Preschool–Grade 5

Dorcas Craft

The coats and garments which Dorcas made · Acts 9:36–43 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



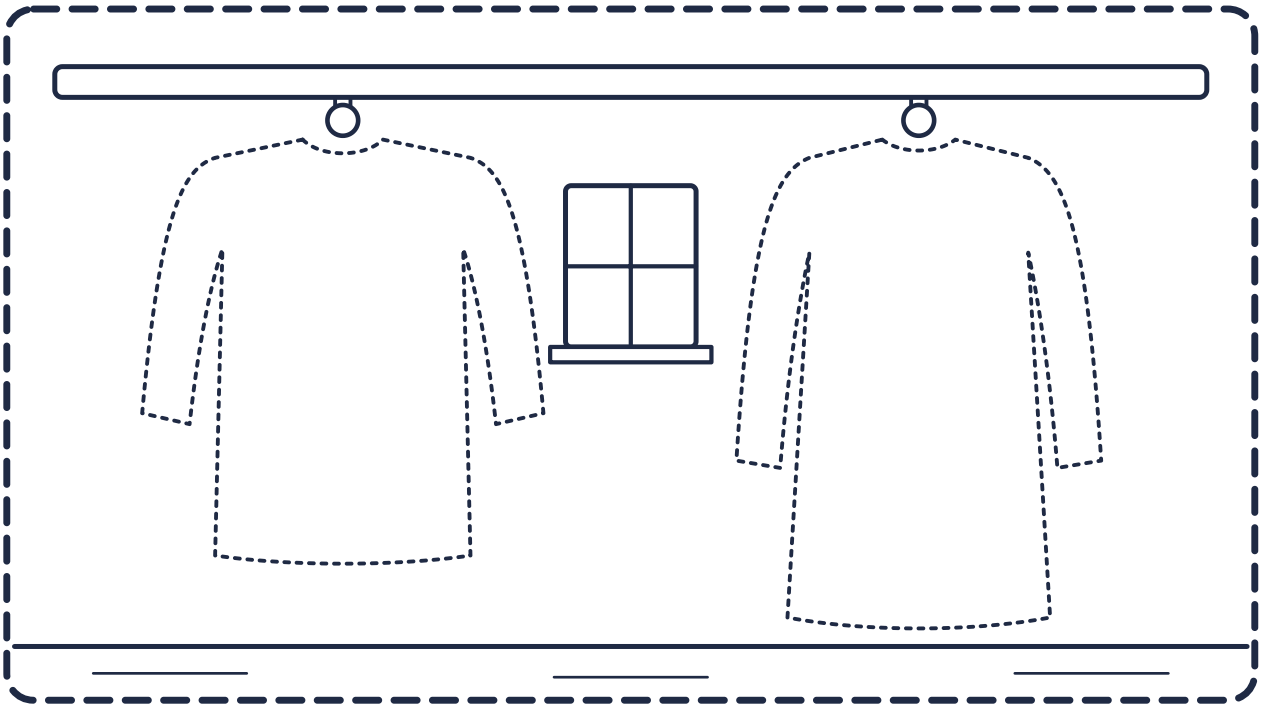
Harder

Both levels are a wide card: the yellow wall of an upper chamber with a light blue window with a lattice in the middle, a brown peg rail with two pegs along the top and a gray floor. A blue coat with red stripes and a yellow hem and cuffs hangs on the left peg, like "the coats and garments which Dorcas made" (Acts 9:39). Medium (left): the coat on the left peg. Harder (right): the same card with a long green garment and a red sash on the right peg.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: wall yellow, window light blue, peg rail and pegs brown, floor gray



coat: blue, the two stripes red,
the hem band and cuffs yellow

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

Acts 9:36 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card
(the dotted garment on the right peg
is for the harder level)

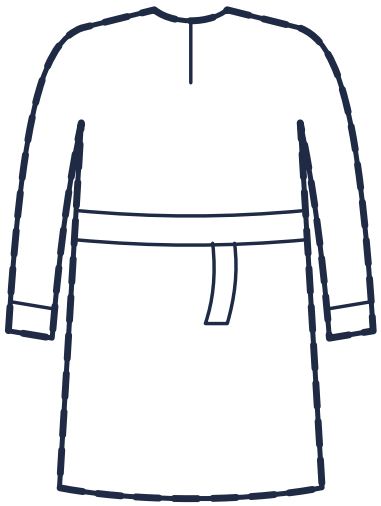
Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the coat and the verse strip. Glue the coat on the dotted coat shape under the left peg.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Garment (harder level)



garment: green, the sash across the middle red

How to add the garment

1. Make the card from page 2 first, with the coat on the left peg and the verse strip on the back of the card.
2. Color the garment green and the sash across its middle red. Cut out the garment on the dashed line.
3. Find the dotted garment shape under the right peg. Put glue on the back of the garment and press it on the dotted shape.
4. Tell it: the widows stood by Peter weeping, "and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them" (Acts 9:39). Point to the coat, then to the garment. Then tell what happened next: Peter "kneeled down, and prayed," and said, "Tabitha, arise," and she opened her eyes (9:40).

VBSHQ

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/dorcas-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), yellow, light blue, brown, gray, blue and red crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a green crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the coat and the verse strip.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's card, coat and verse strip. Kids color the pieces and glue the coat under the left peg with your help. Glue the verse strip on the back for them.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out and glue the pieces themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then add the long garment from page 3 on the right peg, for "the coats and garments which Dorcas made" (Acts 9:39). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the wall yellow, the window light blue, the peg rail and the pegs brown, and the floor gray.
2. **Color the coat:** the coat blue, the two stripes red, and the hem band and the cuffs yellow.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the coat and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Coat:** find the dotted coat shape under the left peg. Put glue on the back of the coat and press it on the dotted shape, so the coat hangs from the peg.
5. **Verse:** turn the card over. Glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.
6. **Tell it:** hold up the card and show the coat, the way the widows stood by Peter "shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them" (Acts 9:39).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Questions to ask while kids work

- In which town did Dorcas live? *(Joppa, Acts 9:36)*
- What was her other name? *(Tabitha. "Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas," 9:36)*
- What was Dorcas full of? *(Good works and almsdeeds, kind deeds and gifts to the poor, 9:36)*
- Point to the window. Where did they lay Dorcas when she died? *(In an upper chamber, an upstairs room, 9:37)*
- Whom did the disciples send for? *(Peter, who was in Lydda, 9:38)*
- Point to the coat. What did the widows show Peter? *(The coats and garments which Dorcas made, 9:39)*
- What did Peter do before he spoke to her? *(He kneeled down and prayed, 9:40)*
- What did Peter say? *("Tabitha, arise," 9:40)*
- What happened when people in Joppa heard? *(Many believed in the Lord, 9:42)*
- What kind deed could you do for someone this week?

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** a **disciple** is a follower of Jesus; **by interpretation** means in another language; **almsdeeds** are gifts to the poor; an **upper chamber** is an upstairs room; **widows** are women whose husbands have died; **shewing** means showing; **arise** means get up.
- **What the Bible says:** Acts 9 does not say what the coats and garments looked like, what color they were, or what the upper chamber looked like. The wall, the window, the pegs, the stripes and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template.** The craft shows the coats and garments Dorcas made. Peter, Dorcas and the widows are in the story, not on the card.
- **Talk about it gently:** Dorcas "was sick, and died" (Acts 9:37), and God raised her up when Peter prayed (9:40–41). Keep the sad part short and the good news big.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child hold up their card and "show the coat."
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Dorcas lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/dorcas.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post