

DYNAMICS *of* SPIRITUAL LIFE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS : PART ONE

NEW LIFE

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

A BEAUTIFUL HOPE

OCTOBER 8, 2023

Acts 3:1-10 illustrates the importance of experiencing the presence of Jesus in our own lives so that we can go forward in his power to bless others.

Peter and John knew what it was like to feel all hope was lost. They witnessed Jesus being brutally beaten and crucified. Peter experienced the shame of denying Jesus, and John felt the trauma of being the only disciple by Jesus' side as Jesus was killed. This grief turned into joy when Jesus rose from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit to fill them and empower them.

The lame man at the gate to the temple knew what it was like to feel hopeless, too. He was dependent on others for everything. He was overlooked and isn't even given a name. To the rest of society, he was more of an "it" than a person. Most likely, he had resigned to live the remainder of his life in this state.

As we watch Peter and John interact with the lame man, we observe what surrender to the Holy Spirit can look like. We also learn, "You cannot give what you don't possess."

Read & Discuss Acts 3:1-10.

- What words or phrases stand out the most to you in this Acts 3:1-10?
- The lame man in this passage might best be described as "broken." He was overlooked, helpless, and dependent. Have you experienced seasons like this? If so, when?
- In contrast, Peter and John were experiencing a season in their lives when God was moving in remarkable ways. They might best be described as "blessed." Have you been in that spot? If so, what was that like for you?

- The passage tells us (Acts 3:5) that the lame man expected to receive something from Peter and John. What he actually received and what he expected to receive were much different. Have you ever received something greater from God than what you expected? If so, what was it?
- Re-read Acts 3:6. Peter isn't able to give the man gold or silver, but he is able to give him the power to walk. How was Peter able to give physical healing to this man?
- When it comes to our relationship with God, "we cannot give what we don't possess." Have you been able to minister to others from the overflow of what the Holy Spirit was doing in your life? If so, describe that experience.
- Re-read Acts 3:9-10. God uses our steps of faith through the Holy Spirit to shock and amaze the world around us. What are some ways that God might amaze the people in our lives if we surrendered completely to the Holy Spirit?
- Where do you need God to meet you in your brokenness, or how might God be calling you to use the blessing of Jesus in your life to bless others?

Pray Together

Pray for each other and ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit as you surrender your lives to Him.