The letters have a bright light source behind them, creating a lens flare effect.

Witnesses - Week Three

“Tabitha, Get Up!”

Acts 9:36-43

*We are living a Resurrection Life when we show our faith through the way we act.*

**Just in case you were wondering—IT’S STILL EASTER!**

*By now those first-century Jesus-followers were asking a question...*

*And it’s a question we ought to ask, too:*

**Jesus is Risen—Now what?**

*How do you know someone is a Christian? Just by observing them...*

*What are some tell-tale signs?*

*Why do people have such a hard time with Christians these days?*

**Ghandi, Brennan Manning - what’s at stake in these quotes?**

**WE ARE LIVING A RESURRECTION LIFE WHEN WE SHOW OUR FAITH THROUGH THE WAY WE ACT.**

**ACTS 9:36-43**

- Don’t let the miraculous become an obstacle for you here.
- Our Western mindset gets in our way of the amazing sometimes.
- Peter had already healed one person in the city of Lydda, near Joppa
- A believer named Tabitha (Dorcas) had died in Joppa.
- Tabitha was a special person—name meant “gazelle,” was a mathetria
- Peter tells her to “get up” to “rise”—words used by Jesus, resurrection

**This was an ordinary person who acted in extraordinary ways.**

*She wasn’t one of the “Big Ticket” characters*

*NT Wright: “the beating heart of the people of God.”*

**What would be more believable at this point: God raises a woman from the dead or that a Christian might actually act like a Christian?**

*What does it look like when Jesus-followers figure out that living different really does change the world?*

- 1. No One Is Too Ordinary To Be Extraordinary.**
- 2. We Have All The Examples We Need To Follow.**

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## SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

**FOR FURTHER READING:**

***Eugene Peterson***

*Living The Resurrection: The Risen Christ In Everyday Life*

***Adam Hamilton***

*Unafraid: Living With Courage and Hope In Uncertain Times*

***N.T. Wright***

*Surprised By Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*

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**DAILY DEVOTIONALS THIS WEEK:**

*The daily devotionals will be posted on Pastor Leon’s blog, linked on his Tumblr account, the church’s Facebook Page and Twitter.*