



Introduction

To prepare for this lesson, resource *The Moody Bible Commentary* page 1678–1671 (Acts 3:1–26). This will be a helpful framework for the text.

Have you ever had someone comment on your kindness? Perhaps they said, “You are always smiling.” Or maybe they’ve watched you go through a difficult season of life. They say, “I don’t understand how you can be so steady when everything around you is falling apart.” Maybe they remarked on how strong your marriage is or on your solid work ethic. They may not be able to articulate the what, but they know that something is different about you.

Just like it changed Peter and John, encountering the living God changes us. On the outside, our ordinary, everyday lives may look the same as everyone else, but on the inside, we have a life-changing hope to offer the world.



HOW IS WHAT I
KNOW INCREASING?



HOW IS MY WORSHIP
BEING TRANSFORMED?



HOW CAN I TAKE WHAT I’VE
LEARNED INTO THE WEEK?

Scripture Text

Acts 3:1–12, 16

1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 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. 3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. 4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, “Look at us.” 5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. 6 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!” 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8 And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God, 10 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. 11 While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. 12 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?”

16 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.

Head

Read Acts 3:1–10. What are the everyday normal activities that are present in this scripture passage? What happens that is extraordinary? (Everyday: prayer at the temple, the lame man begging. Extraordinary: a lame man is healed in Jesus' name).

Read Acts 3:16. This is the first miracle recorded in the book of Acts and is another movement of God. Like he did on the day of Pentecost, Peter took the opportunity to preach a sermon (Acts 3:17–26). Based on this verse, what is Peter trying to communicate to his audience? (That it was faith in the name of Jesus and by the authority and power of Jesus that the man was healed; Peter didn't heal this man, the risen Son of God healed him!).

Heart

Read Acts 3:1–2. Peter and John were going to the temple to pray—this was an everyday normal activity in their life. They had likely passed this man—who came to beg in temple courts daily—many times before. But this time they were empowered by the Holy Spirit. When Peter saw the man, he opened his mouth and offered him Jesus. Whom do you encounter on a regular basis who might need you to really see them and offer the hope of Jesus? *(encourage them to share a person or circumstance in which they might be able to report their interactions in future weeks).*

Read Acts 3:16. All four gospels end with Jesus appearing to His disciples after His resurrection. Jesus is alive! And that was the point of this miracle and Peter's sermon that followed. Do you live your life walking in the power of the risen Savior? Or is it easy to forget that Jesus is alive?

Hands

Read Acts 3:3–6. Peter didn't have money to offer the lame man, but he offered something much better. What might it look like—practically—to offer the hope of Christ to others? *(ideas: respond to needs in prayer, mail a card with prayer or scripture inside, bring a meal and tape a scripture on the container, and/or use your resources to help with a broken dishwasher or flat tire).*

Read Acts 3:11–12 Peter saw the amazement of the crowd and realized they might be thinking that HE performed the miracle. He quickly points them to Jesus. How might we respond when people in our own lives assume our contentment, strength, or blessings are man-made? What might we say or do to point others to the power of Christ?

Is there anything else you would like to discuss from Brandon's sermon?

Conclusion

In the Message paraphrase, Romans 12:1a reads: So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

Peter and John were just living their everyday, ordinary lives. When God placed an opportunity in front of them, they offered their best—the good news of Jesus Christ. May we see opportunities to share the gospel everywhere, with everyone, all the time.

Pray

Let's take time to pray for the people we see regularly that need to know that Jesus is alive!