

# THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 15TH, 2026 // BOOK OF ACTS

## ONE (ACTS 3:1-10) GOING TO THE TEMPLE

Luke starts this passage with Peter and John going to the temple for a time of prayer.

- At the end of Chapter 2, we saw thousands respond to the truth Peter shared about Jesus. Peter didn't elevate himself. He devoted himself to meeting in the temple and going from house to house, praising God wherever he went.

- **Are we doing life with devotion to God?**

## PLACED EACH DAY AT THE TEMPLE GATE

When we are introduced to the lame beggar, we find out that he has spent his entire life as a broken man, but someone cares enough to carry him to the gate every day.

- This likely wouldn't have been the first day these three men had crossed paths at the temple—but this day would be different.
- **Are we so focused on our good routine that we miss opportunities?**

## BEGGING FOR MONEY

Each day, the lame man would beg for money. This was his way of providing for himself, and it was not an unusual sight.

- He may have seen Peter and John in the past, but it doesn't look like he knows who they are. His job was to ask for help, so he did.
- **How often do we assume that we are like Peter and John in this story? Sometimes, we are the beggar.**

## INTENTIONAL VISIBILITY

In response to the man's request, Peter looks straight at him and says, "Look at us."

- Peter knows what is about to happen, and he wants this man to know that he is seen. It is important for the man to clearly hear the name that is about to be spoken.
- **In a culture that has their faces buried in devices, are we seeing people? Are we taking the time to engage? Are we the ones looking away?**

## WHAT WE HAVE

Peter shares that he doesn't have what the man is asking for, but he is willing to give what he does have access to.

- Physical needs are real, and the church is absolutely called to meet those needs. But every person has one need that is above all the others: a relationship with Christ.
- **We have access to this truth. Are we sharing the truth like it is the most important thing anyone would ever hear?**

## THE NAME OF JESUS

Peter doesn't even give this man a chance to think that what is about to happen is from his own personal ability.

- Jesus is the source of this miracle, just as He is the source of the miracle of each new life that begins to follow Him.
- **We sometimes forget that Jesus is the one making all this happen. If we don't point to Christ, we may find ourselves doing only what we can do. It's His power, not ours.**

## HE TOOK HIM BY THE HAND

The power of Jesus was enough to heal the beggar, but Peter extended his hand to help him stand.

- He was healed but not left to stand alone.
- A simple gesture was followed by a jumping spirit!
- **It may seem like a small thing, but it was more like discipleship. After the truth is shared, we must show others what a new life means. Extending a hand of confidence is our next step after sharing the truth of Christ.**

## "HE ENTERED THE TEMPLE WITH THEM"

They walked into the temple together.

- Don't miss this: he had **NEVER** walked before.
- He didn't know how to walk before this day; he didn't know how to jump before this day.
- **God healed, taught, and used him immediately.**
- **Being an authentic follower of Christ means God will do new things in us and through us. People should see the change in us.**
- Everyone recognized who he was, but not everyone had the same reaction.

## JESUS (ACTS 3:11-16)

### ALL THE PEOPLE RAN TOWARD THEM

The healed man walked with Peter and John, and it was clear that he would not be separated from them or the message they were about to deliver.

- The crowd pressed in to find out how this man could be healed and who might be responsible.
- **When God works, it will draw a crowd. Who will we point to? Does the pastor, the church, or a method get the glory?**

## "WHY ARE YOU AMAZED...?"

The temple crowd was utterly astonished and confused.

- Peter helped them understand that it would have been amazing if he and John had done this.
- They wouldn't be confused if they realized that the Messiah had done it.
- At that point, Peter let the crowd know that they hadn't really missed the Messiah, but they just didn't recognize Him.

## THE INDICTMENT

After deflecting and pointing to Jesus, Peter reminded the people of how they had handled the Messiah sent by God.

- They gave Him over to Pilate, denied Him, and chose a murderer over Him.
- They killed the source of life.
- **Before we judge too harshly, we need to be reminded that this is exactly what our sin did to Jesus.**

## "THE SOURCE OF LIFE"

Jesus was the source of life, and God raised Him from the dead. Peter declared that he and many others were witnesses of His resurrection.

- Without question, Jesus had the power to heal the beggar.
- **Where are we looking for answers? What is our response to Jesus' power over our lives?**

## FAITH

Peter says that the faith which healed the man comes through Jesus.

- This man didn't work up enough faith; it was given to him, and he acted in that faith.
- **We don't have to carry the burden of trying to work harder to generate more faith. It's not about manufacturing more faith; it's about acting on the relationship we have with Christ in obedience.**

## REPENTANCE (ACTS 3:17-24)

### IGNORANCE

After explaining what God had accomplished through Jesus and how the man had been healed, Peter focuses on the crowd.

- Though they were still accountable for their sin, they hadn't truly realized that they had been dealing with the Messiah the prophets had predicted.
- **There is grace available for past ignorance and sin IF we move forward.**

### REPENT

Peter calls them to repent, turning away from their past sin and toward Jesus.

- Authentic repentance involves changing our direction and requires acknowledging Jesus as our savior.
- **For many, this is a radical reorientation of life. Repentance doesn't just change our minds. It changes us!**

### PROMISES

Peter shares that repentance (turning to Jesus) will wipe away our sin and bring times of refreshing.

- Repentance is essential for salvation, but as we continue to confess and repent, we will have times of encouragement and strengthening from the Holy Spirit.
- **If you have experienced this, you know. If you haven't, REPENT.**

### HERITAGE

After proclaiming that Jesus would return at the appointed time, Peter reminds them that they are "sons of the prophets" and heirs to the covenant God made with Abraham.

- He quotes Moses to warn them that now is the time to listen to Jesus or be lost.
- **It was a message specifically for Israel, but it is also a message for us today.**

### BLESS YOU

As Peter speaks to this anxious crowd, he once again shares that Jesus, the servant savior, was sent to "bless" them by turning them from their evil ways.

- **Our culture still equates blessing with material gain or luck. As Believers, we know that true blessing is the presence of God in our lives as we are continually set free from our sin. Do we see this?**

### VISION

- Sometimes, our vision is blurry.
- **We need help seeing what is right in front of us.**
- **We try to rub our eyes and squint when we really need glasses. Are we too proud to ask for help? What are we missing? And what danger are we in because we simply won't choose to see?**

### EVERYTHING

- Something means everything to us.
- **It's so special that we think about it every day and look forward to our next encounter with it.**
- **A relationship with Christ is everything. If anything else is everything to us, that is where we are blind to the best thing in creation!**

### LAME

- We all have brokenness and sin. We're all weary.
- **We all have an opportunity to be healed and forgiven.**
- **Why would we continue to sit at the gate and beg for food when Christ offers us healing, forgiveness, and refreshing through repentance? As Believers, why wouldn't we offer that to others sitting at the gate? Let's stop being blind, proud, and lame. It's time to see Jesus and the people He's putting in front of us!**