



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

ACTS 3:1-26 / SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Welcome! Thank you for joining us in studying through Acts! Today's study is from Acts 3.

The church has just begun! Chapter 3 starts with Peter and John going to the temple at the hour of prayer. God through His Holy Spirit is about to use two of Jesus' followers to do an incredible miracle!

Begin by reading Acts 3:1-10. Where are Peter and John going and why?

Let's think about the lame man. What would life have been like for this man? (*He could not work, take care of himself, would have felt like a burden.*)

– How are we spiritually like the crippled man in this story? Is it difficult for you to think of yourself like this man? Why or why not?

If you were Peter and John on this day, how would you have responded to this beggar? Why?

Re-read verses 4-5. This passage says the beggar was there every day, and it's very possible that Peter would have passed by this man many other days without saying anything to him.

– Why do you think Peter respond this way to the beggar on this day? (*Jesus through the Holy Spirit was at work in Peter on this day!*)

– Who gets the credit for healing this man? Who does the man praise? What is the purpose of this miracle?

Read Acts 3:11-21. How would you summarize what is happening in this text?

– What do you think Peter's main message is here in verses 12-16? (*God always had a plan to save sinners through Jesus' death, burial and resurrection.*)

–How does Peter call the people to respond in verses 19-21? Is this call of response the same for us today?

–What does it mean that "times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord?" How is that comforting to you today?

What is Peter talking about in verse 21 when he says "the time for restoring all things?"

Do you notice a recurring message between this sermon from Peter and the one we studied last week? What similarities do you notice between the two? (*Use of Old Testament Scriptures, the Gospel of Jesus, repentance and forgiveness, God's sovereignty, etc.*)

– Out of all of the things that Peter could have said, why would He emphasize these themes in these sermons?

- What do we learn about God in chapter 3? *(Possible answers include: He speaks and works through the Holy Spirit through his people, He is sovereign, He will restore all things.)*
- Why is what we learned about God good news for us and how can it shape our lives?

Think back to the lame man who was healed. What was his response to being healed? How do you think he would have felt on this day? Would he have remembered this day forever?

- How has Jesus healed us spiritually in a similar way? How should the miracle of your salvation cause you to respond like this man?
- How can we practice living in thankfulness and praise to God?

Respond in prayer. Thank God for the book of Acts. Pray for understanding of Jesus working through the Holy Spirit as we read Acts together as a church. Pray that we would have a heart for the lost. Thank God for providing salvation through Jesus. Pray that God would point out to you the people that you have been passing by.

If you have questions, need to pray, or just need to talk through this study with someone, contact one of our pastors or a fellow church member anytime!

KIDS FOCUS

In today's story, God through His Holy Spirit will use two of Jesus' followers to do an incredible miracle!

Begin by reading Acts 3:1-10 What happens in this story? Why is this man asking for money?

Re-read verses 6-8. What does Peter say to the beggar? What happens to his feet and ankles? How was this beggar healed? *(Through Jesus!)*

- Do we need to be healed? Why? *(We are all sinners and need Jesus to save us.)*
- How does Jesus heal us? *(Jesus died for our sins and rose from the dead!)*

Just like the beggar, we need to be healed by Jesus because we are sinners. Our sin separates us from God. Jesus died for our sins, and when we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus, He saves us.

What does the beggar do after he is healed? *(Praise God!)*
Should we do the same thing? How can you praise God today?