

MYSTERY



Blessed Are Who?

This is the Story/Service Guide for Day Four. The complete Guide is available online at bannerblue.org.



Day Four: Tabitha the Beloved Servant

Key Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

Key Beatitude: Blessed are **the poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Guiding Question: How can we better care for our neighbors?

Overview: Today the kids will help to create a map of food pantries in order to better understand the story of Tabitha and today's beatitude.

Learning Objectives for the Kids:

- Tabitha devoted her life to helping others. She cared that the hungry had food to eat and that everyone had clothes to wear.
- Tabitha was very popular but this wasn't because she was rich or pretty or had the best things. Tabitha was popular because she truly cared about other people and worked hard to help them.
- Tabitha's example was so important that Peter even brought her back to life so that her example could continue and spread.
- Tabitha didn't try to change the whole world; she helped people right where she lived and that is just as important. Lots of people helping right where they are can change the whole world.
- Jesus showed us that the people who we should focus on are the people who are most in need and that the people we should be like are those who use what they have to help others. If we all took that message to heart, we would have heaven on earth. In this way we are all blessed more than can be measured!

Intro Learning Activity: Creating Clothes

The kids will create clothes like Tabitha did.

Supplies Needed:

- Popsicle Sticks (at least 2 per kid)
- Fabric Scraps
- Markers



- Yarn
- Scissors
- Hot Glue Gun and Hot Glue (or other glue)

Instructions:

1. Help the kids to cut fabric scraps into 3x6 inch or 2x2 inch pieces.
2. Give each kid two popsicle sticks.
3. Have them glue the sticks together like a lower-case "t."
4. Have them draw a face at the top of the "t."
5. Explain that they will be making clothes for the stick person like Tabitha made clothes for those who needed them.
6. Help the kids cut a small hole in the center of the 3x6 piece.
7. Help them place this over their stick person like a tunic and then tie it on with a small yarn belt that they cut.
8. Help the kids add head cloths held on with string.

Remind the kids that Tabitha spent a lot of time making clothes for others. She used the things around her to help those in need each and every day.





Video: The Beloved Servant

Use the video provided online (coming in early June) to familiarize the kids with the story of Tabitha. Here are some questions to go along with the video:

- What did Tabitha spend her time doing?
- Who was the leader who helped Tabitha?
- Why did Peter need to come to Tabitha?
- What did Tabitha's friends show Peter?
- What did Peter do for Tabitha?
- Why did many in Tabitha's town come to believe in Jesus?

Service Learning Activity: Clothes Collection

The kids will have a small collection drive at home of clothes and toys.

Supplies Needed:

- Computer Paper
- Markers
- Box or Basket (optional)

Instructions:

1. Explain to the kids that they will be collecting clothes and toys for other kids who do not have enough of these things.
2. Designate an area in your home that will be dedicated to collecting items. You may want to find extra boxes or baskets to use in this area.
3. Place signs in your area for all the things that you'll be collecting.
4. Invite the kids to go through their closets, cabinets, attics, garages, basements, laundry rooms and look under their beds, in their old gym bags, and behind your washer and dryer for clothes to donate. You can collect all of these clothes and more:
 - Socks
 - Hoodies
 - T-shirts
 - Pants



- Onesies
 - Overalls
 - Nice Easter and Christmas Clothes!!!
 - Shorts
5. Invite the kids to go through their shelves, closets, cabinets, attics, garages, basements and look under their beds, in their toy boxes, and through their secret stashes for toys to donate. You can even look at the decoration areas you have created for the Mystery Museum and decide on some items to donate.
 6. Once your collections are over, take the donations to any designated collection sites in your area. Any broken, soiled, or incomplete items should be disposed of rather than donated, but be sure to recycle anything you can! **Make sure the sites are still asking for donations before you drop things off.**

Lesson Reflection: Tabitha was beloved by her community because they could always count on her to help. Being like Tabitha means making yourself open and ready to meet the needs of others. Tabitha worked hard to meet the basic needs of others. She understood that if a person at least had food to eat and clothes to wear they could feel dignified and loved. Tabitha had an open spirit—meaning that she was always open to doing what God needed her to do. She was always ready to help others.