

EMPOWER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

LIFE CHANGE

Acts 3 (ESV)

January 28, 2024

Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." – Acts 3:3 – 4 (ESV)

And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. – Acts 3:7 – 8 (ESV)

Three Directions God Wants Us to Look:

Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. – Acts 3:1 – 2 (ESV)

Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." – Acts 3:3 – 4 (ESV)

- **Look in and invite God to meet you in your place of greatest need**

And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" – Acts 3:5 – 6 (ESV)

And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. – Acts 3:7 – 8 (ESV)

And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 4:19 (ESV)

And His name – by faith in His name – has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. – Acts 3:16 (ESV)

EMPOWER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

- **Look up with some contagious wonder**

And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. — Acts 3:8 (ESV)

And all the people saw him walking and praising God, and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. — Acts 3:9 – 10 (ESV)

And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. — Acts 3:10 (ESV)

While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. — Acts 3:11 (ESV)

- **Look out with a message of hope**

And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? — Acts 3:12 (ESV)

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ... — Acts 3:19 – 20 (ESV)

EMPOWER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Describe a situation where a physical wound prevented you from living life to the fullest?
- Read Acts 3:5 – 6. God used Peter to heal a man who had been unable to walk or stand since birth. Peter healed this man “in the name of Jesus Christ”. Why is the name of Christ so important and powerful?
- As you look inward at your relationship with God and others, what is an area of need you think God may want to heal?
- Read Acts 3:8 – 10. Why is our outward praise to God contagious to others? Who is someone in your life who is full of praise and how have they impacted you?
- Read Philippians 4:19. What is the difference between our spiritual needs and things we think we may need, but do not always have?
- What do you think Pastor Jon meant when he said, “You can get stuck always cursing the darkness or you can proclaim the light.”
- Read Acts 3:10. What is something that has “filled” you with wonder and amazement in God lately?
- Sometimes difficult life circumstances can cause our “wonder” of God to be wounded? What types of things might cause that to happen and how do we invite God to restore that again?
- Read Acts 3:20. One way God refreshes us is through repentance. Why does genuine repentance, where we turn from sin to God, refresh us? What other ways does God refresh us?
- We can turn our wounds toward God by giving them over to Him and inviting Him to heal them. What is a life-wound that God may be leading you to give over to Him for healing?